



## Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr.

July 16, 1935 - October 24, 2020

Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr. passed away on October 24, 2020. He was born in Tallahassee, Florida on July 16, 1935 to the late Mildred and Jimmie Roy Callaway, Sr.

After graduating from Florida High School, Jimmie served his country and his community alike as a member of the United States Air Force and the Tallahassee Fire Department, followed by a lengthy career with the Florida Highway Patrol. However, it wasn't until he became Florida State University's Football Equipment Manager under Coach Bobby Bowden that Jimmie found his true calling. Serving in that role for over 25 years gave him countless opportunities to help young athletes develop not only their athletic skills, but their own character and calling. He believed in hard work, honesty, and faith and he proudly watched many of those young men grow into productive and caring citizens - both on and off the football field.

Jimmie began his spiritual journey as a member of the Cradle Roll Department at First Baptist Church, where he later became a deacon. Jimmie, his wife, and his family celebrated their faith with gospel music programs which drew countless senior adults into their home for praise and worship.

Jimmie is survived by his loving wife, Donna Callaway; daughters Connie O'Brien (Brett) and Leanne Griffin (Terry); grandsons Cody Nevels and Hayes

Griffin; brother Antone Huber Callaway (Joye). He was preceded in death by siblings Betty Wester and George Callaway.

The family will receive guests for a visitation at Bevis Funeral Home of Tallahassee on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 11:00 AM followed by funeral services at 12:00 PM. A private graveside service will be held at Roselawn Cemetery. The service will be available to watch via livestream by clicking the above "Photos & Videos" tab at the scheduled time. Out of an abundance of caution and a desire to protect all guests, the family requests that masks be worn and social distancing be observed when possible.

Those who wish to make memorial contributions in lieu of flowers are asked to donate to a charity of their choice.

Rocky Bevis and Breanna Green are assisting the family with their arrangements. (850-385-2193 or [www.bevisfh.com](http://www.bevisfh.com))

# Cemetery Details

## Roselawn Cemetery

815 West Piedmont Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 28. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory  
200 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 385-2193

## Funeral Service

OCT 28. 12:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory  
200 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
(850) 385-2193

## Private Interment

OCT 28 (ET)

Roselawn Cemetery  
815 West Piedmont Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32308



# Tribute Wall



“ *Bevis Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr.*



**Bevis Funeral Home** - October 28, 2020 at 09:24 AM

KW

*What a beautiful service, honoring a great man! To Donna and family, I pray for you to receive comfort, peace and strength during the troubled times. I still remember how special it was for our family to be your neighbors, even if for a short time. I remember him working with my Dad for the DDL, at the Northwood Mall. Love y'all! Keely Weaver*

**Keely Weaver** - October 28, 2020 at 01:01 PM

CP

*Beautiful service. Freddie speaks of Mr Callaway often, telling stories about his brother Jerome and others. May God give you strength and peace at this time Mrs Callaway. We will always keep you both in our prayers. Freddie, Cheryl, Josiah, Caliah Pye*

**cheryl pye** - October 28, 2020 at 08:33 PM

JC

*Donna, Connie and Leanne, the service was so beautiful with stories from the heart. May each of you find comfort in the lives that were impacted by Jimmie. Tony and I along with our family were touched by the service and would have loved to be there with you. Comfort one another and feel our love for your family. Joye and Tony*

**Joye Callaway** - October 28, 2020 at 09:11 PM

KC

*One of my mentors throughout grade school you and Mrs. Callaway thanks for all the support and teaching me life values. K.T. Colson*

**Kenta Colson** - December 15, 2021 at 09:51 AM

BJ

“ *Donna & family, I was sad to hear that Jimmie had passed away. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you. I will always remember the years working with him in Driver License, even though it was a long time ago. My only regret is never making time to go see his FSU building, which he was so proud of. I watched the service online yesterday & it was such a beautiful service & I learned a lot about him that I didn't know. Remember the good times & cherish the memories.*

*Barbara Johnson*

**Barbara Johnson** - November 24, 2020 at 11:39 AM

NJ

“ *Mrs. Callaway, Connie, Leanne and Family. You have my deepest condolences in the passing of Mr. Callaway, but the heavenly promotion of your awesome husband, father and granddad.*

*Mr. Callaway was the man who played with my father as a kid; the man that hired me to be his teenage landscaper of his trailer park and his “big” yard; the man who vouched for me at Publix Northwood in 1978 that led to employment for me and countless family members. I could go on and on. Mr. Callaway was instrumental in forming my work ethic and showing me the importance of excellence in whatever you did.*

*Mr. Callaway was a man of God who loved people for who they were. And, loved FSU and the beautiful life it brought his way. You will be missed. I love you, Sir. Sincerely, Nathan Gainous, Jr.*

**Nathan Gainous, Jr.** - October 31, 2020 at 08:54 AM

MP

“ Our sincerest and deepest sympathy to The Callaway family. We have the sweetest memories of Mr. Callaway's family. Didn't see service notice until too late. Love you guys! A friend, our daddy The Late Fletcher PYE did numerous brickmason jobs for Jimmy. Deepest sympathy, PYE family. I am mpye@fsu.edu. With LOVE

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**Mary Pye** - October 28, 2020 at 05:16 PM

JM

“ Praying for you, Aunt Donna, Connie and Leanne and all of the family. Uncle Jimmie will be dearly missed. May God wrap His arms around you all and give you comfort, strength and peace. ~ Hugh & Jill Callaway McFaddin

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**Jill Callaway McFaddin** - October 28, 2020 at 12:56 PM

EG

“ Jimmie was simply one of the best college Football equipment managers in the country. I always enjoyed speaking with Jimmie about life, college football and what ever he wanted to talk about. Jimmie was top notch !  
Eddie & Betty Gardner  
NC State Football

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**Eddie Gardner** - October 28, 2020 at 11:44 AM

DJ

“ I’m so sorry for your family’s loss. I previously posted the following on Facebook but wanted to share this here also:  
I’m saddened to hear of the passing of Jimmie Callaway and feel the need to comment. When I first started working as an athletic trainer at FSU in 1974, Jimmie was an assistant to Equipment Manager “Mr. Frank” DeBord. As the first female to enter the world of FSU football in the training room, practice fields, stadium on game days, and occasionally the locker room, I didn’t always feel all that welcome. I can’t say there was any overt hostility from the football/coaching staff, I was just either ignored or tolerated...with the exception of a few.  
Mr. Frank and Jimmie were part of the few who were nice to me and seemed to accept me. Maybe it was because they both had daughters, I don’t know, but after a couple of weeks of two-a-days, when it looked like I was there to stay, Mr. Frank had Jimmie take me to the equipment room and get me some official FSU Football Staff shorts and shirts “so you don’t get your clothes messed up”. I have never forgotten their kindness and, thankfully, have had the opportunity since to talk to them and express my thanks and gratitude for their concern and kindness. Thanks again, Jimmie! 😭  
Dr. Harlien Johnson

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**Dr. Harlien Johnson** - October 27, 2020 at 05:15 PM

HI

“ My second day of work at FSU Jimmy came in my office and we visited awhile and Jimmy said I applied for the job in the Athletic Department . I replied that I could barely find my office much less know about job openings. After doing research and proper state requirements I made the best hire of my FSU tenure!  
Hootie Ingram

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**Hootie Ingram** - October 27, 2020 at 12:14 PM

JF

“ *Jon Falk Michigan Football purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr..*



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**Jon Falk Michigan Football** - October 27, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr..*



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October 26, 2020 at 10:22 PM

DP

“ *Donna, My memory of Jimmie was a trip we took in the early 50s to Miami Beach for a student council state convention, Jim was the president of the Florida High student council and I was the vice president. I remember it rained and the street flooded and we listened to a speech blaming the problems of the time on our parents, times don't change much but it was an experience I'll never forget.*  
*Donald Pace*

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**Donald Pace** - October 26, 2020 at 05:10 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr..*



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October 26, 2020 at 05:09 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr..*



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October 26, 2020 at 02:01 PM



“ *Donna, I was saddened to get this news about Jimmy. You have been such a comfort and faithful friend to so many, including my mother through their times of hardship and grief. I pray that you will now feel supported and surrounded by all of us, as you gave so much to countless others. Blessings to you and your family, Sharon Young*

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**Sharon R Young** - October 25, 2020 at 10:53 PM



“ *Care and Compassion Spray was purchased for the family of Jimmie Roy Callaway, Jr..*



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October 25, 2020 at 02:38 PM



“ *Donna,  
My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Jimmie gifted us all in many ways and I am most thankful.  
Linda Walker*

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**Linda Walker** - October 24, 2020 at 02:29 PM