

IN JIMMY'S WORDS

Written in 2003 for the FAMU Football Hall of Fame.

My journey to Florida A & M University from Stanton High School in Jacksonville, Florida, began in August of 1944 when coach at the time, Herman Nielson, offered me an athletic scholarship.

In high school, I was varsity basketball first team and was selected 2nd team All-state, losing in the finals to Tampa Middleton.

I was a member of Jake Gaither's first SIAC Football Championship Team in 1945, losing to Wiley College of Texas in the Orange Blossom Classic after a 9 and 1 season.

After re-injuring a bad knee, my football career ended in the first game of my junior year against Alabama State. However, in a career of 13 total games played, I was fortunate enough to score 3 touchdowns, intercept two passes and earned the coveted Varsity "F". Although I was unable to play, Coach Gaither allowed me to remain on scholarship and work as team trainer and equipment manager; thus allowing me to earn my degree.

During my tenure at the University I was initiated in 1946 into the Upsilon Psi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, sang in the choir and in my senior year was sports editor for the school newspaper.

After graduation in the summer of 1948, I received a call from the principal of Union Academy in Bartow, Florida, and was offered employment as assistant football coach and head basketball coach; a position I held for four years.

I relocated to Miami, Florida, in 1954 where I coached at Mays High School with the same responsibilities. My final year in 1966 under head coach Traz Powell's leadership, we won the State Championship and I am proud to say that I was coach of the secondary. During my thirteen years at Mays High School I recommended and secured scholarships for nearly thirty athletes: twenty-two played for Jake and of this number, six are in the FAMU Hall of Fame and the other athletes attended Savannah State, Albany State, Fort Valley State and Lane College. Probably ninety percent of all the players I recommended earned college degrees and have become successful and contributing members of their communities.

I have been a member of the FAMU Boosters and season ticket holder since their inception, The National Rattler F Club, the Miami-Dade National Alumni Association and have donated funds for football jackets, summer school for football players, the Marching Band Summer Camps and The Essential Theater.

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Walter C. Anders, Jr
Aaron Anders
George W. Ellis, Jr.
Horace Graham
Dewey Knight
Leroy Bradshaw

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Miami- Dade Chapter, FAMU National Alumni Association
Sigma Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
Mays High School Alumni Association
The Ram's Roundup Committee of Mays High School
Miami Central High School, Class of 1974



In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to:

The FAMU Foundation

625 E. Tennessee Street, Suite 100
Tallahassee, Florida 32308-4933
Phone: 850-412-5755

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

The family extends their sincere appreciation and thanks to the many loved ones and friends who sent love and support during our time of sorrow.

Thank you for the cards, food, floral arrangements, donations, phone calls and for sharing your favorite "Jimmy Anders" stories. Because of you, our hearts were lifted up as Jimmy walked his last steps to glory.

INTERMENT

Dade Memorial Park

1301 N. W. Opa Locka Blvd.
Miami, Florida 33167

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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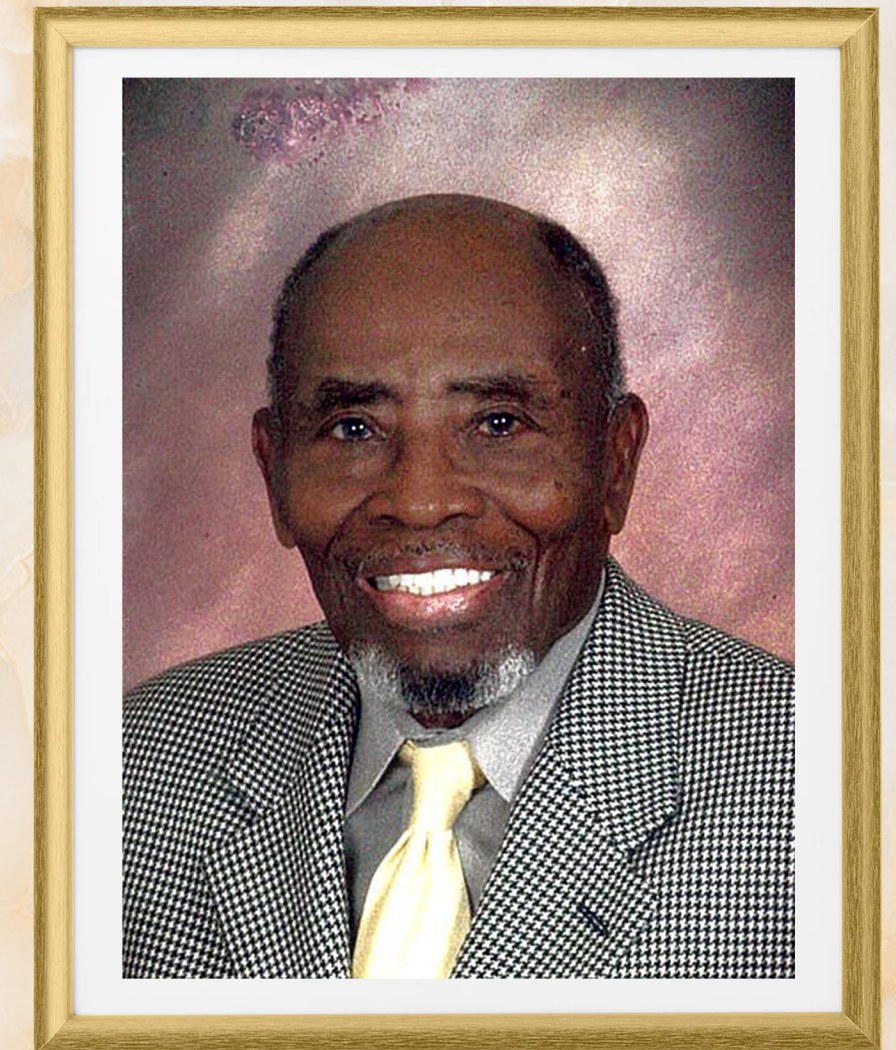
Hall Ferguson Hewitt Mortuary, P.A.

1900 NW 54th Street
Miami, Florida 33142

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A CELEBRATION OF LIFE of



JAMES W. ANDERS, JR.

SUNRISE:
September 23, 1923

SUNSET:
May 12, 2020

Friday, May 22, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.

Church of the Open Door Congregational

6001 N. W. 8th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33127

Rev. Adrian McLean, Officiating

*Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless age the same*

JAMES “JIMMY” W. ANDERS, JR.

James Anders was born on September 23, 1923, in Arcadia, Florida, to the late James W. and Nettie Ruth Staley. Jimmy was married to the former Elsaída Dean and to this union two wonderful children were born: Janis Patricia and Wynton Kyle. Wynton died on September 23, 2017, his father’s birthday. In 1985, at a FAMU Alumni Association event, he met Barbara E. Aranha and in 1988, they were married at The Church of the Open Door, surrounded by their blended families.

Jimmy was the oldest of four sons, all who have preceded him in death. They were raised by their parents in Durkeeville, a newly developed housing project in Jacksonville, Florida. The Anders brothers... James, Richard, Walter, and Robert were infinitely proud that all four graduated from college, earning undergraduate and graduate degrees and especially proud of Walter (“Dub”) who earned a doctorate degree. They referred to Walter as Dr. Dub from Durkeeville. The brothers were also widely known for their musical talents. Their father, a self-styled “piano player”, was probably responsible for developing the love of music in his sons for all four were blessed with melodic singing voices.

He was educated in the public schools of Winter Haven and Jacksonville, Florida, graduating from Stanton High School in 1941. He attended Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College (University) on a football scholarship, majored in Physical Education and earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the university.

When Jimmy enrolled at FAMC it was his intention to major in English, but his fellow football team members kept referring to him as “Mr. Pronoun”, so he changed his major to Physical Education.

His teaching career began in Bartow, Florida, where he was hired as a Football Coach. After moving to Miami, James coached both Football and Basketball at Mays Junior Senior High School. He took pride in facilitating college admission and scholarship opportunities for numerous athletes while at Mays. He was a mentor and advisor to countless students.

His next career move was as a guidance counselor at Charles R. Drew Middle School. He served in the same capacity at Miami Central Senior High School and Miami MacArthur North. At Miami Central, he proudly served as announcer for the half-time performances of the Marching Rockets Band, under the direction of the late Kenneth Tolbert. In 1983, he served as a chaperone for the band’s historic trip to West Berlin, Germany to participate in the German-American Summer festivals. He retired in 1988 after over 30 years in Education. Jimmy loved music, especially jazz and had an impressive collection of all the jazz greats. He enjoyed attending concerts, jazz clubs and theatrical and dance performances.

He was a life member of the Florida A&M University National Alumni Association, The Church of the Open Door where he served for three years on the Trustee Board and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. for seventy-four years.

On Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at age ninety-six, he died peacefully from complications of Alzheimer’s. Jimmy was famous for his humor, quick wit and honest assessment of any situation. Even in the throes of the disease, he came up with some humorous remarks.

This loving and kind husband, father, grandfather, uncle, cousin and faithful friend will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Barbara, daughter Janis Anders Lindsay (Bruce) and grandsons Drew Lindsay of Paterson, New Jersey and Kyle Lindsay of Atlanta, Georgia; step daughters, Arlene Aranha of Tampa, Florida and Renee A. Mosley (Randy) Miami, Florida and grand step daughter, Kiara Tulani Mosley; special cousin, Johnestine Young-Daigeau (Andrew) Jacksonville, Florida, sister-in-law, Barbara Anders, Antioch, California, devoted nephew, Walter C. Anders (Myra) and their son Aaron and the families of Walter, Richard, Robert Anders, the family of his late cousin George W. Ellis (Alvalia) and a host of other family members and friends.

Special friends: Horace Graham, Dennis Davis, Otis Collier (deceased), Leroy Bradshaw, Dewey Knight, Jr. and Samuel Rogers.

Dear “Big Cat” Daddy,

It’s been fabulous knowing you! My earliest memories of our “hanging out” were the summers when I went with you to Mays High School because you had football or basketball practice, I don’t remember which. But it was quick dress, brush hair back, put a hat on my head and we’re out. It was then most likely when I began to feel a kinship towards sports. I will never forget that locker room smell!

Then there were the times when you had to take me shopping for something, anything. I don’t think you liked that to much because it probably took more time than you wanted it to take. Nevertheless, I brought something home and I was happy. Christmas was your favorite time of year. I could tell even then. You would go all out and made it fun with the “real tree” and lights outside and in, snow and ice cycles.

The vacation trips by car were always adventurous. We’d stop in Jacksonville, Lake City, and St. Pete on the way to NYC. If there was a black college to be found on the way, we would stop and explore. There were teaching moments, plenty laughter and lots of jokes. You are the reason I laugh out loud now, literally, everything you did was funny! The travel joke was that I would sleep the whole trip and wake up only to eat and then right back to sleep.

As I became a teen and young woman I knew I could talk to you about anything. If I didn’t, you’d be sure to talk to me, not scolding but teaching, admonishing without blame. I grew to respect that sort of parenting because it just made things simple, no drama.

Yes, it’s been fabulous being your daughter. Wonderful memories to last a lifetime. Thank you for the political conversations, the black power talks, the sports talk, current event debates, art and literature appreciation. Thank you for the balance you provided to my life.

*I love you DADDY!
“J”*

Order **OF SERVICE**

Prelude *“Largo”*

Opening Sentences

Gathering Hymn *“For All the Saints” #299 NCH*

Prayer / Lord’s Prayer *Rev. Adrian McLean*

Reading of Holy Scripture

Old Testament *Ecclesiastes 12:1-8* *Miranda Albury*

New Testament *St. John 11:28-35* *Carla Knight*

Musical Selection *Mrs. Bonita North*

Reflections *Dewey Knight, III*
Vanessa Woodard Byers
Horace Graham

Musical Selection ... (Organ solo) ... *“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”*

Reflections *George Ellis, Jr.*
Walter C. Anders, Jr.

Musical Selection *“Sweet, Sweet Spirit #326 AAHH*

Words of Comfort *Elder Dennis Davis*

Benediction

Closing Hymn *“Oh Master Let Me Walk With Thee”*

Recessional

A Life
WELL LIVED