



Mr. Robert J. Pickens

February 2, 1943 - April 12, 2018

Mr. Robert J. Pickens 75 of Sandy Springs GA passed away on April 12, 2018.

Memorial Services for Mr. Pickens will be held on Tuesday April 24, 2018 at Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, 2340 Clifton Springs Rd. Decatur GA 30034 at 11:00 AM.

Please express your condolences here on our website.

Services entrusted to Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home, South DeKalb Chapel. 4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy. Decatur GA 30034. 404-241-5656.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Beulah Missionary Baptist Church
2340 Clifton Springs Rd
Decatur, GA 30034

Tribute Wall

FE

“ Dear Pickins Family: Please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of your loved one. May the love and support of family and friends comfort you greatly during this difficult time. The Bible also gives us comfort and hope to see our loved ones again right here on earth by means of the resurrection. “ There will be a resurrection of the righteous and the unrighteous “ May you have peace as you think about this beautiful hope for the future.



Faye Ethridge - October 31, 2018 at 03:16 PM

QD

“ My most heartfelt condolences to the Pickens Family. I met Mr. Pickens at a Chicago Park District event. During our brief conversation, I was very inspired by the knowledge he shared. Truly an amazing man! Tori, Todd you are in my prayers, see you May 11th.

Dr Quitman Dillard

Quitman Dillard - April 25, 2018 at 01:21 PM

CS

“ I always felt when I was in Bob's presence I was among a Great and Godly man. Once sharing time with him in the Ebenezer Brotherhood, he inspired me to try and become a person of substance as he was. Bob will truly be missed. -Commodore Stone, III

Commodore Stone - April 24, 2018 at 12:32 AM

LK

“ Our good friend Big Bob was a gentle giant, a great man and a strong man who will be missed by many. Big Bob’s lived life to his fullest as an Olympian wrestler, Chicago Bear, Chicago Park Commissioner, a Boys & Girls Clubs Volunteer Leader and as a devoted loving husband to Judith. My deepest sympathy to you, Judith and your family. Your friend - Len Krichko

Len Krichko - April 17, 2018 at 04:55 PM

JD

I met Bob over 30 years ago, and we became best of friends. He was involved in so many things, and influenced so many people. When he and Judith came together it was certainly a blending of God’s love for two people who cared so much for each other and all the people they came in contact with. You will be missed my brother, may you rest in peace.

Joe DeCerbo - April 18, 2018 at 02:05 PM



What a special person he was to us! Mr. Pickens was so amazing, always had a smike to share. He made us feel important and taught us to be strong. We will miss this gentle giant. Sending prayers and comfort to the family. He will live on in our hearts and in all the stories we hold clise...si no g for niw!

Evelyn Young - April 18, 2018 at 09:18 PM

TR

“ Bobby Pickens, Olympic wrestler and Chicago Bear player was understandably a big man. Don't get it twisted: His heart, spirit, authenticity, intellect, diplomacy and friendship dwarfed his physical size. He was treasured and trusted social friend, sounding board and sometimes business colleague over the 20+ years we knew each other. In all the meetings we had over the years, several laughs were had, several truths were shared and workable solutions were arrived at. Bobby was the unofficial big brother I never had and I miss him tremendously. Judith, I send you and the family my deepest condolences and love at this difficult time.

Tim Richardson - April 17, 2018 at 01:16 PM

CJ

Big Bob was a dynamic and unforgettable spirit. Truly a giant in Chicago. I will always remember his leadership style as a consultant with Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago. Rest In Peace Bob. Judith. My dear friend. My prayers are with you family and a host of friends. Peace.

Carl R Lavender Jr - April 17, 2018 at 04:25 PM

MA

“ Michael Arrington purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Robert J. Pickens.



Michael Arrington - April 16, 2018 at 10:58 AM

MA

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Bob and his family. Bob was a teammate on our 1960 ETHS State Championship Football team that was inducted into the 2015 ETHS Athletic Hall of Fame. Bob was true Gladiator, but embodied a sweet spirit towards his friends and family. He will be greatly missed.

With deep sorrow and sympathy.

Mike Arrington

Mike Arrington - April 16, 2018 at 10:38 AM

HP

“ The Pick as we called him was a world class athlete and also a wonderful human being...for being such a great star athlete, he was amazingly approachable and friendly...he was a team mate of mine on that great 61 team at Evanston, and was an absolute force to be reckoned with for every team that played us...RIP Pick and it was an honor to play with you...Horace Parker Class of 1963

Horace Parker - April 15, 2018 at 10:11 PM

BW

“ Beatrice Woody sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Robert J. Pickens



Beatrice Woody - April 15, 2018 at 11:28 AM

BW

My Dearest Judith - My heart goes out to you and your beautiful family. May God continue to bless you with love and strength.

Beatrice Woody - April 15, 2018 at 11:32 AM



Although I did not know Bob Pickens his legacy at Evanston Township High School and with the Chicago Bears was well documented. I met him on several occasions at different sports functions and I agree with Horace Parker he was amazingly approachable and friendly. RIP Big Bob.

Donald Johnson - April 16, 2018 at 09:29 AM



Bob was one of the foundational leaders who created the tradition of ETHS football and wrestling. Those of us who followed had the road paved from the hard work of his example. RIP, Bob and God Bless you.

Dave Weinbaum - April 16, 2018 at 09:39 AM



I shall never forget the epic wrestling matches that Bob had in practice with his high school coach Elias George--the black gentle giant vs. the swarthy, squat Syrian-American who drove Pickens unmercifully to be the state heavyweight champion he eventually became. As a pint-sized, third-tier wrestler, I watched those battles from my front-row seat on the freshman and sophomore teams. Of all the many great Evanston Township High School wrestlers from that era--Sam Ward, Fred Annigers, Mike Benninger, Louis Richter, Bob Gibson, R.T. Shaw--Bob Pickens was the greatest of them all. He was a warrior and a gentleman. What else can you say?--Tom Furlong, Los Angeles Times (ret.)

Thomas C Furlong - April 16, 2018 at 11:26 AM



It was my sincere pleasure to serve on the Chicago Park District Board with Bob. He was deeply committed to ensuring that the Chicago Parks system was at its best for the people in every community. He was a sweet and gentle giant who will surely be missed.

Avis LaVelle - April 17, 2018 at 10:40 AM



Sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers for Ms. Judith and family.

Lisa Beilharz - April 17, 2018 at 02:00 PM



He was my last brother, and our younger brother, Errol Wilson, who was also a wrestling great under Coach Elias George at ETHS, preceded him in death. I will always keep both him and my younger brother closely in my heart, as I cherish the memories of growing up the only girl in a sports family with making weight, wrestling workouts in the living room, going to wrestling matches from as far back as age 9 or 10...trips to Univ of Wisc to see his football games...football fields and wrestling gyms all over the suburban league. Although he spent most of his successful years in South Shore, raising a beautiful family, these little streets of Evanston were as much a formative component of his personality as any other place he lived...for you Evanstonites...remember Foster Field, Foster School, Haven School, Dewey Street, Mt Zion Church, Evanston YMCA...our little town has produced some giants. May he rest in Heaven.

Rose Cannon - April 19, 2018 at 12:01 AM