



**Mae White - Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) - January 14, 2017 - page 1**

January 14, 2017 | Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL)

## Alice Mae White

Funeral service for Alice Mae White, 80, will be Monday, January 16, 2017, at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Kilgroe Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Robinson Chapel Cemetery. The family will receive friends Monday from noon until 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Mrs. White passed away Wednesday, January 11, 2017. She is preceded in death by her husband, **Ernest White**; son, Ronny **Ernest White**; great-grandchild, Elijah Carmichael. She is survived by sons, Roy Neal (Sandra) White, Gregory Glenn (Joycelyn) White and Mark Keith (Patricia) White; grandchildren, Andrea Tenille White, Brandon Markez White, Collin Lance White, Camerin Joy White, Thomas Bradford Wright, Madison Taylor Wright, Ernest Grantt White and Courtney Shirea White; sister, Marion R. (Jesse) Frazier; daughter-in-law, Melba (Hufus) Tatum; a host of nieces and nephews, and special nephew, Jamey Frazier. Condolences may be offered to the White family online at [www.kilgroefh.com](http://www.kilgroefh.com). Kilgroe Funeral Home - Pell City will direct the service 2219 2nd Avenue North Pell City, AL 35125 205-338-3341

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**Ernest White made a difference in Pell City - Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) - March 13, 2013 - page 5**  
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Pell City is missing a man who did more than his part to help move the city forward, but made sure his name will live on for years to come.

The community center in Glenn City is now dedicated to the memory of **Ernest White**.

He was active in many ways in the community. Mayor Joe Funderburg said, "He was Pell City through and through."

The mayor and council made the dedication Monday, and proclaimed the day **Ernest White** Day in Pell City.

White died in November. His family was there for the dedication, welcoming dozens of others who came to honor his memory.

White was the first African-American to serve on the Pell City school board when it was established in 1982. He served almost a decade on that board. He was selected as the Lion of the year in 1999 by the Lions Club, and Citizen of the Year in 2000 by the Chamber of Commerce.

He served on the city's Planning and Zoning Board and the Beautification Council and worked part time for the city's Park and Recreation Department.

He also helped people register to vote, and served as a poll worker for about 30 years. He also served on the board of Lakeside Hospice.

He gave much of himself to help make his community a better place to live. It's a legacy that will be remembered in the town that he loved.

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## Recreation hall named for the late Ernest White - Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) - March 12, 2013 - page 1

March 12, 2013 | Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL)

PELL CITY — About 60 people gathered Monday at the dedication ceremony for the renaming of the Glenn City Recreation Hall in honor of the late **Ernest White**.

"The **Ernest White** Community Center," the newly placed sign that hangs up high in front of the building states.

"To dedicate this building in his honor makes me feel proud," Pell City Council President James McGowan said. "The council was excited about doing this. ... It's a great thing to do."

White died Nov. 1, 2012, but people who gathered at the dedication ceremony said the memory of a man who gave so much to his community will live for a long, long time to come.

"I did not know Mr. White that well, but it is men like him who make a community thrive," city manager Patrick Draper said.

Despite the rain, a large gathering attended the dedication ceremony. People who knew White stood up and talked about the man who always wore a smile.

"He was a kind and gentle spirit," said Councilwoman Sharon Thomas.

White was also active in the community, and was the first African-American to serve on the Pell City Board of Education, when the School System was first established in 1982.

He also served on various city and church boards and was a long-time member of the city's Planning and Zoning Board.

"He was a very level-headed guy, and he would talk about any issues," Schools Superintendent Dr. Bobby Hathcock said. "He made a difference in the lives of a lot of people in this community."

White was always interested in education, even as a boy, one woman in the audience said.

"There are two types of names people remember, good names and bad names," said Preston Howard, who grew up with and went to school with White. "Mr. White is on the positive side. He

had a good name ... We thank the city council and the mayor for honoring him.”

Assistant Superintendent Michael Barber said White treated everyone the same.

He said White was an investor, not only in the homes he remodeled and sold, but in the schools, the School System, the city and the church he served.

“He is definitely worthy of this,” Barber said. “He had an influence on my life.”

Prior to the dedication ceremony at the community center, Mayor Joe Funderburg presented the White family, which included his widow, Alice, and children, with a proclamation.

Funderburg said he served on the school board with White and the two were friends.

“He was Pell City through and through,” Funderburg said. “... It is so good to sit inside The **Ernest White** Community Center. On behalf of the council and myself, I want to thank the **Ernest**

**White** family.”

White was the Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year and the Lion’s Club Lion of the Year.

“Mr. White was extensively involved in numerous civic organizations in the city of Pell City and was known for his dedication to public service, ...” a resolution passed by the council Monday states. “... His love, leadership and dedication touched so many lives in our community. He will be greatly missed.”

The mayor and council also proclaimed Monday, March 11, 2013, as **Ernest White** Day in Pell City.

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## Recreation hall to be named for Ernest White - Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) - March 10, 2013 - page 1

March 10, 2013 | Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) | DAVID ATCHISON Home staff writer Contact David Atchison at [datchison@dailyhome.com](mailto:datchison@dailyhome.com). | Page 1

PELL CITY — Council President James McGowan announced that a special ceremony is slated Monday in honor of the late **Ernest White**, who served on various city and school boards.

McGowan said the council will approve a resolution recognizing White and the mayor will present a proclamation to White's family during the council meeting.

Following Monday morning's council meeting, the city will hold a special ceremony at the Glenn City Recreation Hall, adjacent to Duran South Junior High School, and will unveil a plaque renaming the facility the **Ernest White** Community Center.

"I think this is a good thing," Councilman Terry Templin said at Thursday's council work session. "He had the city in his heart."

City manager Patrick Draper said the ceremony honoring White is scheduled for 11 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

City officials said a special sign made for the recreation hall will be unveiled, and a reception will follow.

White, who died last November, was well known in Pell City and served almost a decade on the Board of Education after he was first elected to the board in 1982.

White also served on the city's Planning and Zoning Board and the Beautification Council and worked part time for the city's Park and Recreation Department.

A longtime resident of Pell City, White was honored as the Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 2000, and in 1999, was selected as the Lion of the Year by the local Lions Club.

White spent almost 30 years volunteering as a poll worker, registering people to vote. He also served as a board member for Lakeside Hospice.

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**Member of Pell City's first BOE dead at 77 - Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) - November 2, 2012 - page 1**

November 2, 2012 | Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) | Page 1

PELL CITY – **Ernest White**, a member of Pell City's first Board of Education, died Thursday at the age of 77.

"If there was ever anyone who invested time and effort to make the community better, it was Ernest," said Michael Barber, assistant superintendent of the Pell City School System.

Barber said White, being one of the first to serve on Pell City's school board, brought a vision to the city's schools. He said White had the willingness to serve on the newly formed Board of Education, which is something no one else had done before. He said White and others "forged a path" for the future of the School System.

"He set the tone for others to come," Barber said. "He had a willingness to step up and represent all kids." "He was a great, great man," BOE employee Brenda Reese said. "He did a lot for our School System."

White was elected to the Pell City Board of Education in 1982, and served until resigning in 1991. He also served on the city's Planning and Zoning Board, the Beautification Council and worked part time for the city's Park and Recreation Department.

"I've lost a great personal friend, and this city has lost one of its leaders," Mayor Bill Hereford said.

"I've known him just about all my life," said City Councilman James McGowan. "He was a good family man. He was a good person. He worked hard at everything he did, and always did a good job."

In 1999, White was selected as Lion of the Year by the Lions Club and was honored as Citizen of the Year by the Pell City Chamber of Commerce in 2000.

Joe Funderburg, former school board member and newly elected mayor of Pell City, described White as "hard working" and "sincere" and said he was a "real asset to the community."

Funderburg said the whole community feels the loss when it comes to someone like White.

"Ernest represented a caring, dedicated individual who worked hard to improve the School System

and the community,” Funderburg said. “We need more people like Ernest.”

“He was a genuine person,” he said. “He was the real deal.”

White also volunteered for many groups and organizations, including the Gideons and Relay for Life. He spent nearly 30 years volunteering as a poll worker, registering people to vote, and served as a board member for Lakeside Hospice.

“He was involved in many things in our city,” McGowan said.

White was a member of First Baptist Church on 19th Street, where he served as treasurer for many years, and was also a former chairman of the Deacon’s Ministry.

Barber said White’s willingness, honesty and openness benefited many in the area.

“It wasn’t about him; it was about others,” Barber said. “He had a servant’s heart and made an impact on many people’s lives.”

Barber added, “God couldn’t have put him in a better position to serve.”

The band hall at Pell City High School is named for White’s son, the late Ronnie White, and his son Keith teaches art at Coosa Valley and Walter M. Kennedy elementary schools.

“This community is the beneficiary of his great parenting,” Barber said. “He was one of the finest men I ever knew. I loved him dearly.”

Bob Barnett, who served alongside White as a board member for the Pell City Chamber of Commerce, said he was a “real pleasure to know.”

“He was a wonderful person,” Barnett said.

In addition to all his volunteer work, White also worked as a mail carrier for the U. S. Postal Service for 25 years.

Funderburg said he met White through his work with the Postal Service and later sought his advice as a member of the school board.

“He always listened to what you had to say,” Funderburg said.

Barber said that when White worked as a mail carrier, “he brought more than the mail.” He said White brought “smiles” and “words of encouragement” to those he delivered mail to.

“He will surely be missed in our community,” McGowan said. “You can’t help but to miss people like that.”

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Terry’s Metropolitan Mortuary.

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**Ernest White honored as Pell City Citizen of the - Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) - March 23, 2001 - page 1**

March 23, 2001 | Daily Home, The (Talladega, AL) | David Atchison

**Ernest White** was honored as the 2000 Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year during an awards banquet Thursday night at the Pell City Civic Center.

"This is a joy and a honor," White said, thanking his wife and family for their support. "I want to thank the Pell City Chamber members for electing me."

White was nominated by the Pell City Lions Club and he thanked his fellow Lions for nominating him.

White and his wife, Alice, have four sons. He is a member of the Pell City Lions Club, the Pell City Civitan Club - Candy Box chairman, board member for the Pell City Habitat for Humanity, board member for the Pell City Library Guild, charter member of Leadership Pell City, member of the Pell City Planning and Zoning Commission, board member of Senior Citizens of Pell City, on the Work Advisory Council of the St. Clair Career and Service Center, a former member of the St. Clair Regional Hospital Board, a charter member of the Pell City Board of Education, a member and deacon of First Baptist Church South in Pell City, and currently serving as treasurer for the church.

White worked 20 years at Pell City Food Center and retired after 25 years with the U.S. Postal Service in Pell City.

White epitomizes the Lions Club motto, "We Serve." He has taken an active part in the Lions Club and currently serves as the chaplain for the group. He is a consistent leader in the club's annual mop and broom sales contest and always sells more than his share of pancake tickets for the annual pancake breakfast.

White, the Lions Club said, takes a leadership role in the community, which is evident by the many organizations he is active in.

White, himself, was somewhat modest about his community service.

"There are seven other candidates here," White said. "I feel they are much more worthy than I am."

The more than 400 chamber members cast their vote for one of eight nominees for this year's

award. Nominations for the 2000 Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year included Julia Love Allred, Peggy Beal, Debbie Crain, Ed Gardner, Ruth Thiel, Karen Thibado, Charles O. Trotter and White.

All nominees were recognized at the 25th annual Citizen of the Year Award Banquet and awarded special framed certificates. All nominees either lived, worked or performed volunteer work in the city during the 2000 year.

"It's an honor to be nominated," said Pell City Mayor Guin Robinson in his welcoming and remarks. "On behalf of this city, I want to tell you thank you, thank you for all that you've done."

Pell City Chamber of Commerce President Pam Adamson welcomed the guests and introduced the head table at the banquet.

Karen Hand, chairwoman of the Citizen of the Year Committee, led the group in the pledge of allegiance, and the Rev. Jacky Connell gave the invocation before dinner.

Phil Seay, master of ceremonies of the banquet, introduced all the nominees and the special guest speaker - Ken Lass, co-anchor of NBC 13 News Today. Lass served as sports director and anchor for more than 17 years at NBC 13 and has won every major sports anchor award in the state.

He saluted the nominees for their commitment and for the giving of their time and of themselves to the community.

Lass presented White with the 2000 Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award.

Pell City Chamber Executive Director Lynn Batemon presented Lass with a special presentation at the end of the program and thanked the nominees for all the work they have done for the community.

"It's a pleasure and a honor to be involved with this program," she said, adding that all the nominees were winners.

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