



## Nelson Ellis

October 8, 1933 - May 31, 2019

Robert Nelson Ellis, 85, of Rainsville, passed away Friday, May 31, 2019 at his home. He was born October 8, 1933 in Valley Head to the late John William and Maria Davenport Ellis. Mr. Ellis, known as Coach Ellis to many, spent his 35 year career in education as both a coach and principal in Fort Payne City and Dekalb County Schools. He was a member of Fyffe Methodist Church.

Funeral services will be 5 p.m. Sunday at Wilson Funeral Home with burial following in Valley Head Cemetery. The family will receive friends Sunday from 1 p.m. until the 5 p.m. hour of service.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Elizabeth H. Ellis; sons Robert Ellis and wife, Marla and Paul Ellis and wife, Kelly; and grandchildren Drew, Laura, Jay Tyler, and Emily.

He was preceded in death by his siblings Bill Ellis, Mary Louise Holleman, and Adelaide Biddle.

# Cemetery Details

## Valley Head Cemetery

787 Carmichael Road  
Valley Head, AL 35989

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 2. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Funeral Home  
3801 Gault Ave. N  
Fort Payne, AL 35967

## Funeral Service

JUN 2. 5:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Funeral Home  
3801 Gault Ave. N  
Fort Payne, AL 35967

# Tribute Wall



“ *Nelson Ellis*

January 12, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ *Nelson Ellis was my high school civics teacher and coach of our football team at Fyffe High School. Then later he was principal when I taught there and Elizabeth was a teacher there. He was a fine and fair man and he was much loved and respected. I will always remember my years at Fyffe with fondness.*

**Patricia Cagle** - June 02, 2019 at 08:25 PM



“ *Coach Ellis had a saying that if you ever quit the first time, the next time will be easier, and it will keep getting easier. Those words would continue to be a guiding principle for me for decades, and I do not believe without his influence, that I would not have been as successful in life as I have. I hope his family knows what a contribution he made to so many lives.*

**barry leath** - June 02, 2019 at 09:18 AM



“ *Mr Ellis was a great principal that I was privileged to have taught under. He was always kind and considerate. Elizabeth was a great co-worker and help made to hm. Prayers for her as she continues to be on earth and is his presence.*

**Mary S. Barrontine** - June 01, 2019 at 02:41 PM

SL

“ I remember when he came to Fyffe and really started Fyffe football as we know it. He was so big team spirit. Also a great teacher. He will be missed!

Susan Tumlin Lambert - June 01, 2019 at 02:26 PM

MD

“ Martha Donald lit a candle in memory of Nelson Ellis



martha donald - May 31, 2019 at 07:20 PM

SH

“ Coach Ellis was my 9th grade science and homeroom teacher. He was one of the best men I ever knew. When I took tickets at games, he would always ask about my family and how long I had been teaching. He was a good man.

Sarah Haase - May 31, 2019 at 06:27 PM

SM

“ Sherry Mckelvey lit a candle in memory of Nelson Ellis



Sherry Mckelvey - May 31, 2019 at 04:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Nelson Ellis.*



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May 31, 2019 at 03:44 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Mr. Ellis was such a nice man. I was just thinking yesterday how I really should have visited. Prayers.*  
*Lisa B Smith*

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**Lisa Smith** - May 31, 2019 at 03:25 PM