



## Mr. Govenor "Gov" Grady, Jr.

November 4, 1931 - July 9, 2024

Govenor "Gov" Grady, Jr.

Born November 4, 1931, to Lula and Govenor Grady in South Bend, Indiana. He was one of eight siblings.

Here, he attended South Bend Central where he led the Bears to an undefeated season and state championship as a halfback. He won All State, All-Northern Indiana Eastern Division Conference, and All-Twin-City honors which provided him a full ride to Ball State University. At Ball State, he was a four-year letterman in Football, the lead scorer two consecutive years and ranked 3rd in State. At graduation in 1956, the Baltimore Colts and Cleveland Browns contacted him about playing in the NFL, but he was already enrolled in the Reserve Officer Training Corps with the United States Air Force.

He served in the US Air Force as a Ground Control Intercept Specialist for 13 years until retirement as a Major in 1969. He also coached the Misaw Air Force Football Team in Northern Japan in 1956.

While being stationed at Richards Gebaur Air Force Base in Belton, MO he met the love of his life Geraldine Sanders and were married for 66 years. As a result of their marriage, they had one daughter and two grandsons.

After retiring from the Air Force, He worked as a Sales Representative for

Thomas J. Lipton, Inc. for 25 years, receiving outstanding professional awards in 10 consecutive years.

In 1988, he was inducted into Ball State Athletic Hall of Fame.

In 1990, he was inducted into the Indiana State Hall of Fame.

Later in life, he was honored with an associate membership in the Kansas City NFL Alumni Association. He was also privileged to be a longstanding Carafella of the Kansas City Carrouseles, Inc. for 39 years.

He was preceded in death by his mother, father and six siblings. He leaves to mourn; his wife Geraldine Grady (Leawood, KS), daughter, Sheri Grady Luke (Kansas City, MO), two grandsons, Michael Luke (Kansas City), Matthew Luke (Kansas City), sister, Doris Grady (Ocala, FL), brother, Spencer Grady, Sr. (Lillie) of South Bend, IN, a host of wonderful nieces, nephews and many dear friends.

Memorial services Saturday, July 20, at 10:00am at Second Missionary Baptist Church of Grandview, MO. Private Disposition. In lieu of flowers the family is requesting donations be made to Ball State University Athletics 2000 W. University Ave | Muncie, IN 47306 <https://connect.bsu.edu/Give-CVC> .In Memory of Governor "Gov" Grady, Jr. Arrangements entrusted to Lawrence A. Jones & Sons. Condolences may be shared on our website.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Second Missionary Baptist Church of Grandview  
5111 Harry Truman Drive  
Grandview, MO 64030

# Tribute Wall



“ *My Uncle Sonny was one of the best men in my life. A man's man. Hard working and dedicated. This hurts because all my Aunt's and Uncle's are leaving me and all my dang near all my favorites are now officially on "sabbatical". I love you Aunt Geri n Sheri K and cousins, M & M.*

Hennessy Rae Washington - July 21, 2024 at 09:10 AM

BA

“ *Butch & Kirk Allison purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Mr. Govenor "Gov" Grady, Jr..*



Butch & Kirk Allison - July 19, 2024 at 03:11 PM

KM

“ *Gerri, Sheri, Michael and Matthew, I had the privilege of knowing your Father, Grandfather through your amazing Mother and Grandmother. Gerri, I can't believe I just saw you at Anns' visitation. It was so wonderful to see you. I had just watched the you tube special " I am history" thank you for sharing your story. You and Gov had persevered, and we are blessed your family ended up in Belton. I am blessed for working with you. Gov has a tremendous story also. May God surround you with comfort, peace, and love as you walk through this difficult time. Thinking of your family and lifting you up in thought and prayer. May the perpetual light forever shine upon him in Jesus' name. With love and sympathy, Mark and Kathy (Maurer) Muder*

Kathy Muder - July 19, 2024 at 11:54 AM

JB

“ *Such a wonderful and full life. My Sympathy to Geri and family. Jil McMahan Brown*

---

**Jil Brown** - July 16, 2024 at 08:59 PM