# NORTHWEST AL FCA

# IN THE ZONE

Mr. Samuel (Sam) David Rice served on the Northwest Alabama FCA Leadership Board for more than 16 years touching countless athletes with the love and power of Jesus Christ.

He was a lifelong resident of the Florence area, well known for his integrity, fairness, and the love he shared with his family and friends. Mr. Sam took his promotion to Heaven October 31, 2019, from complications of ALS.

James, Lucille and brother, Jim, welcomed Sam into the world on January 3, 1947. Sam learned to work hard, be honest, be helpful, and follow the golden rule. When not working, Sam and Jim explored

creeks, hunted fields, fished ponds and the river, and learned to play games and developed into formidable athletes. Sam was good at every sport or game that he ever played. He was naturally competitive and coupled with physical gifts, Sam became an exceptional high school athlete.

While attending Coffee High School, Sam and his teammates won the 4A State Championship by going 10-0 in football during the 1964 season. This was Coffee's only state title in football.

Sam attended and graduated from the University of Alabama where he forged friendships that enriched the next 50 years of his life. Like most other graduating men in that era, Sam was drafted and spent

the next two
years in the
Army as an intel-

ligence officer in the special operations division. After a tour of duty in Vietnam, Sam returned home. He found a loving and devoted partner in



Johnnye, and they were married on December 10, 1977. He owned the Oakland Gin Company from 1971-1991, and was a cattle farmer until 2017.

He leaves Johnnye; daughters Mary Margaret (Hatfield), Julie, Sarah Catherine (Bolton) and Betsy; his brother Jim; five grandchildren, and many friends. We will miss Sam.

#### FCA Vision:

To see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.

#### FCA Mission:

To lead every coaches and athletes into a relationship with Jesus Christ and his church.

#### FCA Values:

Our relationships will demonstrate steadfast commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word through Integrity, Serving, Teamwork and Excellence.

Integrity

We will demonstrate Christ-like wholeness, privately, and publicly. (Proverbs 11:3)

Serving

We will model Jesus' example of serving. (John 13:1-17)

**Teamwork** 

We will express our unity in Christ in all our relationships. (Philippians 2:1-4)

Excellence

We will honor and glorify God in all we do. (Colossians 3:23-24)



## Three E's of Ministry:

Engage - Equip - Empower

### Four C's of Ministry:

Coaches - Campus - Camp - Community

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan - Mar. Spring Sports Popsicle/Seed Blasts

Dec. 2 NAL Christmas Mingle, Decatur

Dec. 3 Athens-Limestone Christmas Mingle, Athens

Dec. 10 NWAL FCA Christmas Mingle, Muscle Shoals

Mar 3 STEER Partner Dinner

Mar 11 NAL Behind the Bench Luncheon

# FCA STAFF

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