



## Coach Dwight A. Lofton

March 23, 1961 - April 8, 2021

In lieu of flowers, the family gratefully requests that memorial contributions be directed to the St. Francis County Community Foundation in honor of Coach Dwight Lofton, PO Box 3002, Forrest City, AR, 72336

If you desire to send flowers or a memorial gift to the family you can contact Debbie's Flowers 870.633.2225 or by visiting [www.etsy.com/shop/ShopYABAS](http://www.etsy.com/shop/ShopYABAS)

“To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born and a time to die.” Ecclesiastes 3:2

Dwight Anthony Lofton, age 60, transitioned from this life early in the morning on Thursday, April 8, 2021.

Coach Lofton was born March 23, 1961, in San Antonio, Texas, to Jackson W. and Eddyce M. Lofton.

He professed his life to Christ at an early age at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Little Rock. He was a member of Prosperity Missionary Baptist Church in Forrest City.

Lofton graduated from North Little Rock Ole Main High School in 1979 and

attended the University of Central Arkansas in Conway on a tennis scholarship, where he played singles and doubles matches for three years. While there, he became a member of the Iota Gamma Chapter (Spring '81) of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and graduated from the university in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in history and health education (double major).

“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work.” John 9:4

Over the 35 years of his teaching career, he taught civics, American history, psychology and sociology. His first head coaching position was Pelican High School in Mansfield, La., where he stayed for two years as head coach of the basketball team. He was an assistant coach at DeSoto High School in Louisiana for one year before returning to the North Little Rock School District as an assistant senior high and head junior high basketball coach for the west campus team for nine seasons. There, he won two district championships with two runners-up finishes. During the summer, Lofton worked with the North Little Rock AAU program. He joined the Forrest City School District as the Mustang senior boys basketball coach in 1996. During the 2006-07 school year, Lofton's Mustangs finished 26-4 and were Class 6A state runners-up. Lofton sent three players – Stephon Weaver, Kelson Stewart and Marcus Britt (all now inducted into the Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame) to three different Division I schools following that season.

Two of his greatest career accomplishments as a basketball coach were leading the Forrest City Mustangs basketball team to the 2014 and 2016 5A State Boys Basketball Championship games and winning both titles. Lofton was the head tennis and head golf coach in the Forrest City School District which led a student to the title of Overall Girls State

Champion of Arkansas in 2018 under the Arkansas State Golf Association. He was selected as the 1995 KARK My Favorite Teacher. In 2012, he was inducted into the Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame. He was named 5A-East Outstanding Coach in 2014 and 2016, named the 2016 Arkansas Democrat-Gazette Basketball Coach of the Year, and in 2017 received the Buddy Harding (UCA) Alumni Award. He also received numerous other awards over the span of his career.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jackson W. Lofton; his paternal grandparents, Adolphus and Theodore Lacy, and his maternal grandparents, Fred and Mary Henderson.

He is survived by his supportive and devoted wife, Gwinda Lofton of Forrest City; his loving mother, Eddyce M. Lofton of Sherwood; his sons, Jaylen Lofton of North Little Rock and Avian Wright of Memphis; his daughter, Crenisha Wright of Benton; Paw Paw's favorite girl/granddaughter, Viani Wright; two brothers, Jeffrey (Shelia) Lofton of Houston, Texas and Michael Lofton of North Little Rock; one sister, Jacqueline Lofton of Sherwood; one nephew, Sean Lebari of Houston, Texas; one niece, Christina Lofton of Mayflower; five aunts, Jewell (Alphonzo) Bowe of Flint, Mich., Dorothy (Robert Sr.) Jones of Sherwood, Faye (George) Long and Patricia Henderson, all of North Little Rock; three uncles, Fred (Juanita) Henderson and Patrick Henderson, all of North Little Rock, and Charles (Jann) Henderson of Frisco, Texas; three brothers-in-laws, Cecil (Mable) Peacock, Henry Peacock and Reginor Peacock, all of Forrest City, and one sister-in-law, Brenda Peacock of Wake Village, Texas; along with many cousins, family, friends, coworkers, and a tremendous host of coaches, students, and his golf, tennis and basketball players. Dwight had a very special bond with

several of his players over the years, and you know who you are.  
A walk-through visitation for Coach Lofton will be held Friday, April 16, 2021, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Mustang Arena.

A celebration of Coach Dwight A. Lofton's life will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 17, 2021, at Mustang Arena, located at 615 Victoria St., in Forrest City, with Evangelist Abbie Robinson delivering the eulogy. Burial will follow at Oakland & Fraternal Historic Cemetery Park, located at 2101 Barber St., in Little Rock.

In lieu of flowers, the family gratefully requests that memorial contributions be directed to the St. Francis County Community Foundation in honor of Coach Dwight Lofton, P.O. Box 3002, Forrest City, AR 72336.

#RememberingCoachLofton

For anyone that would like to forward resolutions or proclamations to be acknowledged at the official funeral service, please send to: [mjkimble@yahoo.com](mailto:mjkimble@yahoo.com), PO 484, Forrest City, Arkansas, 72336, or fax to 870.633.1920 by Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

The family asks that you share your "Coach Lof" stories by posting your videos and pictures (public) on Facebook and using the hashtag #RememberingCoachLofton

An official obituary and funeral program to download: <https://qrco.de/lofton>

# Cemetery Details

## Oakland & Fraternal Historic Cemetery Park

2101 Barber Street  
Little Rock, AR 72206

# Previous Events

## Visitation with a requirement of a face covering

APR **16**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mustang Arena  
615 Victoria Street  
Forrest City , AR 72335

## Service with a requirement of a face covering

APR **17**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mustang Arena  
615 Victoria Street  
Forrest City , AR 72335

# Tribute Wall

KT

“ I will always remember when he pushed me to be better at basketball, when I found out he passed I wanted to give up but I continued to play because he never wanted me to quit and he believed that I would be great. I will forever love you uncle Lofton.



---

**Kamara Taggart** - October 11, 2021 at 06:53 PM

PJ

“ Phyllis Jones lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



---

**Phyllis Jones** - April 17, 2021 at 02:30 PM

AC

“ Angela Crippen lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



---

**Angela Crippen** - April 17, 2021 at 12:20 PM

AJ

“ Not many walked the talk as Dwight. We played together as kids in the "Heights", we played on the same baseball teams. We didn't party hard, at least not with me, we graduated together, and we went our separate ways. But, I've taken your influences, your character traits with me in many of life choices. I've been watching you, and now GOD has you in His care. Much love hommie!



*Aundra Omega Jackson*

---

**Aundra Omega Jackson** - April 17, 2021 at 12:15 PM

TW

*Even as kids growing up, you always seemed destined for great things. You became a husband, father, coach, educator and mentor. Our hearts are saddened but so very proud my friend. Thank you for your dedication to others. Rest in Peace and Love.*

*Tony Wilkins*

---

**Tony Wilkins** - April 17, 2021 at 01:15 PM

CW

“ Charlotte Wright lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



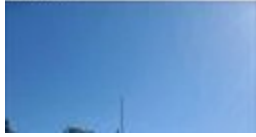
---

**Charlotte Wright** - April 17, 2021 at 11:54 AM

AS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

Today the Masters had its first with Lee Elders  
and we had our first with Coach Dwight Lofton.  
RIP my friend.



Andre' Stephens - April 17, 2021 at 11:41 AM

WF

“ Wilburn & Hunter Families lit a candle in  
memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Wilburn & Hunter Families - April 17, 2021 at 11:30 AM



“ When Coach Loftin arrived to FCHS, I had the pleasure of writing  
about him in our high school newspaper, I was one of the first  
students to meet him. I always made sure to stop by and see  
whenever I came to the school. He will surely be missed. Sending  
thoughts and comfort to the family, and extra special strength to  
Mrs. Gwinda. Love you Crenisha❤️

Brandi Riggins - April 16, 2021 at 10:57 PM

CK

“ Dwight followed his dreams, becoming a fierce coach, an awesome God-fearing person, an exceptional family man, friend, and most importantly, a mentor to so many! I will miss reminiscing with him (and wracking my brain trying to remember stuff that happened 40 years ago.) 😊 I know he will be looking over and interceding for many in his new Heavenly duties.

*My deepest sympathy and prayers to Gwin and family and also to Eddyce, the Lofton, Henderson and Smith families. He was a special person and deserved all the beautiful tributes. I was proud to know him. Rest DAL - you deserve it! You were loved!*

---

**Cheryl Seymour Kelly** - April 16, 2021 at 06:40 PM

CC

“ Claudette Clay lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



---

**Claudette clay** - April 16, 2021 at 04:11 PM

DF

“ Debra Ford lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



---

**Debra Ford** - April 16, 2021 at 03:56 PM

HW

“ Sending sincere love, condolences, and sympathy to Gwin and family in the passing of your loved one, Coach Lofton. Praying for strength and healing.

♥♥♥ Hazel V. Wallace



Hazel V Wallace - April 16, 2021 at 03:35 PM

SH

“ Shirley Haggins lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Shirley Haggins - April 16, 2021 at 02:26 PM

SB

“ One of the best to ever do it. RIP Coach Lofton 🙏



Shaun Brittnum - April 16, 2021 at 12:53 PM

MW

“ Sincerest condolences to Gwin and the entire family of Coach Lofton!!!



Mildred Willis - April 16, 2021 at 12:52 PM

AO

“ *Amy Oswalt lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton*



---

**Amy Oswalt** - April 16, 2021 at 10:21 AM

,H

“ , *Gloria Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton*



---

**, Gloria Hawkins** - April 16, 2021 at 08:13 AM

RH

“ *Reva Hancock-Wiley lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton*



---

**Reva Hancock-Wiley** - April 15, 2021 at 11:39 PM

PB

“ My dear 1st cousin Dwight. I will always cherish the times we spent during the summer when we were kids in Little Rock, although I was much older. You were the cutest little boy. I have thoroughly enjoyed communicating with you via Facebook, and getting to know your family. I know you have a good heart so there is no question that you are with God. I know you are happy seeing your dad (Uncle Jay Walter) again. I Love You!!

*My sincere condolence to your family and Aunt Eddyce!*

*Your cousin Pamela Bowe-Tabbs*

---

**Pamela Bowe-Tabbs** - April 15, 2021 at 05:31 PM

CH

“ I want to let the family know that Dwight will be missed. I am also praying for the family to find strength in God during your time of sorrow. The Charles and Dalencia Hervey Family.

---

**Charles and Dalencia Hervey** - April 15, 2021 at 01:01 PM

LH

“ Lovie Hardrick lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



---

**Lovie Hardrick** - April 15, 2021 at 11:17 AM

RE

“ Rose Edwards lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Rose Edwards - April 14, 2021 at 02:07 PM

MB

“ Marty W Burton lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Marty W Burton - April 14, 2021 at 09:45 AM

DA

“ Doris Alexander lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Doris Alexander - April 13, 2021 at 11:36 PM

MM

“ COACH LOFTON WAS GOOD TO MY SONS. HE WOULD SET THEM STRAIGHT WHEN THEY NEEDED IT AND AT THE SAME MAKE SURE THEY KNEW HE CARED ABOUT THEM. SO FOR THAT COACH LOFTON I AM GREAT FULL. RIP COACH!!!



Mary Moore - April 13, 2021 at 10:42 PM

ST

“ Coach Lofton family, Praying that God continues to comfort the family. Keeping you lifted during this time of bereavement. Coach Lofton inspired, encouraged, the students to be the best that they can be. He showed them how to respect them self and others. He had a kind working spirit which helped him to teach our children to be able to succeed in life. The way that he carried himself you knew that God was important in his life. Thanksgiving holiday will not be be the same without him in the " Rumble On The Ridge "

Coach Lofton will be missed NEAR AND FAR. His memories will forever be in our hearts.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BIG WARM HEART. Shirley. Shirhonda, .  
Erica



C

**Shirley Williams Thorn** - April 13, 2021 at 09:57 PM

SP

“ *I’m so very sorry about Coach Lofton’s sudden passing. He had such a positive impact on his students and athletes, may he rest peacefully.* ”



**Sharon Perry** - April 12, 2021 at 04:51 PM

SK

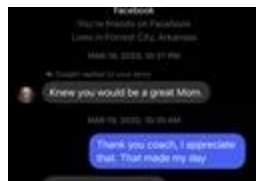
“ *Shirley A Malone King lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton* ”



**Shirley A Malone King** - April 12, 2021 at 01:57 PM

KT

“ *He was truly a great mentor, he kept a lot of us in line. You will truly be missed* ”



**Kadezsha Tucker** - April 12, 2021 at 12:35 PM

DG

“ My deepest sympathies to the Lofton family. I went to High School with Dwight, a cheerleader for Dwight and all the Wildcats. Those were happy days, full of laughter, friendship and hope for all us teenagers. Racial barriers were gone, and our Class socialized together, played together, enjoyed each other, and built lifelong friendships. Dwight was a leader even then, setting an example of friendship, loyalty and hard work. I am not a Spokesperson for our Class, but I am sure of the love and respect our OMHS Class of 79 felt for Dwight. Thank you Lord, that his family and friends will all be reunited one day in Your Presence. We will hold on to Your promise.

Denise Johnson Greenway  
Class of 1979

---

denise greenway - April 12, 2021 at 12:17 PM

MT

“ I first met Dwight when he was 15 years old. I coached his Babe Ruth baseball team at Vestal Park in North Little Rock. We never lost contact with each other. After retiring from coaching basketball in Arkansas for 41 years, I can say Coach Lofton will be missed as not only a great coach but a great person

---

Mike Tucker - April 12, 2021 at 10:56 AM

CC

“ Coach Lofton will truly missed.He was a great coach and mentor to our young men.



---

Calandra Chatters-Henderson - April 12, 2021 at 04:09 AM

DN

“ My deepest condolences to the family. Coach was a good man hands down. I appreciate you always checking up on me over the years and always having encouraging words to say. Rest up Coach. You are greatly missed and loved by many.



Dashia Nunn - April 12, 2021 at 12:42 AM

DA

“ Dabort Allen lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Dabort Allen - April 11, 2021 at 10:44 PM



“ I will surely miss him his inspired a lot of us in high school when I was in school. I didn't talk to him much I like seeing him in school and listening him help us kids through school. Its just to sudden and too soon and may he rest in peace up stairs.

Justin Whyman - April 11, 2021 at 07:57 PM

LI

“ Thank you for all done you have done for Forrest City High! Thank you for always looking out for our Brother and allow him to do something he really enjoyed! Basketball/coaching was something he always talked about. You had gave him hope and courage! Make sure you give him a huge hug for us! Rest On Coach!  
#MustangPride #Blue/White

Latoya Isreal - April 11, 2021 at 05:02 PM

LI

*Thank you for All you have done!*

Latoya Isreal - April 11, 2021 at 05:05 PM

TB

“ Coach Lofton was someone important to me from the moment I sat down and had my first conversation with him. Him and I had a special bond, not only was he my teacher, he was a friend, a mentor. The stories I could tell and all the memories I’ll remember for the rest of my life are so many. He always called me, “TB, the legend” but I always knew he was the legend and I am beyond grateful to have spent the time with him I did. He always made you feel welcomed and important, and he kept a smile on all his people’s faces. Loft always kept my desk pulled up right by his in school and always welcomed me in to come and chat even after I had his class. I send my prayers and love to every person effected by the loss of this “Unbelievable” man. Loft may not be with us physically anymore but he’s eternally in our hearts and minds. May you Rest In Peace Coach Loft💙 I hope you and Jesus have a seat pulled up near you guys for me when I get there one day.

Terra Billingsley - April 11, 2021 at 01:36 PM

BM

“ You will truly be missed. Kenny and Dwight had a special bond that will never be unbroken nor forgotten. He was called by him LEGEND and he called him DUDE never missed many days visiting him in mornings at the store. To GOD be the glory for all that he has done. To be absent from the body is to be present with the LORD. From Kenny & Brenda Marlowe, sending prayers and condolences to Gwin and the Lofton family.

Brenda Marlowe - April 11, 2021 at 10:51 AM

FM

“ You will b missed by many...u touched alotta Young ppl life including me and my son

Felicia malone - April 11, 2021 at 09:16 AM

FM

“ You will truly be missed... thanks for always congratulating me when I played good bck in the day and thanks for giving my son a chance and pushing him to be the best



Felicia malone - April 11, 2021 at 09:13 AM



“ Thank you for helping me to make the play of a lifetime, unbeknownst, anyway!



Stephane Holloway - April 11, 2021 at 05:04 AM

AF

“ Anita Fryer lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Anita Fryer - April 11, 2021 at 01:50 AM

LH

“ You Will Truly Be Missed 💙💙  
#OneNationUnderLoft 🐶🕊️

Latrice Harris - April 11, 2021 at 12:07 AM

VS

“ Vanessa Spearman lit a candle in memory of  
Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Vanessa Spearman - April 10, 2021 at 10:17 PM

KB

“ You will always be my FAVORITE and I'm  
glad you knew that! I will definitely miss you &  
all of your advice Coach! Rest peacefully.  
Love always, your KB!



Kayla Boyd - April 10, 2021 at 08:54 PM

SD

“ Coach Lofton was my Civics teacher in middle school, and I also  
played middle & HS sports. We kept in touch over the years through  
FB. He has always encouraged me and naturally, began supporting  
and encouraging my children...always checking to make sure “their  
scholarships were secure!” 😂 His care and concern for his current  
and former students was truly authentic! Well done Coach, take  
your rest! 🕊️🕊️

Shannika Davis - April 10, 2021 at 07:51 PM

DF

“ Dorothy C. Faulkner lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Dorothy c. Faulkner - April 10, 2021 at 06:20 PM

AW

“ Alline Freeman Warren lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Alline Freeman Warren - April 10, 2021 at 05:52 PM



“ To Mrs. Gwen and the entire Lofton Family, Our Condolences and Prayers to you during Your Loss.



Joeann Brooks-Smith - April 10, 2021 at 05:49 PM

DF

“ Debra Ford lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Debra Ford - April 10, 2021 at 05:46 PM

DH

“ Rest up Lof💙💙💙



Darainah Howard - April 10, 2021 at 05:21 PM

MM

“ Mary Moore lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Mary Moore - April 10, 2021 at 05:20 PM

CL

“ Claudette LaMar lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Claudette LaMar - April 10, 2021 at 04:21 PM

CL

Condolences with sincere prayers to the entire Lofton Family..Reuben LaMar 3rd,Darwasha Jones & LaMar Family of Houston Texas

Claudette LaMar - April 10, 2021 at 04:23 PM



Prayers to Gwen and The entire Lofton Family.....He was truly a Great Inspiration, Role Model and Mentor to Mine and a lot of other Young Men in F.C.... You have Our Sincerest Condolences.

Joeann Brooks-Smith - April 10, 2021 at 05:53 PM

TD

“Sweet Tea” Duff and I are going to miss those encouraging words from the day you knew we was getting married. That big smile every time you came through Burger King drive Thur I’ll never forget it, you ALWAYS been a great friend since the day I meet you. RIL ❤️🕊️



Tyler & Shaquita Duff - April 10, 2021 at 04:16 PM

MH

Coach Lofton will be truly missed. Your family have my condolences and prayers. R. I. P. Coach Dwight Lofton.

Mary Humphrey - April 17, 2021 at 01:39 PM

TO

“ Tony lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Tony - April 10, 2021 at 04:08 PM

PW

“ Pamela Ware lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton



Pamela Ware - April 10, 2021 at 04:07 PM



“ *Sandy Williams lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton*



Sandy Williams - April 10, 2021 at 03:56 PM



“ *Angela Barton lit a candle in memory of Coach Dwight A. Lofton*



Angela Barton - April 10, 2021 at 03:38 PM



“ *our prayers go out to the Lofton family may God bless and comfort you at this time. Reverand and Sister Uzziah Duncan.*

Reverand Uzziah Duncan - April 10, 2021 at 03:11 PM



“ *Picture it 9th grade 1989 I had this smooth Kappa brother as my football and basketball coach from my own neighborhood. Coach Lofton and Barnes help shape my life during thosd years I'll never forget him. Lords will we'll see you again as your soul rests.*

*Keith Jordan*

Zephaniah Israel - April 10, 2021 at 03:07 PM

PW

“ *Our loved ones leave the world but not our hearts”. Coach Lofton left but left us with his precious gifts of love and humility. He will be missed.*



*Peggy Robinson Wright*

---

**Peggy Robinson Wright** - April 10, 2021 at 02:29 PM

DM

“ *A word of comfort and of hope, that in your deepest sorrow, you will find new strength and peace of mind and courage for tomorrow.” Please know that you are in our prayers.*



*Sending condolences to the family of Coach Dwight Lofton on behalf of The Lincoln High School - Maroon & Gold National Alumni Association, Inc. (MGNAAI), Forrest City, Arkansas.*

*Delores Farr Morelon  
MGNAAI President*

---

**Delores Morelon** - April 10, 2021 at 01:31 PM

RI

*We will miss you coach rest in Heaven*

---

**RickySmith-Green** - April 10, 2021 at 04:05 PM

DS

*A True warrior of the King. His physical presence will be greatly missed but his legacy will live in the hearts and minds of all who knew him. Prayers are going up for the family* 🙏🙏

---

**Darryl Scoggin** - April 10, 2021 at 04:52 PM