



Max L. Kirby

July 14, 1937 - September 9, 2025

Funeral service for Max L. Kirby, 88, of Jacksonville will be Friday, September 12, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at Thompson Funeral Home with Rev. Garry Brown and Rev. Tim Zimmerman officiating. Burial with Law Enforcement Honors will follow at Nances Creek Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Friday from 11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. Mr. Kirby passed away Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at his home. Survivors include his loving wife of 56 years, Mary Kirby; four nephews, Steve Hunter, Rickey Hunter, Michael Rockhart and Frank Kirby; three nieces, Holli Higdon, Hayley Spears and Nikki Daniel; and several other family members. Mr. Kirby was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. Emmett “Rube” Kirby and Myrtle “Myrt” Kirby; brother, Franklin D. Kirby; six sisters, Ida Lively, Hazel Daugherty, Kate Brannon, Mozelle Fugatte, Rochelle Elkins and Ruth Hunter. Pallbearers will be Michael Rockhart, Rickey Hunter, Steve Hunter, Sonny Frost, Andy Borders and Joe Sekula. Honorary pallbearer will be Charles Bonner. Mr. Kirby was born in Cherokee County, Alabama and had lived most of his life in Calhoun County. He was of the Baptist faith and was a supporter of the Nances Creek Baptist Church. Mr. Kirby was very dedicated to his 40+ year career in law enforcement. During those years he served as police chief of Austell, Georgia; was a patrolman with the Weaver Police Department, and served as a deputy for the Calhoun County Sheriff’s Department where he was later promoted to the rank of Chief Deputy which he held until his retirement in 1999. After retirement he worked Cold Cases for the Calhoun County Sheriff’s

Department from 1999 to 2015. He, along with his dedicated and hard working partners, solved many cold cases during that time. Mr. Kirby was always known to have a great amount of compassion for the families of the victims. His years of dedicated and professional service to the citizens of Calhoun County is greatly appreciated.

Cemetery Details

Nances Creek Cemetery

4089 Hollingsworth Road
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 12. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Thompson Funeral Home & Crematory
6340 Old Piedmont-Gadsden Hwy
Piedmont, AL 36272
(256) 447-7113
<https://www.thompsonfuneralhomepiedmont.com>

Service

SEP 12. 1:00 PM (CT)

Thompson Funeral Home & Crematory
6340 Old Piedmont-Gadsden Hwy
Piedmont, AL 36272
(256) 447-7113
<https://www.thompsonfuneralhomepiedmont.com>

Burial

SEP 12 (CT)

Nances Creek Cemetery
4089 Hollingsworth Road
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Tribute Wall

WC

“ Wanda Shepherd Casson lit a candle in memory of Max L. Kirby



Wanda Shepherd Casson - September 12, 2025 at 06:19 PM

WC

Momma and I had visited Kirby about a month ago and he was laughing and talking about old times when he and my dad were police officers. He told us stories of some of the stuff he and my dad had gotten themselves into. Mary I am so sorry, you lost a good man but he is with Jesus now no more pain. I know Jesus met him with open arms. May God give you comfort and peace. I love you!

Wanda Shepherd Casson - September 12, 2025 at 06:26 PM

DW

“ My Max was a wonderful friend my heart is broken Prayers go our to his sweet wife Mary Max will truly be missed

David Weaver - September 11, 2025 at 09:46 PM

RR

“ Richard R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Max L. Kirby.

Richard R. - September 11, 2025 at 09:40 PM

EK

“ Max Kirby and Mary were life long friends of our family. We visited he and Mary several months ago. He will be so missed. Praying for Mary and the family. Love yall

Elicia Shepherd Kelley - September 11, 2025 at 05:35 PM

EK

“ *Elicia Shepherd Kelley lit a candle in memory of Max L. Kirby*



Elicia Shepherd Kelley - September 11, 2025 at 05:31 PM

LA

“ *Max was a very special person in my late husband's (Larry Amerson) life. He was like a father to him since Larry had lost his father as a young boy. They had a special bond that lasted many many years. Larry always talked about how Max could wiggle a confession out of the most hardened criminals. He was a fantastic investigator, fiercely loyal to Larry and his toughest critic at times. But always with the best of intentions. I will always remember Max with respect for his commitment to law enforcement, with humor at his antics and with fondness for his love of my family. Mary - you were his perfect match with your poise, dignity and love you showed him all those years!!!*

Lisa Amerson - September 11, 2025 at 12:41 PM

EB

“ *I worked with Max several times over the years and found him to always be polite, helpful and very professional. He will be missed.*

EDWARD BLACKWELDER - September 11, 2025 at 10:11 AM

GR

“ German and Rachel purchased the Heartfelt Sympathies Blue & White Funeral Standing Basket for the family of Max L. Kirby.



German and Rachel - September 10, 2025 at 10:36 PM

GR

“ German and Rachel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Max L. Kirby.

German and Rachel - September 10, 2025 at 10:36 PM

DR

“ When I worked at Jacksonville Police Department; we worked several crime scenes together. He was a great investigator.

Denise Rucker - September 10, 2025 at 05:57 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Max L. Kirby.



September 10, 2025 at 01:54 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Max L. Kirby.

September 10, 2025 at 01:54 PM