



## Obituary

**Born:** Friday, February 18, 1949

**Died:** Sunday, February 3, 2019

Gregory “Greg” Franklin Howell, Jr. was born February 18, 1949 the second child and only son to Lucille [Adams] Croft Howell and Gregory Franklin Howell, Sr. in East Gadsden, Alabama. Greg’s *maternal* ancestral pedigree reaches back to the early 1800’s at Ball Play Alabama. Greg is the *Grandson* of Thomas Croft and Minnie Jackson Croft, former lifelong Elders of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, East Gadsden Alabama sense its founding in early 1900’s. *Great Grandson* of Betsy Adams of Ball Play and Hillary Croft of Turkey Town, Alabama and “*Great-Great Grandson*” of Parris Adams and Adeline Collins Adams, founders of the “*Adams Clan*” of Ball Play Alabama. [Greg’s paternal ancestral pedigree reach back to](#) Chambers County, Tuskegee, Alabama. He is the Grandson of Elders Sarah of Chambers County, Alabama and Louis [McClain] of Anniston. Alabama.

## Service Summary

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### Celebration of Life

3:00 PM Sat Feb 09, 2019

### Antioch Missionary Baptist Church

2103 E. Broad St.  
Gadsden, Alabama 35903

Baptized during his early childhood at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Greg grew up on East Broad Street surrounded by a tight-knit East Gadsden community of “Elders, Kinfolk and Cousins” at every turn. He attended James L. Cain Elementary School, Carver High School and Peabody Tech College in Nashville, Tennessee where he studied carpentry, brick masonry and other skills. Greg’s career as an independent contractor and bricklayer took him across the country from Chicago Il, New York, to Miami, Fl. As the years came and went, Greg kept in touch. Everybody knew Greg loved Gadsden. As the he got older, Greg yearned to return to his “*Sweet Home Alabama.*” A “*free spirit*” at heart, Greg *never met a stranger*. He trusted and believed in the Lord and used to say, “*Everything is in God’s hands.*” Greg loved family gatherings, traveling and football. He was known for being “*free-hearted*” practicing the golden rule of sharing and helping anyone he could. During casual conversation Greg was known to wittingly say, “*What a World!*”

Greg transitioned this earthly life February 3, 2019. He leaves to mourn his passing two sisters “Vicky” [Dr. OlaOshun Victoria Howell Lakesin] of Atlanta and “Cindy” [Mrs. Cindy Howell-Steele], Brother-in-law Mr. Larry Steele of Nashville. Nephew Samaroo “Sam” Lokenauth and wife Sonya of Atlanta. Niece Khadijah Lakesi-League who he affectionately called “Shey’Shey” and husband Saeed of Nashville. A paternal cousin, long-time friend and buddy, Cedric Veasy of Gadsden-Boaz, Regina Veasy, Maxine

Veasy of Detroit. Great-nieces and nephews; Sarah Lokenauth, Kymani Akinjide League, Carlos Lokenauth, Khareem League, Renee Victoria Lokenauth, Serenity Orisade League. Tons of Croft and Adam Clan cousins, dear friends and loved ones. Nurse Lori Woods of Adoration Home Health, Nashville, TN, professional nurse and caregiver who stuck with Greg on the rough side of the mountain.