



## Sherwell Roy Higdon

June 9, 1944 - July 13, 2025

Roy Sherwell Higdon, 81, of Pensacola, Florida, passed away on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at his home surrounded by his family.

Born on June 9, 1944 to the late Roy Albert & Ruth Guffey Higdon, he was the oldest child to become the leading member of the Gospel Singing Higdon Family, known to all as one of the finest musicians to ever grace the stage. His ability to play most any instrument was a testament for his love of music and performing with his family gave him great pleasure and a blessing to those in attendance. He graduated from Pisgah High School in 1962, worked at Combustion Engineering for many years, and pastored the Nickajack Holiness Church. He and his brother operated Higdon Enterprises in Trenton, Georgia, where he taught piano to many students in the Dade County area and was a HAM radio operator for 54 years with the call name of W4IDD, or as known to most, "I Diddle Diddle!" In addition to his parents, Sherwell was preceded in death by his sister, Lanella Higdon.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 35 years, Gail Fuller Higdon; sons, Jerome (Crystal) Higdon, Sam (Linda) Higdon, Stephen (Vonnie) Wilson, & Allen (Lea) Wilson; daughters, Dewanna (Claude) Shelton, Tammy (Jeff) Johnson & Debbie (Jason) Steele; sisters, Lavelda Floyd, Loretta (Edgar) Hawkins, Marcella Higdon, & Tolitha (Bruce) Bowden; brother, Joe (Pat) Higdon; twenty-two grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, many

nieces & nephews also survive.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, July 19 at 12:00 p.m. EST at Higdon Baptist Church with Rev. Frankie Carroll officiating. Interment will follow in Higdon Cemetery with nephews serving as pallbearers. To share condolences, visit his online guestbook at [ryanfuneralhome.net](http://ryanfuneralhome.net).

The family will receive friends on Friday, July 18th from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until the service hour at the church, located at 28866 AL Highway 71, Higdon, AL.

Arrangements are under the care of Ryan Funeral Home & Crematory, Trenton, GA.

# Cemetery Details

## Higdon Cemetery

Higdon, AL

# Previous Events

## Receive Friends

JUL 18. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Ryan Funeral Home and Crematory  
11415 S Main St  
PO Box 506  
Trenton, GA 30752  
(706) 657-7525  
steven.ryan@ryanfuneralhome.net  
<https://www.ryanfuneralhome.net/>

## Funeral Service

JUL 19. 12:00 PM (ET)

Higdon Baptist Church  
28866 Highway 71  
Higdon, AL 35979

# Tribute Wall

SM

“ I'm so sorry to read about Sherwell's passing. He was one of the most talented men I've known in my life. I always sat in awe of him playing the piano. He always encouraged me - and was so welcoming when I moved to Pensacola. I will never forget the reunion of Sherwell and my dad, Alfred Mills, at Sherwell and Gale's home in Pensacola. You could feel the love between them. All of the Higdon's held a special place in my heart, and with my parents, Gail and Alfred Mills, they loved the Higdon's. Many thoughts for all of you.

Scott Mills - August 14, 2025 at 12:24 PM

SC

“ Much love and prayers with Gail and Family!



Sandra Clark - July 18, 2025 at 01:18 PM



“ 72 files added to the album Life Tributes



Joe, Ray's son, with his high tenor, sang a beautiful job on the lead. Listen to him as he sings "Thank You A Language God Understands."  
Larshia, Ray's daughter, with her wonderful alto, will sing right into your heart on "Hallelujah Here I Wait." This song, along with "I've Been On The Mountain Talking With My God," "Up Home On High" and "You Should Have Told Me," were all written by Ray -- truly a great composer.  
Sherwell, Ray's other son, with his baritone and his outstanding ability with a variety of musical instruments, you will love. Listen to a song he wrote and is featured on, "I'll Be Standing With My God."  
Mildred, Ray's mother, with her deep, smooth voice as her, really will blow you. Listen to an arrangement that Ray, along with other members of the Higdon Family, put together. A song which features Mildred.



Ryan Funeral Home - July 18, 2025 at 10:20 AM

MB

“ *Marcella and the boys purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Sherwell Roy Higdon.*



---

**Marcella and the boys** - July 17, 2025 at 02:00 PM

BL

“ *BHW Metals, LLC purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Sherwell Roy Higdon.*



---

**BHW Metals, LLC** - July 17, 2025 at 09:26 AM

GH

“ *Tolitha, I am so sorry to hear about your loss. My prayers are with you and your family. I love y'all.*



---

**Gaye Hattaway** - July 17, 2025 at 09:02 AM

YV

“ *Your Church Family Terra Vista purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Sherwell Roy Higdon.*



---

**Your Church Family Terra Vista** - July 16, 2025 at 04:38 PM

KB

“ *Kathy and Randy Budd purchased the Beautiful i  
n Blue for the family of Sherwell Roy Higdon.*



---

**Kathy and Randy Budd** - July 16, 2025 at 02:57 PM