

# the spotlight

A weekly roundup for shopping and doing business locally!



## Celebrating a Life Well Lived

In our present society of ever-changing ideas and the rebelling against everything traditional, is the centuries old ritual of funerals still necessary? Absolutely. The funeral service is extremely important for family and friends to honor, respect, and remember those who have died. Gathering with friends and family gives everyone the opportunity to share memories, express emotions, and find comforting support. Regardless of the type of service a family chooses, the need to acknowledge the reality of the death and to create a unique meaningful ceremony that reflects the individuality of the loved one is essential to the healing process.

Generations of local families have trusted Shelton Funeral Home to carefully guide them through important decisions in arranging the service and the difficulty of coping with the loss. The founders' compassion for people and commitment to service was the heart and soul of the organization and became their legacy to the community. Today, Shelton Funeral home has two licensed funeral directors and embalmers, and an experienced staff dedicated to preserving the same high standards and values.

Homer, Gene, and Kenneth Shelton founded Shelton Funeral Home in 1972 as development efforts were expanding into southwest Decatur. Over the years Gene Shelton became the face and name associated with Shelton Funeral Home and its reputation of quality, sincerity, and trust. Gene's dedication to service led him to serve four terms as Coroner for Morgan County. The Shelton family owned and operated the business for almost half a century. "Daddy loved his work," says Sheree McKelvey, "This is his legacy." Sheree further explains "It was a very difficult decision to sell, but it was the right decision."

Around December of last year, Jeff Gamble purchased Shelton Funeral Home. Jeff is well known in the funeral industry and owns several successful funeral homes in Alabama and Tennessee. It was important to the family to find the right person to continue their father's legacy. Sam Shelton told his sisters, "If Daddy would have ever sold the funeral home, he would have sold it to Jeff." Sam currently does autopsies at the University of Alabama Birmingham and does embalming work for the Gambles. Russ Beard is the new Manager

and Funeral Director of Shelton Funeral Home. Russ is a lifetime resident of Morgan County and has managed several funeral homes throughout his 30-year career. He graduated from Jefferson State Community College with a Bachelor of Arts in Mortuary Science and later earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Athens State University. In 1999 Russ was honored to be elected Coroner by the people of Morgan County and proudly served three consecutive terms. Russ states, "Even though we are proud of our legacy, we are open to future innovations and changes in our industry. We strive to provide personalized and professional services by continuing our education and continuing to upgrade our facility."

In our present society of ever changing Ideas, you can have your service anywhere, and any way, you want. We can arrange to have doves, butterflies, or balloons released at the close of the service. We are here to help you create the most memorable and meaningful service to honor your loved one, or pre-plan your own farewell ceremony. Our family is with your family every step of the way.

**Shelton**  
Funeral Home

OUR FAMILY IS WITH YOURS

*Every Step*  
OF THE WAY

Honoring Life

Pre-planning

Memorial Services

Traditional Funeral

Veteran Services

2105 Beltline Road SW, Decatur  
256.353.1620

**Oil, Lube, and Filter Service**

featuring **Havoline motor oil**  
(other major brands available)

**NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**

Oil change includes a 16-point **STAR SERVICE CHECKLIST**

**Havoline** xpress lube

1202 Highway 31 NW, Hartselle, AL 35640  
(256) 751-1050

117 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, AL 35055  
(256) 739-5888

Follow us on Facebook

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**20**

Years in Business

**AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATIONS**

**COLLISION & RESTORATION**  
Used Motor Vehicle Dealer

Specializing in Restorations,  
Candy, Pearl, Flakes, Graphics,  
Motorcycle Painting and RV & Boat Repair

**automotive-innovations.net**  
**256-778-0705**  
3953 Highway 67 • Somerville, AL 35670

**BUY HERE, PAY HERE!**

**AS LOW AS \$75 to \$200 A WEEK**

Includes 24K mile / 24 mo. warranty on all financed vehicles (except diesels)  
WAC with full coverage insurance required

**Robert's Auto Sales**

**Celebrating Our 23rd Year!**

HIGHWAY 31 N, HARTSELLE  
256-751-3654

RobertsAutoSalesHartselle.com

**Decisions Decisions Decisions**

- Ice Cream
- Gourmet Sodas
- Shaved Ice

*Ice Cream Makes You Happy!*

**OPEN LATE Friday & Saturday 'til 9PM**

**TESS' PLACE**

ICE CREAM • SHAVED ICE • GOURMET SODAS

324 2nd Ave, SE, Suite A  
Downtown Decatur

Follow Us on Social Media!

DO YOU WANT A **FRESH LOOK** for YOUR EXISTING WEBSITE?

**We are local and ready to help!**

**reach256**

256-340-2370 • reach256.com

**SHOP LOCAL**