

MEMORIALS

Samuel Mark Wylie, Jr. 1924-2014

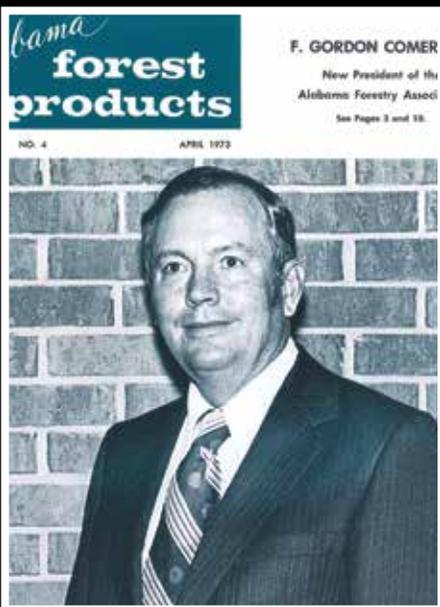


Randolph County TREASURE Forest landowner, Samuel Mark Wylie, Jr. passed away on December 23, 2014 at the age of 90. A native of Camp Hill, Alabama, Sam moved to Randolph County as a child with his family when his father started a lumber company in 1927, the S.M. Wylie Company. Following service to his country in the U.S. Army during World War II in the European theatre, Mr. Wylie came home, met and married his wife, Leonette. Both graduated from Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn University) in 1950. Serving as president of the S. M. Wylie Company, Mr. Wylie became a leader in the forestry industry. After retiring from the family lumber business, his forestry interests continued with a Christmas tree farm and participation in the TREASURE Forest Association. Mr. Wylie was also a charter member of the Randolph County Forestry Planning Committee which was established back in the early 1980s. His property was awarded TREASURE Forest status in December 2000 (certification number 1712). Sam Wylie was a mentor to numerous young people over his career by providing summer and Saturday jobs. Many high school students planted trees during the winter which now cover Randolph County and are over 30 years old. 🌲



Photos courtesy of Jan Wylie Plagens

F. Gordon Comer, Jr. 1922-2015



Clay County TREASURE Forest landowner, Gordon Comer, Jr. passed away on January 18, 2015, in Sylacauga, Alabama, at the age of 92. A graduate of Anniston High School, Mr. Comer served in the U.S. Army during the occupation of Japan under General Douglas MacArthur in World War II. Following service to his country, he received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Forestry from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. Upon graduation, he returned to Alabama and was employed for 38 years by what became the Kimberly Clark Corporation's Coosa Pines Division, retiring as Vice President of Woodlands Operations in 1988. Mr. Comer owned tree farms in Clay, Tallapoosa, Coosa, and Baldwin counties in Alabama. He hosted the Colorado State University forestry camp for many years and advocated the planting of longleaf pine. In addition to serving on the Alabama Forestry Commission, he also served as President of the Alabama Forestry Association. Mr. Comer's contributions to the forest industry were widely recognized and acclaimed. His accomplishments included being inducted into the Alabama Forester Hall of Fame in 1983, and being named Colorado State University's Honor Alumnus in 1985. 🌲



Photos courtesy of Thomas Comer