



Michael Jaray Dobson

October 21, 1958 - January 13, 2026

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Michael Jaray Dobson, a third-generation Floridian, longtime Tallahassee-based lobbyist, political consultant, businessman, writer, and devoted man of faith, passed away on January 13, 2026, at the age of 67.

Born in Mulberry, Florida, to Jerome Foster and Elease Simon, Michael spent his early years between Bartow, Florida, and Elizabeth, New Jersey, where his mother introduced him to the United Methodist Church—a faith that guided his life. He was an active member of Saint Paul’s United Methodist Church in Tallahassee, where he sang in the church choir and headed the jail and prison ministry.

A graduate of Bethune-Cookman College, Michael’s professional career spanned insurance, rehabilitation services, and public policy. He served as President of Claimpro Insurance of Tampa before relocating to Tallahassee to pursue an MBA from Florida A&M University. He later worked in the Florida House of Representatives, served as Communications Director for the Federation of Physicians and Dentists (AFL-CIO), and founded Dobson and Associates in the mid-1990s.

Over more than three decades, Michael became a respected political

consultant and strategist, later founding the Florida Renewable Energy Producers Association, Talking Florida Politics, and serving as Chair of Florida Voters Campaign PAC.

As a lobbyist, Michael shepherded the nation's first Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. specialty license plate, the "Live the Dream" plate, through Florida's Legislature. In 2017, he became President of The Dream Foundation, Inc., expanding its mission and promoting Dr. King's legacy.

Guided by his faith and love for his family, Michael will be remembered for his leadership, compassion, and enduring commitment to service and unity.

Michael is survived by his children: daughter Sameya Porter Roundtree and husband, Larry; daughter Mikaela Jaray Dobson; son Noah Michael Craig Dobson and wife, Jordan. Siblings: Rodney Dobson, Cheryl Maise, Pamela Suarez, Jerry Foster, Steve Foster, Gerald Simon, Cynthia Simon, and Maggie Foster; his former partner, Cynthia Craig, as well as several nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

A celebration of life ceremony will be held on Saturday, January 31st, 2026, at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church at 2 pm in Tallahassee, Florida. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the jail and prison ministry at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church.

Mr. Dobson is under the care of Jackie Fulford and James Sircy of Young Fulford Funeral Home, Tallahassee, Florida. 850.610.4444

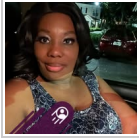
Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 31. 2:00 PM (ET)

Saint Pauls Methodist Church
1700 N Meridian Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Tribute Wall



“ I picked up the home today to ask your opinion and your line was disconnected. I remember a few weeks before we were speaking on what you could take to make your stomach feel better so you could eat. I never thought that would be our conversation. I ran to Facebook no message I googled you and saw what I feared. Rest In Heavenly Peace Political Father.
Ka'Rin Necole

Karin Necole - February 18 at 05:10 PM

HG

“ Uncle Mike was always someone who cared about his family and loved them deeply. He always asked about my schooling and cared about my future. I'll always remember when he happened to come into my cafe and was wearing a bright pink suit, he looked awesome. I love my cousins deeply and am heartbroken for them.

Harper G. - January 31 at 03:33 AM

DP

“ Condolences and Prayers to the Family.

Deacon & Sis. Priester

Deacon & Sis. Priester - January 27 at 08:20 PM

NM

“ Sincere condolences and prayers to the Dobson family 🙏 Rest in Peace Wildcat classmate



Natalie Smith Mack - January 22 at 01:19 PM

GJ

“ *My Deepest condolences when someone we love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a great treasure to us.
Cousin Michael we will miss you 🕊️🕊️
Love Always Cousin George Cephus Jr*

GEORGE CEPHUS JR - January 21 at 08:24 PM

SG

“ There aren't enough words to say how much I admired and respected Mike.

I loved going to lunch or supper with him. I didn't work with him. Nor was it a date.

We had only chatted on FB.

BUT, one day he posted he was hungry for non-hospital. I told him that I would happily bring him anything he wanted of her gave me his cell.

It was less than 5 minutes! He was happily eaten away and someone called. I think it was one of his children. So, I just told him to call whenever he had time. And, left.

I developed cancer, too. So, we made plans to support each other as much as possible. Especially on trips to Jax.

We couldn't coordinate treatment days. but, we would share much of our time on the phone.

I wish that I could've done so much more for a very loved and respected gentleman.

I've had my tears of sadness. Now I have my treats of joyfulness that his life is one of peace.

Peace and comfort to his friends. He had many. 🧡🐱🏰

Sissy Gaharan - January 20 at 11:44 PM