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Furman University

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Furman athletics

Basketball star Darrell Floyd dies at 67

Darrell Floyd, the Furman basketball standout who led the NCAA in scoring during his junior and senior seasons, died March 8 in Greenville after an extended illness. He was 67.

Floyd came to Furman in 1954 following an All-America season at Wingate (N.C.) Junior College. He garnered first team All-America honors in 1955 and 1956, averaging 35.9 points per game as a junior and 33.8 points per game as a senior. He and Frank Selvy '54, who led the NCAA in scoring in 1953 and '54, gave Furman a four-year lock on NCAA scoring crowns.

Known for his long-range shooting, Floyd averaged 32.1 points a game during

his career, the eighth highest career average in NCAA history. He scored 2,281 points in 71 games at Furman.

John Block, Furman's vice president for intercollegiate athletics, spoke for many of Floyd's friends and colleagues when he said, "Darrell Floyd was a great athlete, but more important, a man whose conduct and values enriched the lives of others. He will always remain an inspiration to those who seek excellence."

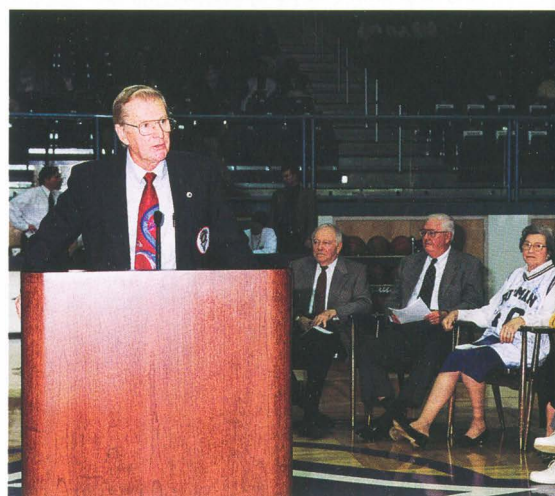
Said Selvy, "I was really proud to know him at the end. He was one of the best jump shooters I ever saw, and I only hope I can be as strong as he was. He was a very courageous person."

Besides his athletic accomplishments, Floyd was also a student leader at Furman, serving as president of the student body and as vice president of Kappa Alpha fraternity. After graduating in 1956 with a bachelor's degree in health and physical education, he was drafted by the Army and by the St. Louis Hawks of the National Basketball Association.

Following a two-year stint in the Army, Floyd's draft rights were traded to the NBA's Cincinnati Royals. When he failed to come to terms with the Royals, he returned to South Carolina and enjoyed a successful career in private business and as an entrepreneur. He was active in Greenville's First Baptist Church and frequently volunteered his time as a coach for youth and amateur teams.

A native of Thomasville, N.C., Floyd scored a career-high 67 points against Morehead State on January 2, 1955, and later that season tallied 56 points in a 124-87 triumph over Clemson. In all, Floyd scored over 40 points 15 times during his Furman days.

Larry Davis, men's basketball coach at Furman, said, "He was one of the greatest players in our history and had been a good friend to our basketball program. He always went out of his way to help and support us, and we will certainly miss his presence."



A two-time national scoring champion during his college days, Darrell Floyd was one of the keynote speakers at the dedication of Timmons Arena in 1998.

A member of the South Carolina, Wingate College and National Junior College Athletic Association halls of fame, Floyd was a charter inductee into Furman's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1981. In 1998 he was named to the Southern Conference's 75-year anniversary team. He is one of only four players in Furman basketball history to have his jersey (number 33) retired.

He is survived by his wife, Kay; three daughters, Diane Floyd Odom '81 and Nancy Floyd Turner, both of Greenville, and Elizabeth Shelton Floyd of Nashville, Tenn.; and three grandchildren.

2000 Furman Football schedule

| | | |
|---------|-------------------|--------|
| Sept. 2 | ELON | 7 p.m. |
| 9 | NEWBERRY | 7 p.m. |
| 16 | WILLIAM & MARY | 7 p.m. |
| 23 | Virginia Military | 1 p.m. |
| 30 | WESTERN CAROLINA | 2 p.m. |

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|-----------|
| Oct. 7 | Appalachian State | 1:30 p.m. |
| 14 | THE CITADEL | 2 p.m. |
| 21 | East Tennessee State | 7 p.m. |

| | | |
|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Nov. 4 | GEORGIA SOUTHERN* | 2 p.m. |
| 11 | Wofford | 2 p.m. |
| 18 | UT-CHATTANOOGA | 2 p.m. |

HOME GAMES ALL CAPS.
Starting times subject to change.

* Homecoming