

Last week we published the obituary of **Don Franklin**, a Wilson County native who in every sense of the word was a "hometown" favorite son.

Educated in public schools here, he was an outstanding football player at Lebanon High School and then later at Middle Tennessee State University

After college he returned to his hometown to work in a local industry, become a classroom teacher and also to hold various administrative positions at Castle Heights Military Academy.

In his 75 years of life he was a farmer, coach, educator and elected public official.

Plain-spoken with a down-home style of verbally communicating, Mr. Franklin always sought basic truths and practical answers when serving in government.

Having grown up in Lebanon he had a keen knowledge of where our community had been and where it was going, a real advantage for anyone during his time of service and even perhaps more so today.

He chose to serve in public office as a member of the Lebanon City Council, the Wilson County Commission and the Wilson County Board of Education because he wanted only the best for the community he loved so much.

Sure, at times as often is the case in politics, folks may have disagreed with him, criticized him, found what they believed to be fault with ideas he may have espoused, but no one questioned his integrity, his heart or his wanting to do what was best for his hometown or Wilson County.

This certainly is not an unusual trait for many who serve in public office. But indeed it is good to know that there are others who have served and are serving today with the same commitment and same dedication as Don Franklin.

## **'Hometown' favorite son served in great fashion**

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His service was exemplary.

by Sam Hatcher