

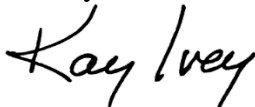


KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR

(334) 242-7100

STATE OF ALABAMA

TO: President James A. Stephens, Jefferson County Commission
Mayor Stewart H. Welch, III, City of Mountain Brook

FROM: Governor Kay Ivey 

DATE: Tuesday, February 4, 2025

RE: Flags Lowered Honoring Former Ambassador William J. "Bill" Cabaniss

I hereby authorize flags be flown at half-staff on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, on the grounds of the Alabama State Capitol Complex in Montgomery, in the City of Mountain Brook, and throughout Jefferson County to honor the life of former Ambassador William J. "Bill" Cabaniss, who passed away at the age of 86 on February 2, 2025.

Bill Cabaniss was a native of Birmingham and a graduate of Vanderbilt University. Upon completing his studies in 1960, he entered the U.S. Army and served in Germany as a First Lieutenant in the Airborne Rangers. He was awarded the Army Commendation medal. After returning home to Birmingham in 1964, he held several positions in business, including forming his own company, Precision Grinding, Inc. He would soon set a course for a lengthy and impactful career in politics. In 1978, Cabaniss ran as a Republican for the Alabama State House and representing District 31 and won. After serving one term, he then threw his hat into the ring to capture State Senate District 11 serving Jefferson and Shelby counties. He was an active conservative voice in the state senate helping establish the Republican party as a future force in Alabama politics. He ended his political campaign career in 1990 after launching a strong, but unsuccessful challenge of incumbent U.S. Senator Howell Heflin. However, he wasn't finished with public service. Cabaniss would go to play several influential government roles, including holding a position on Alabama Governor Bob Riley's transition team in 2002, and receiving an appointment in 2003 to serve as President George W. Bush's ambassador to the Czech Republic. Bill Cabaniss left an enduring legacy in Alabama public life that is strongly felt today.

I, therefore, authorize flags on the grounds of the State Capitol Complex in Montgomery, in the City of Mountain Brook, and throughout Jefferson County be flown at half-staff from sunrise until sunset on the day of Ambassador Cabaniss' interment, Wednesday, February 5, 2025.

KI/ml