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George Wallace: From Segregation to Salvation

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**BARRINGER PUBLISHING ANNOUNCES THE
PUBLICATION OF “GEORGE WALLACE:
FROM SEGREGATION TO SALVATION”**

Barringer Publishing, an independent publishing house based in Naples, Florida, is proud to announce the publication of *George Wallace: From Segregation to Salvation*, written by his only son, George Wallace Jr. It is a story about redemption, told by the man who knew him best.

“In reflecting upon my journey as the namesake of one of the most controversial political figures of the 20th century and understanding how the dramatic and traumatic experiences affected my immediate family, I have always believed our experiences were unlike those of any other family in our nation’s history. What we endured we endured under the watchful eye of the public. The writings contained herein will reveal for the first time from a family perspective, the real George Wallace, not the myth that has grown up around the legend.”— George Wallace Jr.

“I have learned what suffering means. In a way that was impossible, I think I can understand something of the pain Black people have come to endure. I know I contributed to that pain, and I can only ask your forgiveness.” George Wallace made an unannounced speech at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1979, where Martin Luther King was once pastor. The Reverend Joseph Lowery, the “dean” of the civil rights movement, thanked the former separatist “for coming out of your sickness to meet us. You are a different George Wallace today. We both serve a God who can make the desert bloom. We ask God’s blessing on you.”

Wallace's life is complex and his legacy is often debated. He is remembered for his role resisting desegregation and promoting racial division, as well as for his eventual shift towards inclusivity and regret for his earlier positions.

Redemption is not always a straightforward process, and its importance can vary depending on the circumstances. It's worth noting that while redemption is important, it does not erase or excuse past actions. Instead, it acknowledges the effort to change and improve.

George Wallace (1919-1998) was a prominent American politician, among the crew of a World War II bomber, attorney, judge, and a member of the Alabama legislature. He served as the 45th governor of Alabama for four non-consecutive terms from 1963 to 1987. Wallace is remembered for his opposition to racial integration and his support for "separate but equal" policies.

Wallace gained national attention in 1963 when he famously stood in front of the University of Alabama's entrance to block the enrollment of two African American students, defying federal desegregation orders. His "Stand in the Schoolhouse Door" was a symbolic gesture of resistance to integration and what he considered federal intrusion on the sovereignty of the state.

In 1972, Wallace made a bid for the presidency. While campaigning he was shot in an assassination attempt that left him partially paralyzed.

Later in life, Wallace underwent a notable change of heart. He expressed remorse for his past views and actions, and, in 1979, he publicly asked for forgiveness from African Americans. This transformation earned him some measure of reconciliation and he was re-elected as Alabama's governor in the 1980s, with 90% of the African American vote.

He understood as both a well-educated attorney and as one of the most dedicated politicians Alabama or any other state has ever produced that violence and bloodshed would harm his cause, not help it. And, as a Christian, he instinctively knew in his soul that violence was wrong.

“One of the most glaring misconceptions about about my father, and I know how much it saddened him, was regarding the 1965, Selma, Alabama march. His strict orders to keep the peace were disobeyed; he was enraged when he heard about the violence. On occasion, he would bring this up to me.”

Wallace ensured the University of Alabama campus was swept clean of any item that could be used as a weapon prior to his “Stand in The Schoolhouse Door” at Foster Auditorium because he wanted to avoid the same violence that occurred when ‘Ole Miss’ University was integrated.

He later became good friends with the two students who eventually made history on that hot June day. James Hood invited Wallace to attend his graduation when he received his doctorate from the University of Alabama, and Vivian Malone Jones was among the honored guests at his state funeral in 1998.

An accomplished public servant, George Wallace Jr. served two terms both as State of Alabama Treasurer and as Alabama’s Public Service Commissioner. He has been a major contributor to Alabama’s Auburn University in Montgomery and Troy State University. A successful musician as well, George toured with Hank Williams Jr., and signed with MGM Records. In addition, he has lectured extensively on early American history.

Barringer Publishing is a full-service publishing house, located in Naples, Florida. Online at www.barringerpublishing.com. For more information contact Barringer Publishing at js@barringerpublishing.com or contact the author at www.governorgeorgewallace.com or georgewallacejr@gmail.com. Available on Amazon in hardcover, softcover and eBook.