



## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** August 1, 2014

### **City Street Renaming Dedicated to Local NFL Player and Hero**

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** – City officials gathered Friday afternoon, August 1, 2014, to dedicate a section of Community Circle in the Kimbro Woods subdivision in honor of the late Jerry Anderson. Anderson died in 1989 while saving the lives of two drowning children in the Stones River near Riverdale High School. The brief ceremony was held in the temporary cul-de-sac now named Jerry Anderson Drive in the Kimbro Woods Subdivision. Friends and family of the Murfreesboro native were on hand for the dedication ceremony.

“Jerry Anderson was a hero on the field of football, but more importantly he was a hero in the bigger game of life,” said Mayor Shane McFarland. “As citizens of Murfreesboro we honor his heroism and should be proud that someone who demonstrated true courage in action called this City his hometown.”

Part of Community Circle was renamed because of concern made by the Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue Department (MFRD) regarding a street name duplication issue. The Murfreesboro City Council renamed the existing east-west segment of Community Circle to Jerry Anderson Drive during the May 15, 2014 council meeting.

A Central High School graduate, Jerry Anderson played football for the University of Oklahoma and in the National Football League (NFL) for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Cincinnati Bengals from 1977-78. He also played in the Canadian Football League (CFL) for the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. He lost his life while saving the lives of two young boys he did not know on May 27, 1989. Anderson was only 35 when he drowned. The street named after him is only a few miles from where he drowned.

City Principal Planner Matthew Blomeley, who was on hand for the dedication ceremony, stated, “After approval by the Planning Commission and City Council, the Planning Department made provisions to implement the street name change and the associated address changes.” Blomeley added, “I’m glad the City could address the concerns of the Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue Department and honor the memory of Mr. Anderson at the same time.”

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Also on hand for the dedication were City Council member Ron Washington and Assistant City Manager Jim Crumley.

In October 1989, Anderson's story aired on the CBS television program, Rescue 911. The 7-minute story can be viewed on You Tube at <http://youtu.be/d17kgWT1gcQ> and a 5-minute story can be viewed at [http://youtu.be/8BOnf\\_dRSo](http://youtu.be/8BOnf_dRSo). Every year since 1990, the Rutherford County NAACP nominates a local hero in honor of the Jerry Anderson Hero/Humanitarian Award.

**Photo caption**

*Jerry Anderson Drive Street Sign.jpg*

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