

# Moments to Remember



**Pallbearers**  
The United Methodist Men

**Floral Bearers**  
The Class of "1958"

## I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God has laid you see.  
I took His hand when I heard His call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work, or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found the peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joys  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart, and peace to thee-  
God wanted me now; He has set me free.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At a time like this we are helpless...  
It is only God who can speak the words that calm the sea,  
still the winds and ease the pain.  
We have had dear friends to lean on that made us realize  
even more, that we never walk alone, therefore,  
We want to express our appreciation to you for whatever  
You have done to console our hearts.



1656 JOE S. JEFFORDS HWY  
ORANGEBURG, SC 29115  
(803)809-0070  
[WWW.GREATERORANGEBURGFUNERAL.COM](http://WWW.GREATERORANGEBURGFUNERAL.COM)  
WILLIE C. STROMAN & NECOLE B. STROMAN, OWNERS  
MONTEZ P.V. HAYNES & SHAKIA C.B. HAYNES, OWNERS/LICENSED FUNERAL DIRECTORS

# Celebration of Life FOR Mr. John Westly HARPER



*Alpha*  
JULY 8, 1938

*Omega*  
JANUARY 9, 2023

*"Mickey"*

*-Service-*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023  
1:00 P.M.  
HOUSE OF PRAISE NON-DENOMINATIONAL  
CHURCH OF DELIVERANCE  
1662 JOE S. JEFFORDS HIGHWAY  
ORANGEBURG, SC 29115

BISHOP HAYES T. GAINEY, JR, OFFICIATING



SUNRISE: JULY 8,1938 - SUNSET: JANUARY 9, 2023

## THE OBITUARY

Mr. John Wesly “Mickey” Harper was born July 8, 1938, to the late Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Clay and Mary Ruth Quattlebum Harper. He entered eternal rest on Monday, January 9, 2023.

He was educated in the public schools of Orangeburg County. He graduated from Wilkinson High School in 1958 where he excelled in football, baseball and track. As a running back, his speed earned him the nickname “Flash.” After graduating, he received an athletic scholarship to attend Elizabeth City State University (formerly Elizabeth City State Teachers College), Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

At an early age, he joined Edisto United Methodist Church (formerly Jerusalem Methodist Church). He was a dedicated member of the United Methodist Men, Male Chorus, and the Gospel Choir. He was employed by Utica Tool Company where he retired. Later, he followed in his father’s footsteps and became a barber at the Edisto Barber and Cafe. His hobbies included: fishing, and coaching youth football.

Mickey was preceded in death by his parents, and one son, Jason Chavis.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his dedicated wife, Jean Blount-Harper (60 years); children, Pamela H. (Kenneth) Bowman, of Orangeburg S.C); Dwayne A. (Michele) Harper of, Columbia SC; Deveron A. Harper (Davette) of, Charlotte NC; Valencia Walker, of VA; brother-in-law, Larry (Barbara) Blount, of Baltimore, MD, sister-in-law; Bernice Blount, of Rocky Mount, NC; six grandchildren, De’kwami Bowman, Chauncery Bowman, Noah Harper, Harrison Harper, Monroe Harper, Graham Harper, Niella Harper; five great-grandchildren; a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

*Proverbs 18:24*

*“A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”*



## The Order of Service

Reverend Ellis White, Jr., Presiding

### Prelude

**Mr. Maurice Middleton**  
Musician

### Processional

### Final Viewing

### Words of Grace

### Greeting

### Hymn: “Amazing Grace”

### Prayer

### Scripture Readings

Old Testament, Psalm 23  
New Testament, John 14:1-6

### Affirmation of Faith: Gloria Patri

### Reflections: (Three Minutes)

Mr. Claflin Kennerly (Classmate “58”)  
Dr. James Salley (Church/Friend)  
Mr. Deveron Harper (Family)

### Solo

Ms. Karen Lee

### Words of Comfort

Bishop Hayes T. Gainey Jr.

### Recessional

### Committal-Benediction-Final Resting Place

Immediately following the service at  
Edisto Fork United Methodist Church Cemetery  
Larriot Road, Orangeburg, SC 29115