



ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Nephews

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Theta Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Landmark Masonic Lodge #16

FLOWER GIRLS

Nieces

INTERMENT

Trinity United Methodist Church Cemetery

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of John Willie David would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions. Your phone calls, visits, flowers, thoughts, and prayers have all helped greatly during our time of bereavement. May God continue to bless each of you, is our prayer.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO

MORRIS



A Legacy of Courteous, Professional
Service Since 1914

142 Marshall Street
Bennettsville, South Carolina 29512
J.S McLeod, Owner (1939-2011)
843.479.9068

AΦA

IN LOVING
MEMORY OF

John
WILLIE
DAVID

FEBRUARY 2, 1939 — MAY 6, 2023

Thursday, May 11, 2023 | 1:00 PM

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1050 Highway 38 South | Bennettsville, South Carolina

Reverend Judith Knox, Pastor
Reverend Stephen L. Love, Officiating

“But as it is written:

*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
nor have entered into the heart
of man the things which God has
prepared for those who love Him.*

— I Corinthians 2:9

JOHNN WILLIE DAVID was born on February 2, 1939, to the late Daniel and Veronia McCray David in Bennettsville, South Carolina. He was the ninth of eleven children born to his parents. He was preceded in death by three sisters, Alice D. Dupre, Gertrude (Mae) Johnson, and Blanche D. Ridges; and five brothers, James Johnson, Daniel J. David, Frank David, Sr., Lorenzo David, and Kenny David.

John was formally educated in the segregated public schools of the Bennettsville and Blenheim communities of Marlboro County. He attended the New Galilee Methodist Episcopal Church Primary School (a two-room school located in the rural area near Bennettsville), Wright Elementary School (Blenheim), and Eastside High School in Bennettsville, SC, (previously the Marlboro Training School) where he graduated in 1956 as part of the inaugural graduating class. He had an interest in sports and was a starting player on his high school football team. He went on to attend Benedict College in Columbia, SC, where he earned a B.S. degree in Mathematics Education in 1961. He later earned a Master's Degree in Administration from South Carolina State College (later South Carolina State University) in 1975.

John accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized and nurtured in the faith at the New Galilee Methodist Episcopal Church (later Trinity United Methodist Church). He was an avid churchgoer and student of the Word his entire life, under the loving and instructive teaching of his parents and

the surrounding community. His early exposure to the church set the course of his life which was one of service, dedication, and commitment to Christian principles.

Over the years, John served in numerous leadership capacities in the church including as Chairperson of Galilee Methodist Episcopal Church Trustee Board, on the Tatum Charge Trustee Board, (the governing body overseeing the alliance of three churches) and the Trinity United Methodist Church Trustee Board, as Chairperson of the New Galilee Methodist Episcopal Church Building Committee, Chairperson of the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee for the Tatum Charge, Chairperson of the New Galilee Methodist Episcopal Administrative Council, Member of the Conference of Financial and Administrative Committee, and Delegate to the Annual Conference. John's critical role as the leader of the Trustees provided the vision and guidance for the purchase of the parsonage for the Tatum Charge. His careful planning and comprehensive oversight of the church through the years resulted in smooth business operations and one in which issues

Memories

*The love we have for Granddad will never fade away.
We'll think of him, our special friend throughout each passing day.
We'll walk into the room and see his empty chair;
Although we know he's resting, we'll feel his presence there.
The memories of his laughter, his warm and loving smile,
His eyes so full of happiness, his heart that of a child.
Memories are forever be they laughter or of tears,
Memories we will treasure through all the forthcoming years.*

Love,
Mondree, JD, Keyah, JT, and Milo



What

*God took the strength of a mountain, the majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun, the calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature, the comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages, the power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring, the faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity, the depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities, when there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete, and so, He called it... "DAD!"*

*Love,
Mike, Rick, and Dino*

MAKES A

Dad

were most often anticipated and in all cases were addressed with meticulous detail in an efficient and cost-effective manner. He earned the reputation for being a tireless, no-nonsense leader and an overall "go-to" person. His personal knowledge of the Word was an important aspect of his life. He was usually the first to arrive for Sunday School each week and participated in a weekly study group to prepare for the following week's lesson.

John's tenacity and leadership was graphically demonstrated in his working career, which spanned more than 52 years of faithful service to the Marlboro County public school system. His interest and caring concern for the well-being of children was grounded in his personal commitment to ensuring that they received the highest quality education as the foundation for success in employment, citizenship, and personal fulfillment. He was passionately committed to the development of the whole child including their educational, social, physical, and emotional support. That dedication translated into high praise and recognition throughout his career. He quickly moved up the professional ladder as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, director of fiscal affairs, assistant superintendent, and director of federal programs at the district level. During his tenure, he also served as transportation director and basketball coach. His steady and stellar performance resulted in his elevation on two occasions to the position of interim superintendent. After his retirement from the school system, he was recruited to serve on the South Carolina Juvenile Parole Board, a position he held for seven years. He later re-entered the school system as a part-time truancy hearing officer and recruiter. His broad and extensive knowledge of school policies made him a valuable asset in the execution of these duties.

John was joined in holy matrimony to his college sweetheart, Eleanor (Louise) James

in 1964. To this union, two sons were born. John was a loving and committed husband and father. The bond that John formed and exhibited with his family is the stuff of legend. His commitment and love for his bride of more than 58 years was evident for all to see. Truly, the two became one with an easy sharing and comradery that transcended the years and was apparent throughout their time together. Shortly after their marriage, John and his bride built the first home in the David section of Marlboro County. John and Louise were inseparable. When you saw one, the other was never far away. John willingly transported Louise to shop, doctor's appointments, church services, committee meetings, sorority meetings, miscellaneous gatherings, and more. He patiently waited for his bride without complaint, often waiting for extended periods. He set the example for his sons and others in demonstrating how they should regard their chosen partners with kindness, patience, and love. John encouraged the sharing of their love with all family members, both close and extended relatives, as they traveled far and near to countless graduations, birthday celebrations, weddings, anniversaries, reunions, wellness checks, showers, home goings, and more. They were the standard bearers for family and community support and gladly opened their home to receive visitors and to share their excellent hospitality with everyone.

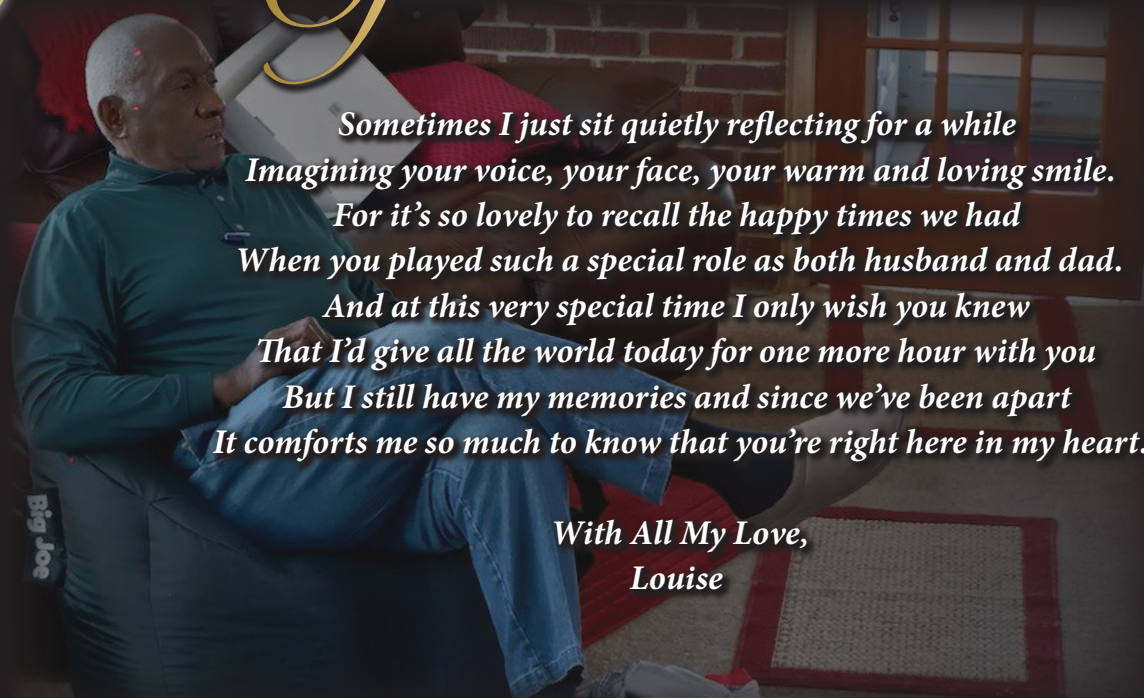
John was a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and served as the Secretary Treasurer of the Theta Phi Lambda Chapter for many years. He was also a member of the Landmark Masonic Lodge #16 and the Marlboro County Branch of the NAACP. He was a charter member (1972) of the governing board of the Marlboro County Water Company where he served as the Treasurer for most of his tenure. His selection as the Grand Marshall of the 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr., Parade was one of his proudest achievements.

John was a family and community institution. He was relied upon to watch over everyone and to be there for them. He supported his brother's milk transport business by moonlighting as a driver from his high school years through the birth of his children and after. His daily wellness checks of his older sister and other close relatives were renowned and became a staple for family, church, and community members. His annual early morning Christmas visits to wake the children to discover the gifts left by Santa Claus was the subject of many amusing laments by weary parents who were hoping for a little additional sleep. He loved watching all types of sports and was an unwavering and dedicated Cowboys fan. He regularly contacted fans of other teams during winning Cowboys games to brag about his team's success. His easy-going and fun-loving manner put everyone at ease.

John was a rare man who will be missed by everyone who knew him. He left an indelible mark in life and his absence will be felt for many years to come.

Left to cherish his precious memories are his loving wife, Eleanor Louise David; three sons, Michael (Stacy) David of Bennettsville, SC, John Maverick "Rick" (Wandal) David of Chesterfield, SC, and an adopted son, Dino Arnez James of Columbia, SC; four grandchildren, Michael (Mondree) David, Jonathan (JD) David, both of Bennettsville, SC, T'Keyah Brunson of Atlanta, GA, and John Thomas (JT) David of Greenville, SC; one great-grandchild, Michael Milo David of Bennettsville, SC; two sisters, Mildred David and Peggy (Milton) Worsley; one aunt, Mable H. Graham; one uncle, Eddie Johnson, Jr.; five sisters-in-law, Annie Ruth David, Yvonne James Samuels, Frances James Garvin, Barbara Sawyer (Clarence) James, and Jacquelyn (Jackie) James Slayton; three brothers-in-law, Milton (Peggy) Worsley, Clarence (Barbara) James, and Joseph (Kenny) James; special mentee, Dr. Gwendolyn Dixon Coe; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

A
Special Husband



*Sometimes I just sit quietly reflecting for a while
Imagining your voice, your face, your warm and loving smile.
For it's so lovely to recall the happy times we had
When you played such a special role as both husband and dad.
And at this very special time I only wish you knew
That I'd give all the world today for one more hour with you
But I still have my memories and since we've been apart
It comforts me so much to know that you're right here in my heart.*

*With All My Love,
Louise*

Order of Service

*Reverend Stephen L. Love, Presiding
Reverend Judith A. Knox, Pastor*

- Prelude Mrs. Nichelle Nichols McCann
- Processional
- Greeting Reverend Stephen L. Love
- Hymn "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"
Choir
- Prayer of Comfort..... Reverend Amiri B. Hooker
- Scripture Reading
Old Testament *Ecclesiastes 3: 1-14*
Reverend Eddie Davis
New Testament *Philippians 1:21-23, II Corinthians 5:1, 5-8*
Reverend Micrin Copeland, Sr.
- Affirmation of Faith 881 UMH
- Song "Let Your Power Fall"
Mr. John Wayne Ray, Sr.
- Witnesses
Community Dr. Gwen Dixon-Coe
Church Mr. Herbert Washington
Family Ms. Marian David
- Song "Worth"
Mr. John Wayne Ray, Sr.
- Tributes *Two Minutes, Please*
Mr. Robert Brock, Marlboro County Water Company
Grandchildren
Other Family Members
- Song "Through It All"
Mrs. Mable H. Graham
- Words of Comfort..... Reverend Judith A. Knox
- Commendation
- Song "I Want to Go Where the Thunder Don't Roll"
Mrs. Nichelle Nichols McCann
- Dismissal with Blessing