



PALLBEARERS **FLOWER BEARERS**
 Family and Friends Family and Friends

"Afterglow"

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
 I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles
 when life is done.
 I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly
 down the ways,
 Of happy times and laughing times and
 bright and sunny days.
 I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
 to dry before the sun;
 Of happy memories that I leave
 when life is done.

The Family Acknowledgment

We, the family of, Otis Jermel Bates,
 acknowledge with sincere appreciation all
 acts of kindness shown to us during this time
 of bereavement. May God bless each of you in
 a special way.

F.B. Pratt & Son Funeral Home
 601 South Street
 Newberry, S.C. 29108
 803.276.1206
"Where Courtesy and Excellence Dwell"

Professional Program Design By:
 *Kenyatta B. Gallman*

C E L E B R A T I N G

The Life Of



"Me!"

FEBRUARY 21, 1979-JULY 22, 2022

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2022 AT 1:00 PM

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWBERRY, SOUTH CAROLINA 29108

Reverend Frederick Smith, Pastor
 Reverend Jacqueline R. Sims, Officiating

THE OBITUARY

Mr. Otis Jermel 'Mel' Bates

February 21, 1979 - July 22, 2022

Mr. Otis Jermel "Mel" Bates was born February 21, 1979 in Newberry, South Carolina to Christine Bates and the late Otis Caldwell. He passed away on Friday, July 22, 2022.

Mel received his education in Newberry County Public School System. He worked most of his adult life as a production worker. He presently was employed at Samsung Home Appliance Manufacturing Plant in Newberry.

During his younger years Mel expressed a strong interest in drawing and other art. He had a great sense of humor. He also had a charming personality and a dynamic smile that could instantly light up a room. He had a humble soul and well mannered. Mel displayed a pleasant demeanor with children. They enjoyed being surrounded by him and he with them.

Mel was predeceased by a sister, Tonjia Wilson; maternal grandparents, Curtis and Lizzie Bates and paternal grandparents, Bonnie and Gene Wilson.

Cherishing his memory is his dedicated beloved mother, Christine Bates; five daughters, Kennisha and Otisa Wright of Chapin, SC; Ariunna Bates of Batesburg, SC; Melody Bates of Prosperity, SC and Zymeasha McGraw of Newberry, SC; two sons, JhiQuan Wright of Newberry, SC and Elijah Bates Josey of Columbia, SC; brothers, Kenneth "KB" Bates (Dementra) and James "Dobo" Bates both of Newberry, SC; Lomas Davis of Whitmire, SC; Patrick Caldwell and Joseph Williams both of Newberry, SC; sisters, Stephanie Newman of Newberry, SC; Eureka "Reka" Bates of Atlanta, GA; Sabrina Caldwell of Fairfield, SC and Stephanie Davis (Randy) of Newberry, SC; step-sisters Tammy Workman (Dereco) and Shana Burton; God brother, Randy Bates; God sister, Letisha Yelverton; a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.



"No Tears In Heaven"

There are no tears in Heaven nor grief of any kind;
I leave this final teardrop to those I've left behind.
Though absent from the body,
I am present with the Lord;
the joy of my salvation is now my full reward.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Friday, July 29, 2022 at 1:00 P.M.

**Bethlehem Baptist Church
Newberry, South Carolina 29108**

Pastor Tommy Lawson, Presiding

Prelude

Processional

Clergy and Family

Final Viewing

Family and Friends

Selection

Tamara J. Heatley

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

Pastor Tommy Lawson

New Testament

Evangelist Deborah Brandon

Prayer

Reverend Freddie Wicker, Jr.

Reflections (2 minutes please)

Selection

Reverend Jacqueline R. Sims

Words of Comfort

Reverend Jacqueline R. Sims

Committal and Benediction

Graveside

Interment

Werts Cemetery
Newberry, South Carolina