



## PALLBEARERS

Nephews & Friends

## FLORAL BEARERS

Nieces & Friends

### To Those I Love,

When I am gone, release me. Let me go  
I have so many things to see and do.  
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears, Be  
happy, we had so many years.

I gave you my love and you can only guess  
How much you gave to me in happiness.  
I thank you for the love you each have shown  
But now it's time I traveled alone.

So grieve a while for me if grieve you must  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.  
It's only for a while that we must part  
So bless those memories in your heart.

I won't be far away for life goes on  
So if you need me, call and I will come.  
Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near  
with all my love around you soft and clear.

And then, when you must come this way alone,  
I'll greet you with a smile and welcome you Home.

### TO MY TRUE LOVE

I knew this day would come when I would have to say goodbye.  
But when you took your last breath, I am glad you couldn't see me cry.  
But I know without a doubt God will wipe my weeping eyes.  
I loved you Michael Parks and will forever hold you in my heart.

Your Wife, Julia

### EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

We, the family of **Michael Parks**, acknowledge and deeply appreciate the many acts of kindness extended to us. Your love and prayers brought joy to our hearts and peace to our minds. May God Bless Each of You.

SERVICE HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO:



**Columbia Office**  
2930 Colonial Drive  
Columbia, SC 29203  
803.254.2000

**McCormick Office**  
6300 Highway 28 South  
McCormick, SC 29835  
864.852.3160

**Sumter Office**  
353 Manning Avenue  
Sumter, SC 29150  
803.848.4002

**A Celebration of Life**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023  
TWELVE NOON

PINE GROVE A.M.E. CHURCH  
317 PINE GROVE CHURCH ROAD | PLUM BRANCH, SC 29845

REV. LEBBIE LIGON  
PASTOR, PINE GROVE AME CHURCH

REV. MICHAEL BUTLER  
PASTOR, NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

**Sunrise**  
NOVEMBER 8, 1952

**Sunset**  
NOVEMBER 6, 2023

# Michael PARKS

# REFLECTIONS OF HIS LIFE

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone,  
Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 4:8

## *Michael Parks*

Michael Parks, 70, was born November 8, 1952, in Lincolnton, Georgia, the son of the late Rosa Lee Smith and Miles Parks. He received his wings of departure on Monday, November 6, 2023, at his residence in Augusta, GA.

Mike or "Big Gee" was known to many as one of the best athletes to ever come out of Lincolnton, Georgia. He is best known as an avid Atlanta Falcons fan, win or lose.

Mike was a 1971 graduate of Lincoln County High School. He retired from Pollards Lumber Yard in 2013.

He joined Pine Grove A.M.E Church in 2000 and remained faithful and dedicated even with declining health.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Larry Smith, and Roger Parks, two sisters, Allene Parks and Hattie Bolton, and a grandson Austin Parks.

Michael leaves to cherish his memory a loving and dedicated wife, Julia Ann Payton Parks; two sons, Dexter (Corliss) Parks of Mt. Carmel, SC, and Michael Anthony (Melissa) Parks of Lincolnton, GA. He was a father figure to Lance (Idella) Starks, of Augusta, GA, Julien Davis, of Columbia, SC, Eldrick Payton, Lynn Payton and Chico Davis, all of Plum Branch, SC; six grandchildren, DeAnna Mercier, Dabny (NuRudeen) Abidoye, Miles Parks, Julien Davis, Jr., Isaiah, and Ian Starks; two sisters, Carolyn (James) Tompkins of Plum Branch, SC, and Gloria (Leroy) Jones of Harlem, GA; two brothers, George Parks of Gary, IN, and Jimmy (Marsha) Parks of Evans, GA; seven sisters-in -law, Marilyn Smith of Lincolnton, GA; Jacqueline Williams, Dara (Leo) Harrison and Sandra (O'Neal) Blocker of McCormick, SC, Ina Young, Sharon Payton both of Plumb Branch, and Sherry (Eddie) Dennis of Greenville, SC; three brothers-in-law, Calvin Payton of Union, SC; William Gary, of Plum Branch, SC and Fred Bolton of Lincolnton, GA; a special friend and caregiver, Keith Payton of the home; his life-long friend, Charlie (Selvine) Murray of Lincolnton, GA; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends, all of whom will dearly miss him.



# ORDER OF SERVICE

REV. MICHAEL BUTLER, PRESIDING  
PASTOR, NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

Prelude.....	
Processional.....	Clergy & Family
Final Farewell.....	BTFH Staff
Opening Selection.....	Hymn 361 "There's Not A Friend"
Prayer of Comfort.....	Clergy
Scripture Readings:	
	Old Testament
	New Testament
Selection.....	Choir
Remarks .....	Mr. Roy Wimbush, Classmate Mr. Charlie Murray, Life-long Friend Mrs. Mildred Payton, Neighbor Mrs. Dara Harrison, Church
Acknowledgements.....	BTFH Staff
Selection.....	Mrs. Dara Harrison & Mrs. Sandra Blocker
Words of Comfort.....	Rev. Lebbie Ligon
Recessional	

**SERVICES OF COMMENDATION**  
(COMMittal, CLOSING PRAYER, & BENEDICTION)

PINE GROVE AME CHURCH CEMETERY  
317 PINE GROVE CHURCH ROAD | PLUM BRANCH, SC 29845

