A Celebration of Life
for
SFC Michael Juriah Telford
U.S. Army Retired

Saturday, February 24, 2018
12:00 p.m.
Ollie Robinson Brown Memorial Chapel
of
Marcus D. Brown Funeral Home
Rev. Timothy Wilkins, Officiating
Rev. Miya Lee, Presiding

Flower Bearers
Cousins

Honorary Pall Bearers
Iva Lodge #408

Pall Bearers
Cousins

Acknowledgments
The family is eternally grateful to all who shared in our hours of bereavement. The visits you made comforted us, the substance you brought sustained us, the message cards and kind words consoled us, the prayers you prayed lifted us, and the songs you sang cheered us. We continually request your prayers for the days ahead, for strength and fortitude to carry out our loved one’s legacy. May God continue to bless each one of you.

Professional Services Entrusted to:
Marcus D. Brown Funeral Home, Inc.
1212 South Main Street
Anderson, South Carolina 29624
(864)225-2220
“An Eternal Flame of Remembrance”
If Tomorrow Starts Without Me

If tomorrow starts without me, and I’m not here to see,
If the sun should rise you find your eyes all filled with tears for me;
I wish so much you wouldn’t cry the way you did today,
While thinking of the many things we didn’t get to say.
I know how much you love me, as much as I love you
And each time that you think of me, I know you’ll miss me too.
But when tomorrow starts without me please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand.

He said my place was ready, in heaven far above
And that I’d have to leave behind all those I dearly love.
But as I turned and walked away a tear fell from my eye.

For all my life I’d always thought, I didn’t want to die.
I had so much to live for, so much left yet to do.
It seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you.
I thought of all the yesterdays the good ones and the bad.
I thought of all the love we shared, and all the fun we had.
If I could relive yesterday, just even for a while,
I’d say goodbye and kiss you and maybe see you smile.
But then I fully realized that this could never be,

For emptiness and memories would take the place of me.
When I thought of worldly things I might miss come tomorrow
I thought of you and when I did my heart was filled with sorrow.
When I walked through heavens gates I felt so much at home.

God looked down and smiled at me from his great golden throne
He said, “This is eternity and all I’ve promised you”
Today your life on earth has passed but here life starts anew.
I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last
And since each day is the same there’s no longing for the past.
You have been so faithful so trusting and so true.

Though there were times you did some things
You knew you shouldn’t do.
You have been forgiven and now at last you’re free.
So won’t you come and take my hand and share my life with me?
So when tomorrow starts without me don’t think we’re far apart,
For every time you think of me, I’m right here in your heart.

Author: David Roman

"SOLDIER"

by George L. Skypeck

I was that which others did not want to be
I went where others feared to go,
And did what others failed to do.
I asked nothing from those who gave nothing,
and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal
loneliness ... should I fail.
I have seen the face of terror;
Felt the stinging cold of fear;
And enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love.
I have cried, pained, and hop
ed,
But most of all, I have lived times
Others would say were best forgotten.
At least someday I will be able to say
That I was proud of what I was ... a soldier.
**Order of Service**

Prelude..............................................................Soft Music

Processional........Mt. Carmel Choir.......Ministers & Family

Selection............................................................Mt. Carmel Choir

Scripture Reading

Old Testament..............................Rev. Kurt Stutler
New Testament.........................Minister Brenda Richardson

Prayer.............................................................Rev. Miya Lee

Selection.........................................................Sheila Freeman

Reflections.....................................................Marion Tarrant
Catherine Hemingway
Floyd Cohens

Selection........................................................Mt. Aarat Choir

Words of Comfort..............................Rev. Timothy Wilkins
Mt. Aarat Independent Baptist Church

Recessional......................................................Soft Music

Interment.........................................................Westview Cemetery

Committal/Prayer/Benediction.........................Ministers

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**~ Biography ~**

**SFC Michael Juriah Telford** (U. S. Army Retired), passed from this life Thursday, February 16, 2018.

Michael was born on February 6, 1956, in Anderson, SC to Lillie Mae Telford and the late Robert Martin. He graduated from McDuffie High school and enlisted in the United States Army shortly thereafter. Michael served his country during the Gulf War. He served as a medical specialist for 19 years and retired after 22 years of dedicated service.

Some of his Military Service Awards include: Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Valorous Unit Award, National Defense Service Award and Southwest Asia Service Medal.

Following his Army retirement, Michael went to work in Security for AnMed Health where he remained for almost 20 years of service until the time of his passing. He enjoyed traveling and spending time with friends and family. Michael was actively involved in volunteering in the community for many years and was a dedicated member of the Masonic Lodge #408. He also served in groups such as the VFW (Veterans Foreign War) Post 6089, Men At Work Outreach Group and volunteered for the Anderson County Community Center.

Michael is survived by his wife, Sarah Telford; son, Michael Telford Jr; daughter, Antoinette Barnes; his mother, Lillie Mae Telford; sister, Janie Thompson; brother, Roger Bell; two grandchildren, Kyree Barnes and Keith F. Kirkland; seven aunts; three uncles; five sisters-in-law; four brothers-in-law; and a whole host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Robert Martin; his daughter, Rosa Barnes; and grandparents.