

Flower Bearers

Pam Williams
Tonya Blanding
Regina Blanding

Crystal Lee
Ashton Smith
Joyce Ann Armstrong

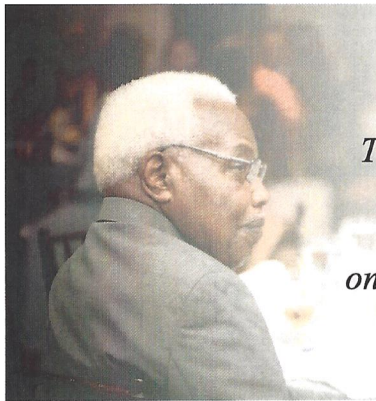
Pall Bearers

Timothy Williams
Bernard Blanding
Raymond Blanding

William Smith
Rodriquez Blanding
McLester Blanding, Jr.

Acknowledgements

The family of James Rufus Blanding is forever grateful for the love, prayers, and acts of kindness shown during our time of bereavement. May God bless each one of you. We would like to give a special thanks to his godson and nephew, Timothy Williams, for his loyal support during his sickness and during his health.

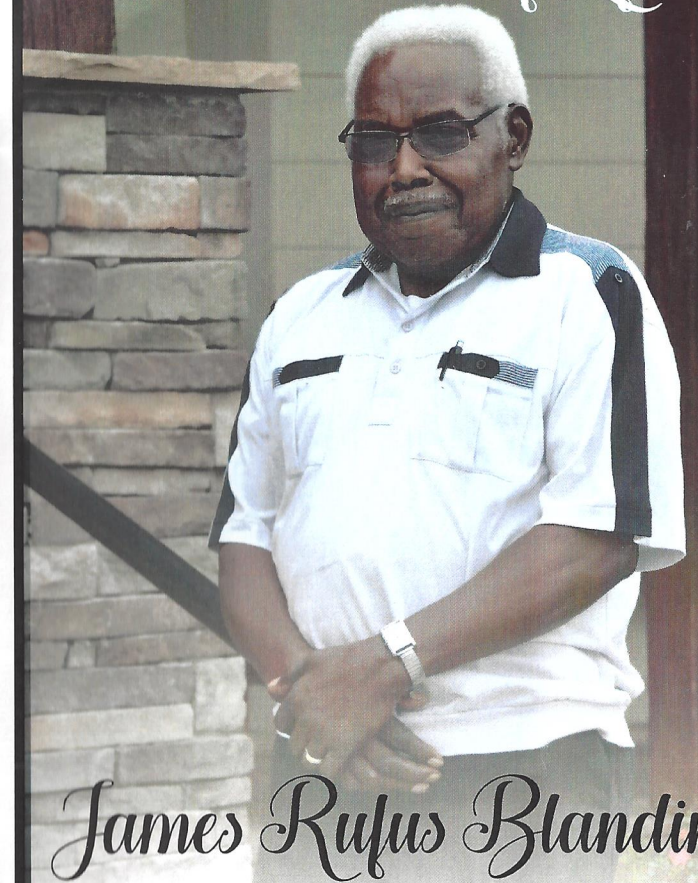


Professional Services Entrusted To
Marcus D. Brown Funeral Home, Inc.

1212 South Fant Street
Anderson, South Carolina 29624
864-225-2220



Celebration of Life



James Rufus Blanding

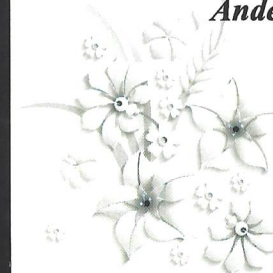
Services

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 1:00 PM

Evergreen Baptist Church
Anderson, South Carolina

Officiant
Reverend Donnie Gambrell

Eulogist
Reverend Odell Burns



James & Zenobia



'Til Death Do Us Part

When life seems a blur, and I can't quite believe
That I'm living without you, and you were taken from me.

I sit back and think of the memories we shared,
All the laughs that you gave me, and the times that you cared.

Time is a healer, I can't say that it's true,
But life does go on, which means without you.

When it all gets too much and I wish you were here,
I feel thankful that I met you and I hold you close, my dear.

'Til death do us part. That's true in our case.
I miss you so much, your voice and your face.

A Service of Love

Processional Soft Music

Selection Reverend James F. Blanding
Pastor, Olivet Progressive Baptist Church

Scripture Readings Deacon David Blanding (*brother*)
Old Testament Joshua 2:6-10
New Testament Revelation 14:13

Prayer Reverend Donnie Gambrell
Interim Pastor, Evergreen Baptist Church

Remarks Mr. Marlon Blanding (*son*)

Reverend Terry Norman
Pastor, Old Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Selection Reverend Terry Norman

Words of Comfort Reverend Odell Burns
Retired Pastor, Evergreen Baptist Church

Recessional Soft Music

Graveside Service

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

Committal/Parting Prayer/Benediction/Interment
M.J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery
140 Inway Drive
Anderson, South Carolina

A SERVICE OF LOVE

PRECIOUS MEMORIES

REFLECTIONS

Precious Memories

Sunrise

March 12, 1936

Sunset

March 21, 2020

James Rufus Blanding, 84, entered into eternal glory on Saturday, March 21, 2020 at AnMed Health. He was born in Anderson County on March 12, 1936 to the late Richard and Ruth Artis Jones Blanding. He was the second of twelve children.

James attended public school in Anderson County. In 1955, he enlisted in the United States Army, where he served for 4 years. After serving his country, he moved to Long Island, NY where he was employed with Flying Tigers, later named FedEx. He was later transferred to Charlotte, NC and then Atlanta, GA where he retired. After retirement, he returned to his hometown of Anderson, where he started his own landscaping business.

On October 8, 1996, James was united in holy matrimony to Zenobia Wiley Hunter. As a result of this union, he inherited a myriad of loving and caring family members.

James was a devoted and dedicated member of Evergreen Baptist Church, where he served as a Deacon. He was guided in his spiritual journey by his love of God, devotion to family, church, and helping others. He enjoyed life and filled his time with church, family, cooking and grilling, listening to gospel music, fishing, and working in his shop.

James leaves to celebrate his life, his loving wife of the home, Zenobia Blanding; one son, Marlon Blanding (Ja'Shaun) of Waxhaw, NC; two stepsons, Johnny J. Hunter, Jr. and Waymon C. Hunter, both of Pendleton, SC; five stepdaughters, Lucinda Austin of Pendleton, SC, Geraldine Hunter of Six Mile, SC, Daisy Smith (Ricky) of Seneca, SC, Angela Willingham of Anderson, SC and Vanessa Crosby (Christopher) of Pendleton, SC; one special "adopted" daughter, Buffy Smith (Chris) of Laurens, SC; one godson, Timothy Williams of Anderson, SC; two sisters, Annie Smith and Janie Corner, both of Anderson, SC; four brothers, Jone Blanding, David (Eugenia) Blanding, McLester (Gloria) Blanding, and Adger Ray (Joyce) Blanding, all of Anderson, SC; sisters-in-law, Mae Ellen Beatty of Ft. Washington, MD, Merdis Wiley of Pendleton, SC, Emily (Joe) Jones, and Vada Wiley, both of Anderson, SC; 17 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, and 5 great-great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Katina Blanding; parents, Richard and Ruth Blanding; three brothers, Richard, Bennie and Thomas Blanding; two sisters, Elizabeth Merriweather and Fannie Williams; three sisters-in-law, Roseanna, Louella and Alberta Blanding; and five brothers-in-law, Quincy Williams, Doug Merriweather, William T. Smith, Elbert Corner, and Nathaniel Wiley.

Even though James will be missed tremendously, his spirit will live on through each of us. We will all experience his presence - his love, laughter, dedication, sternness, stubbornness - and will be filled with love and thanksgiving. Knowing that he is in the presence of the Almighty God makes his transition worthy to be celebrated.

