

Lord, You gave him to us a while, now we give him back to You. You know what is best for us all.

# FOOTPRINTS One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him, and the other to the LORD. When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life: This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me." The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then

#### Your Daughters

Karen A.

 $\mathcal{M}_{c}\mathcal{L}_{ean}$ 

E

Sonjo R.

McLean-Thaw







#### **Acknowledgment**

The family of Mr. Arthur Edward McLean (Big Ed) would like to send a special thank you to Duke University's Heart and Cardiology Team, Firsthealth Moore Regional, Firsthealth Hospice and Palliative Care, Karen L. Smith, MCPA, Womack Army Medical Center, Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church and Progressive Missionary Baptist Church.





Thomara A. Shaw (Granddaughter)



# Homegoing Celebration For

# Arthur Edward McLean



Thursday, December 17, 2020 • 11:00 AM

# Graveside Service

#### MT. PIGSAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

414 Pittman Grove Church Rd. • Raeford, NC

Dr. Terrence Z. McCrimmon, Pastor Rev. R. L. Davis, Officiating

## The Obituary

Arthur E. McLean was the son of the late Willie Ed and Nannie Ruth McLean. He was a life long respected resident of the Puppy Creek Community. Affectionally known as Big Ed, he was loved by too many to name.

Arthur married on June 28, 1964 to his life long love, Ida Lean Murchison. To this union, two children were born: Karen Annette and Sonjo Renee.

During Big Ed's life, he believed in hard work and providing for his wife and children. He started working as a young boy at Puppy Creek Farms and Green Pines Mobile Home Park, owned and managed by the late Mr. F. Paul Johnson. He went on to be employed by Burlington Industries where he retired in 2008 after 28 years of service. Big Ed was willing to help anyone and everyone he met. He loved planting and harvesting crops, cutting grass, fixing lawn mowers, watching wrestling, westerns & the farm channel (RFD) and playing on his iPad (thank you Dion).

Arthur was a life long member of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. There he served as a trustee board member for many years. Ed was instrumental in helping to establish Puppy Creek Volunteer Fire Department and rose to earn the rank of Fire Lieutenant.

Left to cherish the love and memories of Big Ed are his wife of 56 years Ida Lean Murchison McLean; his daughters: Karen Annette McLean and Sonjo Renee McLean-Shaw; his son-in-law, Thomas Shaw, Jr.; a granddaughter who he was extremely proud of, Ms. Thomara Alexia Shaw; two sisters: Mary Burke and Devon McLean; five sisters-in-law, three brothers-in-law; two special friends and confidantes: Mr. Malik Rockman and Mr. John Joseph; several nieces, nephews, friends and a family community who will truly miss him.

#### The Farmer's Creed



I believe a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

I believe that farmers, despite its hardships and disappointments is the most honest and honorable way a man spend his days on earth.

I believe my children are learning values that will last a lifetime and can be earned no other way.

I believe farming provides education for life and that no other occupation teaches so much about birth, growth and maturity in such a variety of ways.

I believe many of the best things in life are indeed free: the splendor of a sunrise, the rapture of wide open spaces, and the exhibitanting sight of your land greening each spring.

I believe true happiness comes in watching your crops ripen in the filed, your children grow tall in the sun, and your whole family feel the pride that springs from their shared experience.

I believe that by my toil I am giving more to the world than I am taking from it, an honour that does not come to all men.

I believe my life will be measured ultimately by what I have done for my fellow man, and by this standard I fear no judgment.

I believe when a man grows old and sums up his days, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he's lived.

I believe in farming because it makes all this possible.

You may not be a farmer, I'm not either — but I appreciate the resonance of pride in your work, a long-term view-point, hard work, giving back to society, and above all else — character. Perhaps we all need to our creed — bankers, marketers, salesman, entrepreneurs, engineers, and so on. To be able to "stand tall and feel pride in the life" you've lived — who wouldn't want that?

### Order of Service

#### **SCRIPTURES**

Rev. J. Riddick

#### PRAYER OF COMFORT

Rev. F. Bernard Fuller,
Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

#### **WORDS OF COMFORT**

Rev. R. L. Davis

#### COMMITTAL

Rev. R. L. Davis

#### **BENEDICTION**

Rev. R. L. Davis

Service in the Hands of Morticians

# Interment Mt. Pisgah MB Church Cemetery Raeford, North Carolina

