

The Broken Chain

Tribute from Rupert's wife, Phyllis (Lil Sug)



*We little knew that morning that
God was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly
In death, we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you.
You did not go alone;
for part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.
You left us peaceful memories,
Your love is still our guide.
And though we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken,
And nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.*



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Floral Bearers

Friends of the Family

Pallbearers

William Surles
Lewis Frazelle
Dwight McKoy
Charles Bates III
Morris Tucker
Aaron Smith

Acknowledgments

Words cannot adequately express the gratitude we have for our family and friends who have consoled us during this time of bereavement. Your presence, prayers, love, and many acts of kindness have truly sustained us. Again, we say thank you, and may God continue to bless you all.

~The Family



Professional Services Entrusted To
Knotts Funeral Home

719 Wall Street
Sanford, North Carolina 27330
Phone: (919) 776-4345 /Fax: (919) 776-0911
www.knottsfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory
Of

Mr. Rupert Joe McLean



Sunrise
October 23, 1961



Sunset
December 6, 2017

Remembering you with **LOVE**
every single day!

Tuesday, December 12, 2017
11:00 AM

Cape Fear Conference Headquarters
25 Beaver Road

Erwin, North Carolina 28339
Bishop Dr. William J. Barber II
Eulogist

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Selection.....Jordan Temple Male Chorus

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament

Pastor Dorothy Blue
New Jerusalem, Dunn, NC

New Testament

Pastor Sarah Campbell
Jordan Temple Bible Church of God, Lillington, NC
Prayer of Comfort.....Dr. T. Anthony Spearman
St. Phillip AMEZ Church, Greensboro, NC
NC NAACP State Conference President

Acknowledgements & Obituary.....Sister Pat Blue

Remarks.....Morris Tucker

Special Slideshow Presentation

Tribute.....The McLean Brothers

Selection.....Jordan Temple Male Chorus

Eulogy.....Bishop Dr. William J. Barber II
Pastor Greenleaf Christian Church
Goldsboro, North Carolina

Recessional

Interment

Sandhills Veterans Cemetery
8220 Bragg Blvd.
Fort Bragg, NC 28310



Obituary

Rupert Joe McLean was born on October 23, 1961, in Lillington, NC, to Deacon Joe Felton McLean Sr. and the late Mother Ruth Belle McKay McLean. He died at his Sanford residence on Wednesday, December 6, 2017. Rupert was the seventh of twelve children born to that union. He can be remembered singing “Lord, I’m Singing Your Praises” with the McLean Brothers of Lillington, NC. He also sang the duet “A Child’s Blood” with his brother Jerome. He had one of the most pleasing baritone voices you ever heard. He was an immaculate dresser and an outstanding cook and housekeeper. Rupert was very artistic and creative. He was an excellent brother to his siblings.

Rupert graduated from Harnett Central High School in 1980, where his senior class peers voted him as “Best Looking Male.” He later enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as an infantry corpsman. Rupert served in the Marine Corps from 1980 to 1983. He was serving in Beirut, Lebanon, in October 1983, when a suicide bomber drove a truck of explosives into a building—which killed 241 United States service members (including 220 Marines). It was by God’s grace that he returned home safely. For his USMC service, he was honored with a key to the city of Dunn, NC. Rupert retired in 2007 from Honeywell in Moncure, NC, after 20 years of service. Following his honorable discharge from military service, he eventually married Penny Burch, and from this union he had two sons.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Nancine Ruthell McLean, his mother, and a brother, Willard Bernard McLean.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Phyllis Headen McLean; his sons, Rupert Jezreel McLean (Charity) and Garren James McLean; a stepdaughter, Latonya Smith Frazelle (Lewis); his father, Joe Felton McLean Sr. (Lucy); nine siblings: Joe F. McLean Jr. (Hester), Jerome K. McLean Sr., Michael L. McLean Sr. (Karen), Reuben L. McLean (Eva), Doris McLean Bates (Charles), Rebecca McLean Barber (William), Davey R. McLean, Henry D. McLean (Jessica), and Ruth Michelle Chapman (Elijah); two stepsisters: Dorothy Williams (Anthony) and Jeanette Keyes (Kenneth); two grandsons: Malachi Xavier McLean and Adam James McLean; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He also leaves behind a dear aunt, Doretha Alston.