

**PALL BEARERS**

Stewart Maxwell                      Unzell Kelley                      Darnel Whetstone  
Felix Maxwell                      Curtis Graylin Kelley                      Bernard McGhee

**HONORARY VETERAN PALL BEARERS**

Rev. Eddie J. Jennings                      Ronnie Ellis                      Woodrow Marshall  
Rev. Larry Leonard                      David Stover                      Joe Massengale  
Rev. Earlie Leonard                      Spencer Hardy                      Rickey Whetstone  
Darnell Lauderdale                      Alfonso Lauderdale (Best Friend – deceased)

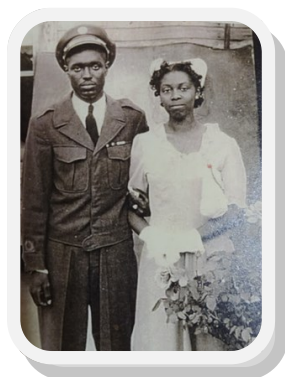
**FLOWER BEARERS**

Nieces and Cousins

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The family of

The family of Mr. Willie Lee Maxwell would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, calls, condolences and words of encouragement during our time of bereavement. Special Thanks to family friend Ms. Martha Howard, Pops enjoyed your daily telephone calls. May God Continue to Bless Each of You.



Final Arrangements Entrusted to  
**Armour's Memorial Services**

1465 N. Central Avenue/P.O. Box 241  
Alexander City, Alabama 35011

256.234.2776 phone / 256.234.0259 fax    www.armourfuneralhome.com

Email: armourfh@gmail.com

**Darrell Armour, Manager    Demetrius Armour, Director**  
**Mrs. Hattye M. Armour, Director/Owner**



Sunrise ~ February 22, 1922                      Sunset ~ February 6, 2020

***Mr. Willie Lee Maxwell***

*Funeral Service*  
**February 15, 2020 - 2:00 p.m.**

**New Elam Missionary Baptist Church**  
11894 AL Hwy 9 Kellyton, AL 35089

**Rev. E. J. Jennings, Pastor    Officiating**

**Rev. Dr. Melvin Owens, Eulogist**  
**President of Alabama Missionary Baptist State Convention, Inc.**

**Armour's Memorial Funeral Home Staff, Directing**

OBITUARY

.Mr. Willie Lee Maxwell was born on February 22, 1922, in Coosa County, Alabama to the late Lesley Maxwell and the late Mamie Belle McGhee Maxwell. After his mother passed away he was reared by his grandmother, Hattie McGhee. While living with Mama Hattie he helped her on the farm, joined the New Elam Missionary Baptist Church as a young boy and attended the Keyno School.

On May 11, 1946 Willie Lee married Josie Mae Thomas of Coosa County, Alabama, and to this union two children were born.

In 1943 at the age of 21, Willie Lee enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served for nine years and five months during WWII and the Korean War as a member of the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Second (Indianhead) Division, various duties included infantry, construction laborer and veterinarian technician, while in the Army Willie Lee’s duty stations included Oahu, Hawaii, Sasebo, Japan, Philippines and Pusan, Korea. Private First Class, Willie Lee Maxwell was the recipient of many medals including a Purple Heart for wounds received in the Korean War and the Ambassador for Peace Medal he received on November 16, 2018 from the Consul General of the Republic of Korea. After returning from military service he worked at a local poultry farm, Becthal Pipe Line, and the Ray Water Company installing water lines in Coosa County.

Willie Lee was a faithful member of the New Elam Usher Board, supported the Missionary Society and their activities until his health failed, and also played a major role in New Elam starting their cemetery. He was a member of the founding group for American Legion Post 339, a Life Member Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Disabled Veterans Association. Willie Lee enjoyed traveling and was excited to receive a signed letter and photo from President Obama on his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Willie Lee loved his family, which included a large number of cousins that treated him more like an uncle and grandfather instead of a cousin. His Kelley and Maxwell family members spoiled him.

Our Heavenly Father closed the eyes of our loved one, Mr. Willie Lee Maxwell, on February 6, 2020 before sunrise at Jackson Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama. He was preceded in death by his wife, Josie Mae Thomas Maxwell.

He leaves to cherish his memory his son Willie A. Maxwell, daughter Mamie (Melvin) Ellis both of Ray Community in Coosa County, Alabama. Four Grandchildren: Pamela Gaddis of Alexander City, Alabama, Shanee Newsome of Bangkok Thailand, Sharice (Erik) Wright, of New York, Derrick Maxwell, of Georgia. Four Great Grandchildren: Quintavius Gaddis, Alexander City, Alabama, Janelle Gaddis, Birmingham, Alabama, Breeona Wright and Antonaio Curtis of New York. Sister-in-law Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, godson, Rev. Tracy Burton, Cousin Rita Kelley who treated him like a grandfather and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Repast: New Elam Missionary Baptist Church Dining Hall

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional ..... Family Final Tribute of Love ..... Soft Music  
Selection .....Hoyett Family

The Holy Scriptures

Old Testament .....Rev. Tracy Burton  
Pastor, Seleta Missionary Baptist Church, Alexander City, AL

New Testament .....Rev. Joseph Stafford Rowser  
Pastor, Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Lincoln, Alabama

Selection ..... Hoyett Family

**Reflections from the family ..... 2 Minutes Please**

**Grand Daughter ..... Shanee Newsome**

**Maxwell Family ..... Unzell Kelley**

**McGhee Family ..... Larry Powell**

**Thomas Family ..... Cathy Harris**

**Grand Daughter ..... Pamela Gaddis**

Obituary..... Read Silently

Resolution ..... Sis. JoEtta Maxwell

Acknowledgement .....Sis. Shirlene Leonard

Words of Comfort .....Rev. Earlie Leonard

Selection ..... Hoyett Family

Eulogy .....Dr. Melvin Owens

President of the Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention, Inc.

Selection .....Hoyett Family

Postlude/Recessional .....Soft Music

Interment ..... New Elam Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery

**Before It Is To Late**

If you have a tender message, Or a loving word to say,  
Do no wait till you forget it, But whisper it today;  
The tender word unspoken, The letter never sent,

The long forgotten messages, The wealth of love unspent –  
For these same hearts are breaking, For these some loved one wait:  
So show them that you care for them Before it is to late.