

FLORAL BEARERS

Family and Friends

CASKET BEARERS

Family and Friends

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, the family of Mr. Willie James Franklin would like to express our appreciation to our friends for the any acts of kindness and support we have received during this time. We also would like to extend a special thank you to the Duncan Creek Baptist Church Family for your love, prayers, and upending support. We are forever indebted to each of you and may God forever bless you.

~~ The Franklin Family ~~



SANDERS-THOMPSON MORTUARY, LLC

Caring for The Family

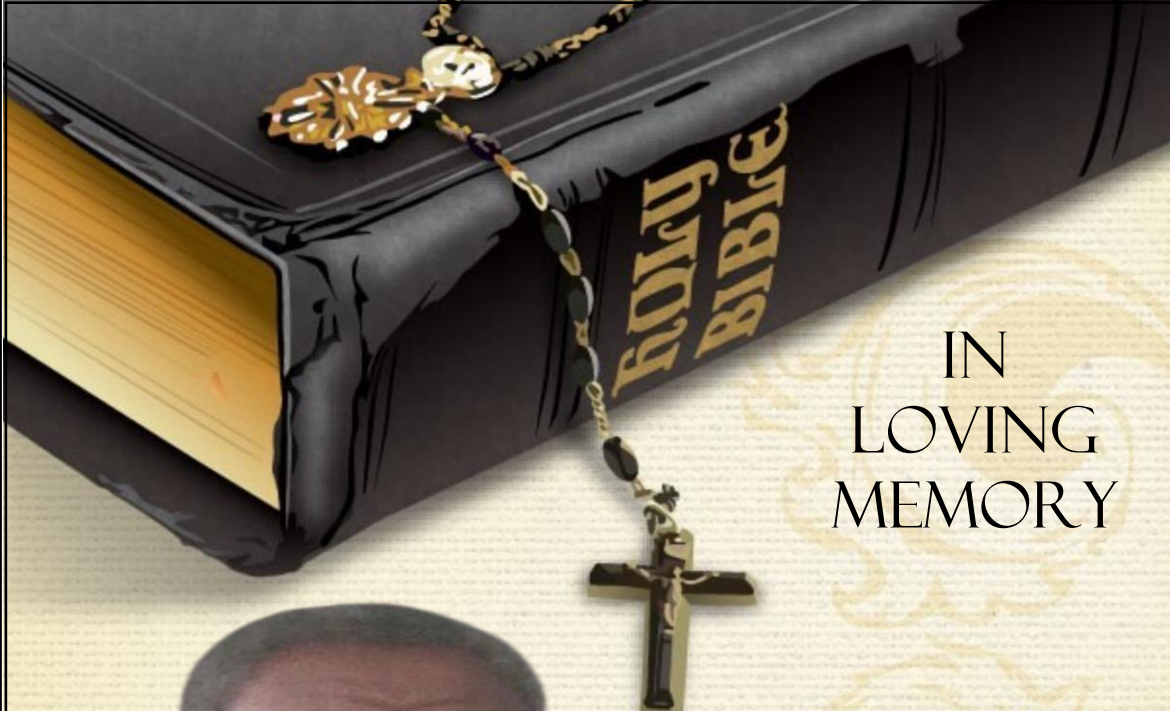
Let the Final Touch be a Gentle and Memorable One

1235 South Bell Street
Clinton, South Carolina 29325
(864) 833-0271

Online Condolences: sandersthompsonfuneralservice.com

"The choice for those who care."

Designed by Dianna Rice/ inspiredfirst@yahoo.com



IN
LOVING
MEMORY

Mr. Willie James
FRANKLIN

Dianna Rice
SERVICE
Wednesday, March 30, 2022
2:00 P. M.
Sanders- Thompson Mortuary Chapel
Clinton, South Carolina
Reverend Anthony Sims , *Officiating*
Reverend Ernest Rice, *Assisting*

SUNRISE
OCTOBER 29, 1953

SUNSET
MARCH 25, 2022

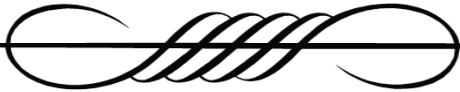
ORDER OF SERVICE

REVEREND JOHN BOOKER, *PRESIDING*
PASTOR OF NEW HOPE A. M. E. CHURCH, CLINTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

PRELUDE	
PROCESSIONAL	CLERGY AND FAMILY
FINAL VIEWING	FAMILY AND FRIENDS
SELECTION	REVEREND JOHN BOOKER
SCRIPTURE READING	
OLD TESTAMENT	REVEREND JAMES HOLMES, <i>ASSOCIATE PASTOR</i> <i>JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH</i> <i>RIDGE SPRINGS, SOUTH CAROLINA</i>
NEW TESTAMENT	REVEREND JAMES HOLMES
PRAYER	MINISTER
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	SANDERS-THOMPSON MORTUARY STAFF
SOLO.....	REVEREND BARRY CALDWELL
WORDS OF COMFORT.....	REVEREND ANTHONY SIMS, <i>PASTOR</i> <i>FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH</i> <i>NINETY SIX, SOUTH CAROLINA</i>
CLOSING PRAYER	MINISTER
RECESSIONAL	
COMMITTAL SERVICE	
PRAYER, COMMITTAL, AND BENEDICTION	GRAVESIDE

INTERMENT

DUNCAN CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY
LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA



OBITUARY

*To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
 ^a A time to be born, and a time to die
 Ecclesiastes 3:1-2*

Mr. Willie James Franklin was born on October 29, 1953, in Laurens County, South Carolina to Mrs. Georgia Eva Byrd Franklin and the late Mr. Ray Luther Franklin.

He attended the public schools of Laurens County, South Carolina where he was a graduate of the Clinton High School Class of 1974 in Clinton, South Carolina. At an early age, he joined the Duncan Creek Baptist Church in Laurens, South Carolina.

Willie was employed at Lydia Mills in Clinton, South Carolina with over thirty years of service. He was later employed with W. R. Grace in Gray Court, South Carolina until his retirement.

He was an avid sportsman. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, and hunting.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his brother, Mr. Ernest Leroy Byrd.

On Friday, March 25, 2022, Mr. Willie James Franklin went from labor to reward as he entered into Eternal Rest at the age of sixty-eight.

Those left to celebrate his fond memories are his devoted wife of fifteen years, Mrs. Teresa Watts Franklin; two sons: James (Misty) Reeder of Easley, SC and Tobias Watts of the home,; two daughters: Ieasher Kelley of Greenville, SC and Ashley Watts of Simpsonville, SC; five grandchildren; one brother, Benjamin Franklin of Clinton, SC; two sisters: Virginia Briggs of Clinton, SC and Dorothy (Willie Merrill, Jr.) Merrill of Gray Court, SC; three brothers-in-law: Ulysses Watts of Laurens, SC, Clifford (Kindra) Watts of Duncan, SC, and Maurice Watts of Cross Hill, SC; his mother-in-law, Luella Watts of Cross Hill, SC; one uncle; four aunts; two dedicated special friends: Walter Briggs and David Williams; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Safely Home

*I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
 Oh, so happy and so bright!
 There is perfect joy and beauty In this everlasting light.
 All the pain and grief is over, every restless tossing passed;
 I am now at peace forever, Safely home in Heaven at last.
 Did you wonder I so calmly trod the valley of the shade?
 Oh! but Jesus' love illumined every dark and fearful glade.
 And He came Himself to meet me In that way so hard to tread;
 And with Jesus' arm to lean on, Could I have one doubt or dread?
 Then you must not grieve so sorely, For I love you dearly still
 Try to look beyond earth's shadows, Pray to trust our Father's Will.*

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