

Thank You

Perhaps you sent a lovely card
Or sat quietly in a chair;
Perhaps you sent a floral spray,
If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you prayed a sincere prayer, or came
to pay a call;

Perhaps you sang a cheerful song; if so we
heard it all.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all Just thought
of us that day.
Wherever you did
To console our hearts,
We thank you so much,
Whatever the part. We thank you so very
much.

The Family



Pall Bearers

Family & Friends

Repast

(Non-Hosted Meal)

Hilltop Fish Fair &

Steakhouse

1602 E. Roosevelt Blvd.

Monroe, NC 28110

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO Blakely's Funeral Home & Cremations

714 East Franklin Street

Monroe, NC 28112

Phone: (704) 635-7951 or (980) 269-8772

Fax: (704) 776-4312

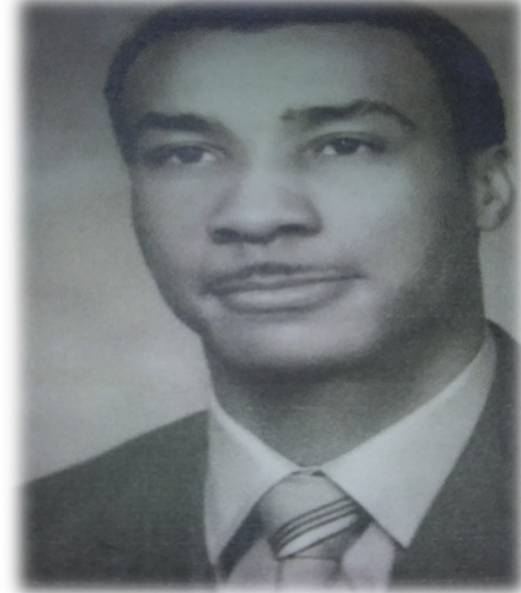
Email: blakelyfuneralservice@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.blakelyfuneralservice.com/>

Mary Blakely, Director

Marvin Chambers, Board of Directors

In Celebration of the Life of **Don Phillip McNeely**



SUNRISE

May 18, 1948

SUNSET

December 11, 2019

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Family Visitation: 10:00 AM

Homegoing Service: 11:00AM

Bennie Blakely Jr. Memorial Chapel

714 East Franklin Street

Monroe, NC 28110

Bishop Ronnie Blackmon, Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor Willie Pore, Officiating

Church of God of Prophecy

Kannapolis, NC

The Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional of Clergy & Family

Opening Remarks

Prayer of Comfort

Opening Hymn

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Psalm 23.....Bishop Robert Huey

New Testament.....John 3:16-18.....Pastor Willie Pore

Musical Selection.....Accelerated Ministries Praise and Worship Team

Church of God of Prophecy, Kannapolis, NC

Acknowledgments.....Brenda Allen

Reading of the Life Story.....Silent Reading (Organ plays softly)

Musical Selection.....Accelerated Ministries Praise and Worship Team

Reflections.....Dr. Linda Strong-Leek, Berea, Kentucky

Dr. Joan Foster, Waldorf, Maryland

Special Tributes.....Children of the Honored Guest of Honor

Don Phillip McNeely, Jr., Frederick McNeely,

and Europe Alia McNeely

Special Instrumental.....Deacon Ira Scatliffe, Saxophonist

New Beginnings, Church of God of Prophecy, Lanham, MD

Eulogy: Message of Hope.....Bishop Ronnie Blackmon, Accelerated
Ministries Church of God of Prophecy, Kannapolis, NC

Parting: Sweet Sorrow.....Deacon Ira Scatliffe, Saxophonist

Benediction & Recessional

IntermentTuesday December 17, 2019 Salisbury National Cemetery
Salisbury, NC

The Life of Don P. McNeely Obituary

Don Philip McNeely, was born to the late Eddie and Mary Stitt McNeely of Monroe, NC. He was educated in the Monroe City Schools, graduating from Winchester Avenue High School with Honors, and then attending and graduating from Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA. Don was an avid basketball player while in high school and greatly enjoyed watching all sports on television, especially the Carolina Panthers (#KeepPounding).

Don Philip (called Don by friends, Philip by his family, and a third name, Sonny, given to him by his mom) was extremely intelligent and gifted individual. After graduating from Morehouse College, Don worked locally for a while but bitten by the travel bug, he joined the United States Air Force and served faithfully for two years. He then traveled all over the United States, living in Texas and California before returning to Monroe where he ultimately worked for the State of North Carolina in the Department of Corrections for twenty-eight years until retirement. While serving in the Air Force, Don Philip learned the game of chess and became an ardent player. He taught his siblings (the four currently at home) how to play the game and later also imparted his love of playing chess to his children and anyone who wanted to learn.

Don Philip loved anything that challenged his intellect. As a child and later as a young high school student, he was encouraged by his mother to memorize and deliver speeches for various programs. One of his favorite poems, which he would recite upon request, was The Jabberwocky; Invictus was another favorite. He also loved the challenge of reading difficult books, such as Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment, and Cervantes' Don Quixote. **Don** loved watching movies (such as Star Wars, Forest Gump, and many others) with his kids on the "big screen" television at home.

He spent his latter years at the Accordius Health Rest Home in Monroe. He still remained an active and vital member of his family and the community. Family members recall fondly hearing him say, (particularly after a great game of Bingo at the nursing home), when asked if he enjoyed himself, "Great day, yes!"

Don was fortunate enough to find and on a pleasant memorable day in September 1996, married the love of his life, the former Jessie Carolyn Bell of Monroe, NC. Since that joyous occasion, they enjoyed a loving relationship for twenty-three years of which she oversaw and tenderly managed his personal and medical care for more than ten years until his final departure from this life. Don Philip leaves special memories to his wife, *Jessie*; three cherished children from a previous marriage, *Donnie*, *Fredrick*, and *Europe Alia*; two grand-children, *Chance* and *Trinity*; one lovely sister-in-law, *Winnie (Nelson)* of Morven, NC, one brother *Mister Secrest* of Madison, NC; two sister-in-laws, *Joan Foster* (Waldorf, MD) and *Geraldine Perry* (Milwaukee, WI) and more than seventy-five nieces, nephews, great and great-great nieces and nephews. Lastly he was preceded in death by ten siblings: Eddie, Ernestine, Dollie, Tommy, Joe Louis, Australia, Willie James, Henry Harvey, Shelia, and Cornelius.