

Homegoing Celebration Honoring the Life of

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**DR. HAROLD LEON JEFFREYS, III**

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**FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2021 | 10 A.M.**

**SAINT AUGUSTINE'S HISTORIC CHAPEL**

1315 OAKWOOD AVENUE, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27610

**"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."**

**LUKE 2:29**



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# THE LEGACY OF HAROLD LEON JEFFREYS

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Dr. Harold Leon Jeffreys, III (affectionately known to many as Jeff, Leon or Dr. J) departed this life on April 29th, 2021.

Harold was born in Winston Salem, North Carolina on December 7, 1943 to Harold and Sarah Jeffreys. He graduated from Paisley High School in 1962. While there, he enjoyed playing basketball and the saxophone in the school band.

After graduating from high school, Harold attended North Carolina College at Durham which is now known as North Carolina Central University. He participated in many organizations at NCCU: college band, honor society, and pledged Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. just to name a few. Harold received his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from NCCU and a Ph.D. from University of North Carolina Greensboro.

Dr. Jeffreys began his professional career at Saint Augustine's College (now Saint Augustine's University) in 1968 as Director of Bands and remained at the helm until 2006. During his tenure, he developed one of the premier HBCU band programs on the East Coast, symphonic and jazz bands, as well as chamber consorts. Ensembles under his leadership developed and maintained a reputation for high level musicianship, integrity, and professionalism on and off the stage. These benchmarks were reflected by frequent performances for local and regional occasions of significance, dignitaries, and international heads of state. Dr. Jeffreys served Saint Augustine's faithfully for 53 years where he was a full professor in the music department. He also served several years as adjunct faculty at Shaw University.

Dr. Jeffreys performed at numerous venues throughout the east coast and mid-west. Performance affiliations included the Modern Music Ensemble, the Triangle Horns and the North Carolina Jazz Ensemble where he also served as musical director. Additional performance collaborations included Eve Cornelius, Gladys Knight, Melva Houston, and Nneena Freelon.

Active in the community, Dr. Jeffreys held various board and civic appointments: North Carolina Arts Council, Raleigh Civic Symphony Association, Artsposure Incorporated, United Arts Council, Bicentennial Commission and the City Raleigh Arts Commission, where he became only the second African American to serve as chairman. His professional experiences included adjudicator, clinical and consultant for the North Carolina Bandmaster's Association, Baltimore and Richmond areas schools. Professional memberships included Music Educators National Conference, CIAA Band Director Conference, College Band Directors National Association, and HBCU National Band Directors Consortium. Dr. Jeffreys was also a member of the Intercollegiate Music Association where he served over thirty years as instrumental coordinator.

When not giving his loyalty to NCCU and SAU, he enjoyed going to the mountains and beach to fish and play golf. Most weekends, one could find him grilling or making his special dishes for family and close friends. He also enjoyed going on many bus trips during football season in support of his beloved NCCU. Harold attended First Presbyterian Church of Garner for over twenty years where he was captivated by the melodies of praise.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife Brenda Jeffreys; two daughters Mornique Spencer (Jerome) of Severna Park, MD; and Tanya Bell (Joseph) of Houston, TX; sister Madeline Jeffreys of Rhode Island; four grandchildren (Cedric, Christyn, Tyler, and Madison); three great-grandchildren (Camron, Kimberly, and Kayden); niece Fyllissa Jeffreys; great niece and nephews Sarah, Harold IV, Marcell, Matthew, Myckquell, and Brandon Jeffreys; godson, Charles Vernon Brown Jr., and a host of other family and friends.



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# REFLECTIONS

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## ***If Ever There Is Tomorrow***

*When we're not together there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is even if we're apart I'll always be with you. ~A.A. Milne*

## ***The Day God Took You Home***

*A million times I've needed you  
A million times I've cared  
If love alone could have saved you  
You never would have died  
In life I love you still  
In my heart you hold a place  
No one else can ever fill  
It broke my heart to lose you  
But you didn't go alone  
Part of me went with you  
The day that God took you home  
~Artistic Reflection*





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# ORDER OF SERVICE

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Processional.....Clergy and Family

Welcome.....Rev. Hershey Mallette Stephens, Chaplain  
Saint Augustine's University Chapel

Opening Selection.....*I'll Fly Away*.....SAU Alumni Singers

Reading of God's Word

Old Testament: Psalm 23:1-6 and Psalm 46:1-7.....Rev. LeBaron Taylor  
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Bogalusa, LA

New Testament: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and Romans 8:35-39.....Ms. Mareyah Washington  
SAU Student and Chamber Singer

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Ben Acton  
First Presbyterian Church of Garner

Musical Selection.....*Amazing Grace*.....SAU Alumni Band

Recognition of Clergy.....Rev. Stephens

Reflections (2 minutes each)

Representative of:

Music and Band Students.....Ms. Dolli Bradford  
Former SAU Music Major and SAU Alumna '01

Intercollegiate Music Association.....Dr. Denise M. Payton  
President

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.....Fraternity Brothers

North Carolina Central University.....Ms. Hazel Sanders and Ms. Linda Bailey  
NCCU Alumnae

Saint Augustine's University.....Ms. Ann Brown  
Dean of Students and Student Integrity

Family Tribute.....Mrs. Mornique Spencer and Mrs. Tanya Bell  
Daughters

Acknowledgments and Resolutions.....Ms. Lindy Brown  
NCCU Alumna '85

Silent Reading of Obituary.....Soft Music



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# ORDER OF SERVICE CONT'D

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Musical Selection..... *Total Praise*..... SAU Alumni Singers

The Eulogy..... Rev. Dr. William T. Newkirk  
Oak City Baptist Church

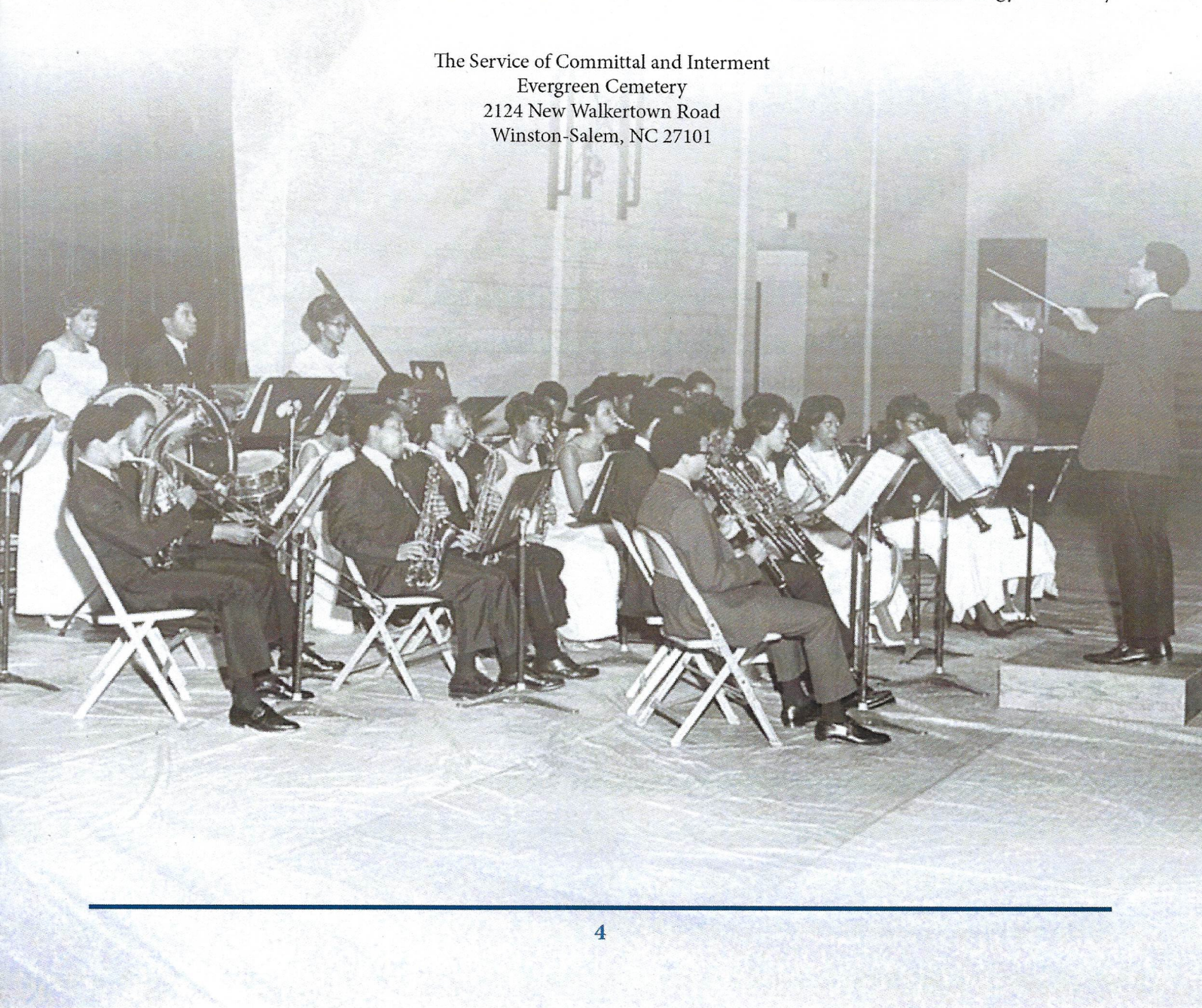
Musical Selection..... *Jesus Will Welcome Me Home*..... SAU Alumni Singers and Band

Pronouncement of Benediction..... Rev. Stephens

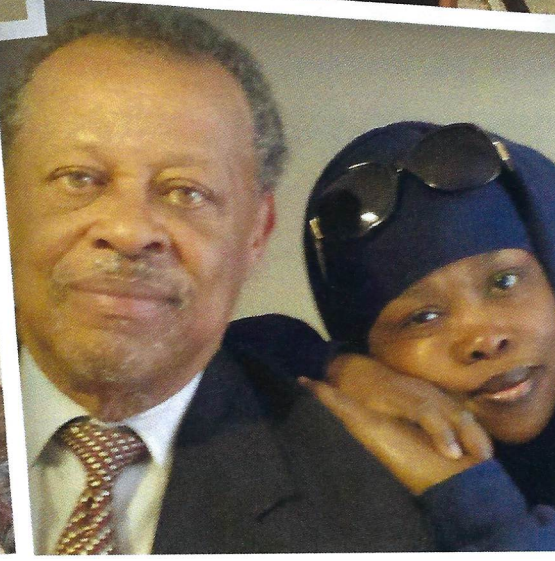
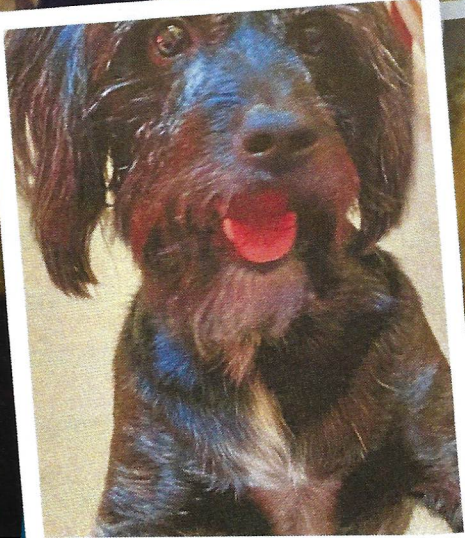
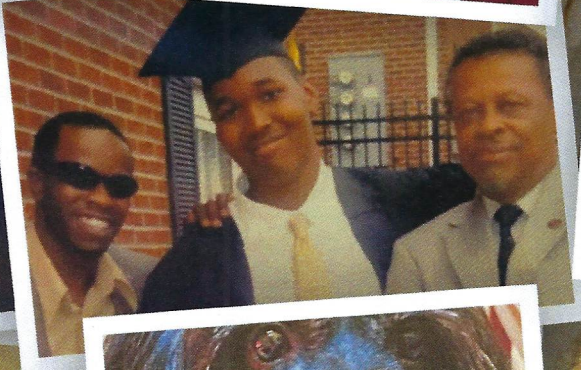
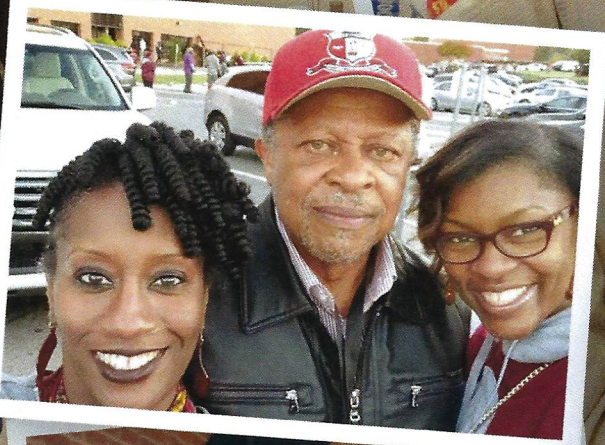
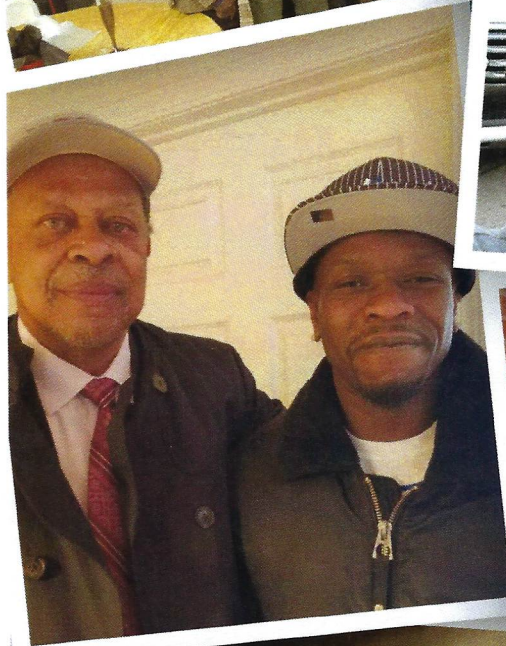
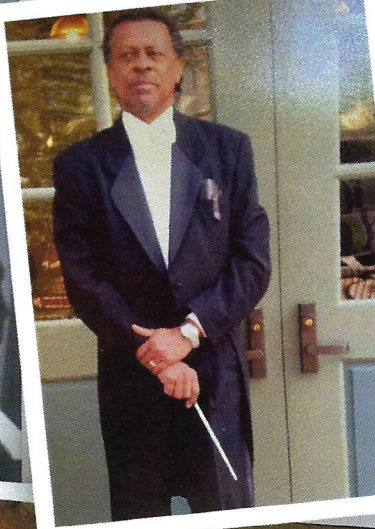
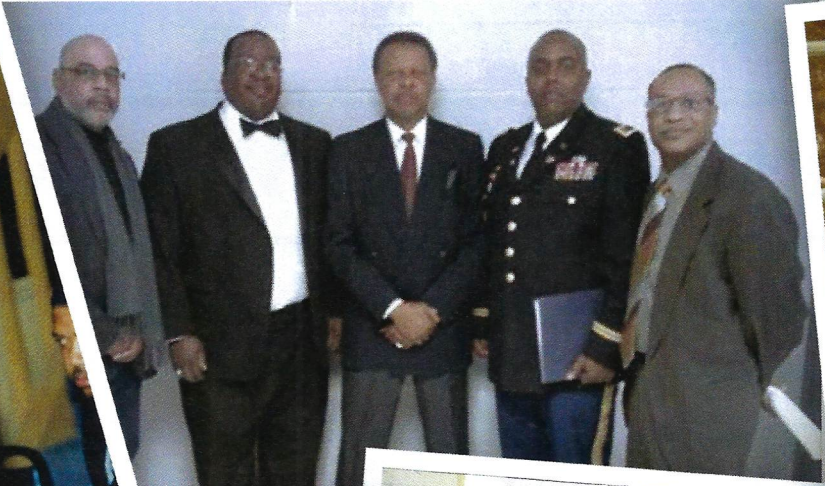
Recessional Selection..... *Going Up Yonder*..... SAU Alumni Band

Recessional..... Clergy and Family

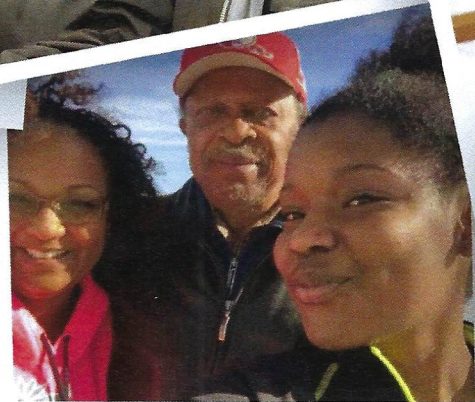
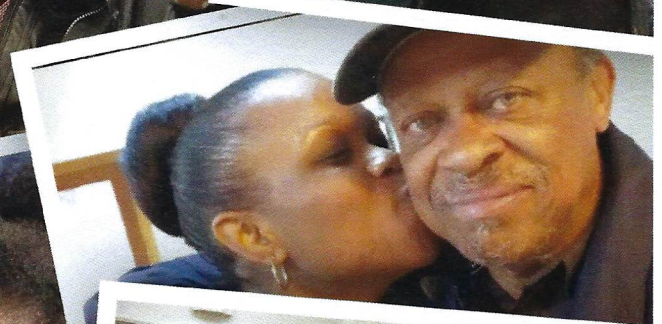
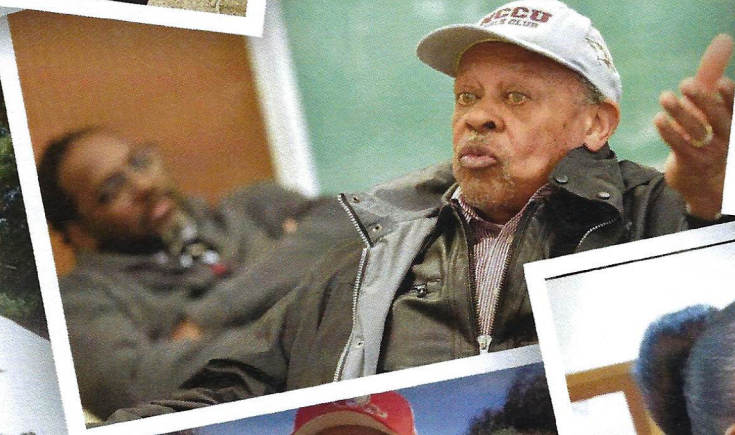
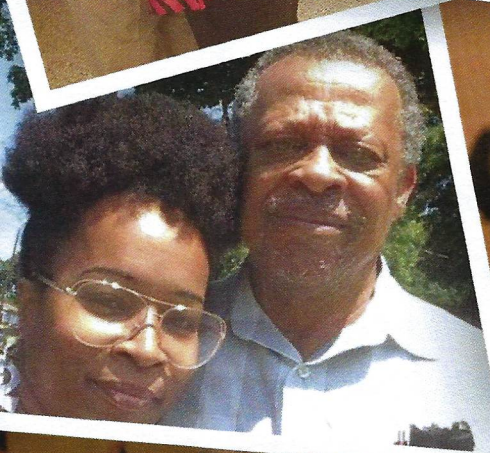
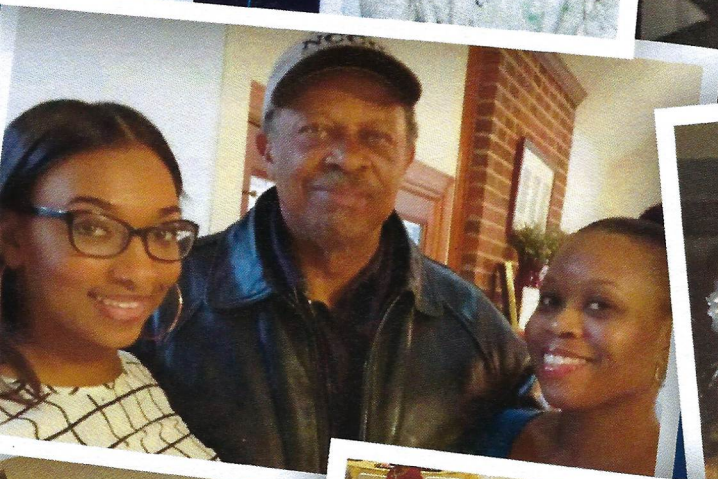
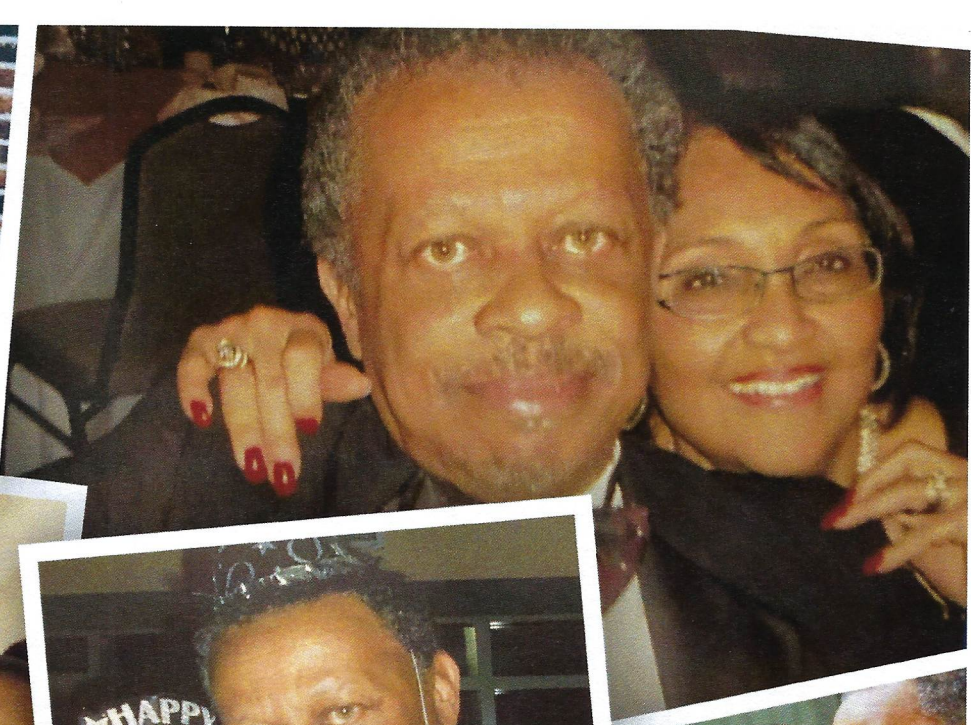
The Service of Committal and Interment  
Evergreen Cemetery  
2124 New Walkertown Road  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101















### **PALLBEARERS**

Fraternity Brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated  
Former and Current Music Students

### **FLORAL BEARERS**

Former and Current Music Students  
Colleagues from Saint Augustine's University

### **EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The family of Dr. Harold L. Jeffreys extends their grateful and heartfelt appreciation to everyone who poured their time and love towards us. Your generosity has meant so much to the family during this difficult time.

We would not have been able to celebrate his life without the help from others. We realize we cannot list everyone without omitting someone. However, we want to give a special thank you to Debra Clark Jones for orchestrating his homegoing celebration.

#### **To his students (past and present):**

Dr. Jeffreys would want you to continue to follow your dreams and to be the best YOU.  
Again, thank you to everyone no matter the size of your contribution.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the  
Harold L. Jeffreys Music Scholarship Fund  
at [giving.st-aug.edu](http://giving.st-aug.edu).

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STEVEN L LYONS FUNERAL HOME  
1515 NEW BERN AVENUE  
RALEIGH, NC 27610