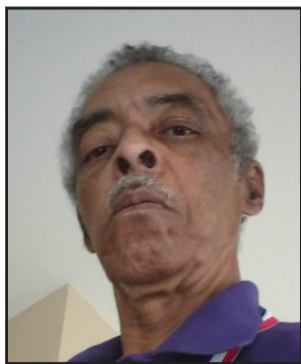


Obituaries

Lt. Col. Paul Lawrence Leverette

GREENSBORO, N.C. - Lt. Col. Paul Lawrence Leverette, 71, ascended into heaven on Feb. 12, 2022. He was born on Dec. 21, 1950 in McCormick to the late Hervey and Genola (Traylor) Leverette.



Paul graduated from Mims High School in 1969. He graduated from South Carolina State in 1973, with a degree in civil engineering. While at South Carolina State, he was a proud member of the ROTC, and after joining the military, he continued his studies and earned two master's degrees. He was a member of the US Army and attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel while serving both domestically and internationally in Korea and Germany and in the Persian Gulf War. Paul continued his military service in the Army Reserves after leaving active duty in 1984.

Paul moved to Warren, Ohio, where he was employed at Packard electric, a division of General Motors. He eventually returned to McCormick, and while there he was employed by John de la Howe, McCormick Correctional Institution and McCormick High School, where he led the JROTC program. After returning to Greensboro, N.C., he served as a substitute teacher in the Guilford County School system and was a team member at Lowe's Home Improvement. At the time of his passing, Paul and his wife, Sandra, had moved to Silver Springs, Md., in order to be closer to their grandchildren, whom Paul adoringly referred to as his "Lieutenants."

Paul loved to write poetry and wrote a book about his life and growing up in his hometown of McCormick. He loved all types of music and was an athlete, with his favorite sports being tennis, football and ping-pong. He regularly participated in the Greater Greensboro Senior Games, where he won multiple awards. He loved his family and relished telling stories about the military, his family and spending time with his grandchildren.

Paul was a man of God who prayed regularly and was deeply devoted to his family, friends and his community. He was loved and will be missed by his family and friends and the entire community at large. He was preceded in death by one sister, Lorenda Leverette; one sister-in-law, Patricia Brandon; and two brothers-in-law, Willie (Bubba) Marshall and Willie Murrill.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Sandra Freeman Leverette; his daughter, Candance Leverette; his son, Todd Leverette, and daughter-in-law Linda; two granddaughters, Ellery and Cecily, and dog, Hazelnut; his siblings, Douglas (Reberta) Leverette of Chandler, Ariz., Valerie Marshall of Thomson, Ga., Failey (George) Pasley of Greenwood, Faye (Kenny) Puckett of McCormick, Larry Leverette of Summerville, Charlayne (Cleavland) Moton of Greenwood; and numerous nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts and cousins.

His memorial service was held at McCormick High School at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 20, and he was laid to rest at Lakeview Memorial in Greensboro.

Walker Funeral Home, LLC was in charge of services.

In Memory

In Loving Memory



Derotha Tompkins Holloway
Sunrise Feb. 7, 1936- Sunset Feb. 11, 2021

Darling, we want you to know how much you are missed in our lives. I want to thank God for the way you stood by my side as a wife, mother and the first lady of the many churches we pastored.

You know you were the best teacher and demanded the best of your students. You were also the first black teacher to integrate schools in McCormick.

In the latter years of your life, you suffered failing health, and God called you home to rest. RIP.

-Love
RC, children and Teddy

Fannie Ruth Prince Hardy

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga.- Mother Fannie Ruth Prince Hardy, 100, transitioned from labor to reward on Feb. 8, 2022. She was born in McCormick on March 20, 1921 to John and Lula Prince. She was raised in a loving home with her parents and siblings



At the age of 18 she met and married Jessie Hardy and settled in Plum Branch. The couple started a family and maintained their strong connections in McCormick County, establishing homes in Plum Branch and McCormick as their family grew. To this union were born nine children. She inherited the gift of sewing from her mother and sewed beautiful clothing for her children by hand.

Faith and education were priorities in the Prince home. Fannie Ruth received her education at the New Hope schoolhouse. She received Christ at an early age and was baptized at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of the Rev. Marshall. She went on to serve New Hope Missionary Baptist Church as a member of the missionary board, a star alto in the shape note choir and a member of the Baptist Union Singing Convention. In 1964, Fannie Ruth moved the family to North Plainfield, N.J., eventually settling in Plainfield, N.J., where she purchased a home and became a loyal member of Warren's Temple Church of the Living God under the pastorate of Bishop Arthur Warren in Fanwood, N.J. There, she served on the Sunday school, Senior Choir, Mother's Board and Missionary Department and was the president of The Pastor's Aid. When she could no longer travel to Warren's Temple, she joined House of Prayer Church of God in Christ in Plainfield under the pastorate of Bishop William T. Cahoon. There, she served as the Mother's Board president and was a loyal and faithful member until she relocated to Lawrenceville in 2006. After relocating, she became church mother and the eldest member of Judah House of Praise Pentecostal Church in Stone Mountain, Ga., under the pastorate of Bishop Cary G. Williams. In 2017, Fannie Ruth reestablished her membership at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church under Pastor Michael A. Butler and remained a loyal member until she went to be with the Lord; she was the eldest member.

She worked as a housekeeper and an industrial worker before joining the staff of Muhlenberg Hospital, serving in the housekeeping department and specializing in the nursery area until her retirement at the age of 65 in 1986. After retiring, the gifted and industrious Mother Hardy turned her attention to a cooking business that she ran out of her home, drawing customers from near and far for her delicious, soulful recipes sold by the plate. She also found time to devote to her passions of gardening, design and sewing. On several occasions, her extraordinarily beautiful flower and vegetable gardens were covered by Plainfield newspapers.

She was devoted to her large and loving family and was a vivid presence in the lives of her children, sons and daughters-in-law, nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was known for her weekly Sunday dinners and holiday dinners - especially Christmas dinners. A grand matriarch, Fannie loved to bring her family together. Family, church members and neighbors traveled to enjoy her fried chicken, yams, corn bread, chopped barbecue, ham, collard greens (from her garden) and homemade pound cakes.

Full of love and compassion, Fannie was a mother for every child who needed a home. She was known as "Mama Church Lady" by the youth of the community, whom she fed and welcomed into her home. She had a quick wit, an uncanny sense of humor and a wonderful way with words and stories. She delighted everyone with her infectious laughter, her beautiful singing voice, her devotion to family, her mothering of the community and her legendary fashion sense. A creative, classy and sophisticated fashion role model, she was always impeccably dressed, sporting an endless array of hats, suits, shoes, handkerchiefs and gloves.

In the final years of her life, Fannie Ruth's family and community gathered around her. Her dutiful son, Larry, always remained in the family home and kept a watchful eye on his mother. Fannie Ruth loved all of her faithful caregivers, and developed a strong bond with Stella, Maria, Abby and Cindy, who treated her as a mother and grandmother. Mother Hardy remained in Lula Bell's home and care from 2006 until her passing. Preceding her in death were her sisters, Louise Prince Wells, Marie Prince Patterson, Loullen Prince Bland, Ada Lee Prince Gilchrist, Arnela Janie Prince Bell ("Lil' Baby") and Moline Prince Harrison; her brothers, J.C. Prince, Robert Prince, Mansfield Prince ("Buddy"), Richard Prince, Wiley Prince and Eugene Prince ("Gene"); and children, Melvin, Winston Churchill ("Lil'un") and Joe Nathan.

Fannie Ruth leaves to cherish her loving memories six children, Franklin Roosevelt Hardy, Iola Hardy Bennett, Lula Bell Hardy, Thomas Hardy, Mary Ellen Hardy Lake and Larry Hardy; grandchildren, Renee Bennett, Hope Malcolm, Randey Bennett, Felicia Lake-Jones, Cynthia Blackmon, Tara Lake, Thomas Hardy Jr. and Tonya Hardy; 21 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren; numerous niece and nephews; a devoted granddaughter, Patricia Jones; and a host of family and friends.

The viewing was Friday, Feb. 18 from 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Andrew Wardlaw Funeral Home. The funeral service was Saturday, Feb. 19 at noon at Lutheran Church By The Lake.

Andrew Wardlaw Funeral Home was in charge of services.

Charles Eugene Neilson Jr.

McCORMICK- Charles Eugene Neilson Jr., 83, of the Savannah Lakes Community, husband of the late Nancy Jean Neilson, died Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021, at Self Regional Healthcare in Greenwood. He was born in Johnstown, Penn. to the late Charles Eugene Neilson Sr. and Gladys Irene Slagle.



A graduate of Johnstown High School and Pittsburgh University, Mr. Neilson proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was employed as an aeronautical engineer with General Electric, retiring after many years of service. A member of the Savannah Lakes Theater Group and the Lutheran Church By The Lake, Mr. Neilson was happiest on the golf course enjoying a round of golf with his friends. In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Jeffrey Neilson; sister, Pamala Neilson; and brother, Larry Everett Neilson.

Mr. Neilson is survived by his daughter, Joy L. Strief (John) of Cincinnati, Ohio; a sister, Jesslie Prazinko of Johnstown, Penn.; and a granddaughter, Lindsey Strief.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in the Lutheran Church By The Lake. Memorial contributions, in memory of Mr. Neilson, may be sent to the American Diabetes Association, PO Box 7023, Merrifield, VA 22116-7023. A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral.com.

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is in charge of services.

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Note of Thanks

The family of the late Floyd Talbert thanks everyone for their many acts of kindness and sympathy shown during our time of bereavement.

"God's Blessing to All"

-Talbert Family