

## Obituary

Mr. Luther Gladden Jr., the son of Luther Gladden, Sr. and Susie Williams Gladden, was born on August 12, 1945 in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Luther, affectionately known as *Dump*, was a reverent man who gained his angel wings on December 17, 2021. His final days were spent surrounded by family and friends, whom had touched in unimaginable ways throughout a very memorable life.

Luther graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, in Columbia, SC, in 1964. Soon after graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army. Luther went on to become a member of the 82nd Air Borne Division serving in both the Dominican Republic and Vietnam War. While in service, Luther received various accolades including the Presidential Unit Citation in Santo Domingo. Receiving an honorable discharge, Luther went on to marry his high school sweetheart, Charlesina Gantt Gladden.

Luther believed that the mind was too powerful to waste, so with that thinking he went on to obtain an associate's degree in Business from Columbia College. He also obtained an electrical engineering degree from Midlands Technical College.

Luther was a devout member of the Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church. He served as an usher and sound technician.

His affiliations included: being a 33rd degree Mason, life member of the NAACP, Telephone Pioneers of America, Communication Workers of America, Cairo Temple #125, CC Johnson #136, Joshua Commandery #10, WN Roseburg 53, More Light Lodge #468, and Star Light Chapter OES #364.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, Luther Gladden, Sr. and Susie Williams Gladden; four brothers, John A., Joe Nathan, Herculese, and Norris Cornelius Gladden; and two sisters, Inetha and Inez Gladden; and a daughter, Veronica Bethel.

Mr. Luther Gladden, Jr. leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Charlesina Gantt Gladden; his children, Charlene Brown, Rhonda Gladden, Kieshia Gladden, Terrance Gladden, Shawn Williams, and Antonio Bethel; seven siblings, Eartha Lee Lurks, Effie Gladden, Ida Tyler, James Clifton Gladden, Alfred Gladden, Eugene Michael Gladden, and Candace Johnson; one son-in-law, Dexter Brown; 9 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; along with a host of other relatives and caring friends, all of whom will miss him dearly.

## Memories



## Order of Service

*I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.*

*Psalm 40:1-2*

Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn

Scriptures ..... Old and New Testaments

Prayer.....Reverend Jacqueline Green

Remarks.....Deacon Jim Burgess  
O'Bryan Bethel  
Terrance Gladden

Selection

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Fred W. Coit

Recessional

Postlude



## *Committal, Benediction and Interment*

First Mt. Beulah Baptist Church Cemetery  
375 Gardners Farm Road  
Swansea, South Carolina 29160

If you could see me now  
 you wouldn't shed a tear.  
 Though you may not understand  
 why I'm no longer there.  
 Remember my spirit that is the real me  
 because I'm still very much alive,  
 I've just been set free,  
 Oh, if you could only see!  
 I have beheld our Father's face  
 and I've touched my Savior's Hand.  
 All of Heaven's angels rejoiced  
 as I entered the promised Land.  
 Beyond the gates of pearl,  
 I've walked on the golden streets.  
 I've touched the walls of jasper  
 and dipped my foot in the Crystal sea.  
 The beauty is beyond words and  
 nothing could compare,  
 I've even seen your mansion  
 and someday I'll meet you there.  
 Let Jesus be your guide because  
 His Word will show you the way!  
 So please don't cry  
 because we will meet again someday.

-Author: Patsy Stambaugh Deskins



*Pallbearers*

Family and Friends

*Floral Bearers*

Family and Friends

*Acknowledgement*

We, the family of Mr. Luther Gladden, Jr., would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to all who have shown comforting expressions of love, sympathy, and prayers, during the passing of our loved one. Our hearts will always be grateful for your kindness, as we pray for a special blessing to be bestowed upon each and every one of you.

**Services Entrusted To:**

<p><b>Taylor Street Chapel</b>          1831 Taylor Street          Columbia, SC 29201          (803)771-7799          I. S. Leevy Johnson          -Owner &amp; Director-</p>	<p><b>Leevy's</b>          FUNERAL HOME          Chris Leevy Johnson          -President &amp; Managing Director-</p>	<p><b>Lower Richland Chapel</b>          9120 Garners Ferry Road          Hopkins, SC 29061          (803) 776-6922          Leverette A. Williams, II          -General Manager-</p>
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*Home Going Service  
 In Loving Memory of*

**MR. LUTHER GLADDEN, JR.**



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021  
 11:00 A.M.

RIDGEWOOD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
 5326 RIDGEWAY STREET  
 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

REVEREND FRED W. COIT  
 -PASTOR-