

**HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

*Northminster Presbyterian Men and The Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1961*

**ACTIVE PALLBEARERS**

*Nephews*

**HONORARY FLOWER BEARERS**

*Northminster Presbyterian Women and The Booker T. Washington High School of Class of 1961*

**ACTIVE FLOWER BEARERS**

*Nieces*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

*The family expresses their deepest gratitude to all who have shown their love, support, and uplift along George's life journey and throughout their journey coping with his earthly departure.*

**SPECIAL THANKS**

*James "Pooh" Abrams*

*Booker T. Washington High School Foundation Board and Millennium Society*

*Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1961*

*Colonial Printing Company*

*Dr. Tina Adams Garvin*

*Northminster Presbyterian Men*

*Northminster Presbyterian Women*

*Jermaine O'Neal*

*Richland School District One*

**ENTOMBMENT**

*Lincoln Cemetery*

*4900 Farrow Road*

*Columbia, SC 29203*

**ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO**

*Leevy's Funeral Home*

*1831 Taylor Street*

*Columbia, SC 29201*

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, THE FAMILY RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS DONATIONS TO EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING**

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

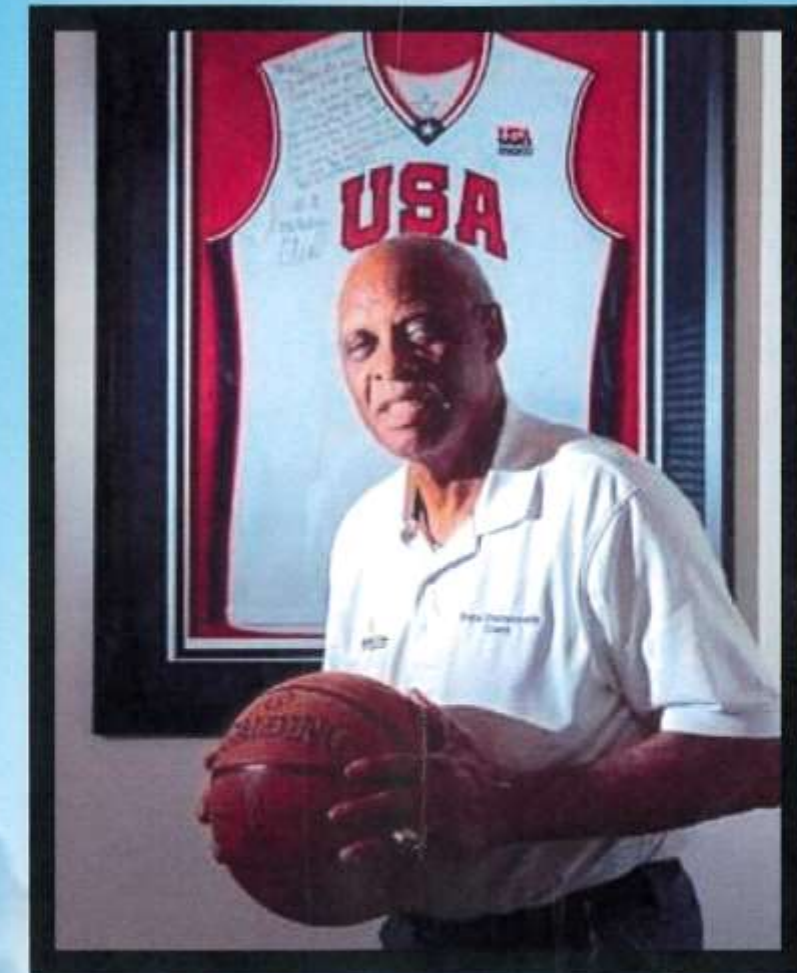
*The George E. Glymph and Betty H. Glymph Endowed Scholarship Fund*

*Benedict College, 1600 Harden Street, Columbia, SC 29203*

*or*

*The Booker T. Washington High School Foundation George E. Glymph (Class of 1961) Scholarship, electronically via <https://giv.li/1n9vk4> or check via P.O. Box 1641, Columbia SC 29202*

*A Celebration of the Life and Legacy  
of  
Coach George E. Glymph*



*Wednesday, December 22, 2021*

*12 o'clock Noon*

*The George Glymph Arena*

*Eau Claire High School*

*Columbia, South Carolina*

## The Coach

George Edward Glymph lived his life in service to others and dedicated that life to the betterment of his family, students, players, church and all whom he touched. To have known him was to love him. Whether as the grateful, loving husband, praising his devoted wife (of 58 years), Betty, or the protective father, guiding his two children, Michael, and Tiffani, or as the nurturing grandfather of 8 grandchildren (who adoringly called him "Coach"), he was a stabilizing force.

Likewise, as the coach, molding young men on the high school basketball court, or as Director of Player Development, speaking life and hope to NBA players, he was ever the teacher encouraged students and young adults to always reach beyond their grasps.

"Coach", the beloved son, caring for his aging, virtuous mother, the brother singing, dancing, and celebrating life with his siblings; the "Uncle George" sharing wisdom and wit with nieces, nephews, and cousins; and the trusted friend, always willing to lend a helping hand. "Coach", the man of faith giving his time, talent, and treasure to Northminster Presbyterian Church, as an Ordained Elder, member of the Chancel Choir and Male Ensemble, for five decades of uninterrupted service. "Coach", the Booker T. Washington High School alumnus (Class of '61), who sang annually with the John Work Chorus for nearly five decades of dedicate commitment. George Edward Glymph illuminated his daily walk with The Master along every path he took.

Although he is best known as a legendary basketball coach, he was an even more impactful role model to his students in Richland School District One, where he began his career in 1965 at W. A. Perry Middle School. George consequently taught at his alma mater Booker T. Washington High School and ended his career at Eau Claire High. He set high standards for everyone; no one played on his team with less than a "C" average.

Despite his demanding schedule, he left his classroom door open for tutoring, Monday-Friday. He was twice named Teacher of the Year. Although his childhood dream was to become an architect, little did he know that the deferred dream would shape him into his purposeful life to become an architect of men -on and off the court. George prepared numerous players for the collegiate and professional ranks. His mantra for his players was "PPD: Pride, Poise and Dedication." He taught core values of respect, gratitude, forgiveness, kindness and service.

His stellar career as head basketball coach at Eau Claire High School reads: (named) "Coach of the Year" 25 times; won 5 state championships and 1 state runner-up; coached the Midlands AAU 17 and under basketball teams to 5 state championships; the national runner-up in 1986 and the national championship in 1987; in 1986, Eau Claire became the first South Carolina team to win the prestigious Beach Ball Tournament. He served as head coach for five national high school all-star games.



## ORDER OF SERVICE

*Presiding Reverend Fleming McClinton*  
Pastor, Round Top Baptist Church, Blythewood, SC

### Processional

Reverend John P. Brown,  
Lebanon Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Ridgeway, SC

### Hymn of Praise

*To God Be the Glory*  
Renee Hollis Williams

### Scripture Readings

#### Old Testament

Psalm 23:1-6  
Michael Tyler Glymph (*Grandson*)  
Jazzmine Odom (*Granddaughter*)

#### New Testament

Romans 14: 8; Psalms 92:2  
Halle Dickerson (*Granddaughter*)  
James 1:17  
Trent Tobias Dickerson (*Grandson*)

### Saxophone Rendition

*Amazing Grace*  
Isaac McClinton (*Cousin*)

### Prayer of Comfort

Reverend Richard Dozier, Founding Pastor  
Northminster Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Columbia, SC

### Tribute

Tiffani M. Glymph Dickerson (*Daughter*)

### Reflections

Patricia Gold (*Lifelong friend, BTW Classmate*)  
Herbert Bynoe (*Lifelong friend*)  
Ernie Glymph (*Brother*)

Carolyn Glymph Walker (*Sister*)  
Dr. Jim Nyland, DDS (*Team Dentist*)

Xavier Starkes, Esq. (*Former Eau Claire Player,*  
*Family Attorney*)

Carey Rich, (*Former AAU Player*)

### Song

*Mary Did You Know*  
Kendrick Childs

George received numerous awards for his coaching prowess: induction into five Halls of Fame which include: SC Black Hall of Fame, SC Athletic Hall of Fame, S.C. Athletic Coaches Hall, Benedict College Athletic Hall; and Richland School District 1 Hall of Fame. He was also selected as an Olympic Torch Bearer for the 1996 Summer Olympics and was honored with the George Glymph Room in the University of South Carolina Colonial Center in 2001.

In 1996, NBA All-star Jermaine O’Neal was selected 17<sup>th</sup> overall, by the Portland Trailblazers in the NBA Draft; O’Neal was the first Eau Claire player to make it to the NBA. Glymph soon followed O’Neal to the NBA where he became the Director of Player Development for the Trailblazers and later served in the same role with the Indiana Pacers and the New York Knicks.

### The Essence of the Man



On December 22, 1942, George Edward entered the world as the second child and first son born to the late George Tobias and Francina Jeter Glymph, on the sprawling farm of his maternal grandparents, Andrew, and Martha Johnson Jeter, in the rural Union County, South Carolina community of Tucker Town: a close-knit village of no more than 20 Black families and one white family—the Autrey’s who owned the country store.

George was the first grandchild born on the farm and his grandfather proudly nicknamed him “Buck” but his grandmother preferred calling him “Baby George.” “Baby George” was welcomed into the household by Uncle Lewis, Aunt Doris and Aunt Girlie, ages 8, 12, and 15 respectively. Baby George, sister Doris and his mother lived in Tucker Town while his father served in the Army during World War II.

Intermittently, there were frequent trips to the home of his paternal grandparents Orlander Tobias and Chaney Hodges Glymph, who lived 15 miles away in Leeds (Chester County) near Carlisle (Union County). His aunts Janie and Sarah and uncles Roosevelt, Timothy and Orlander showered “Baby George” with attention. Everyone loved George. He was a precocious, happy child singing at six months, walking at 8 months, and exploring the outdoors as a toddler, always running with a ball in his hands.

When his father returned home from the war in 1945, the family of four moved to Columbia where there were more carpentry jobs. Their first home was a rented room on McDuffie Avenue. All four slept in the same bed. It was not until the family moved to a newly built three room duplex on Barnwell Street that brother Ernie and sister Carolyn were born. The family moved to Greene Street before their father, one of only three Black licensed contractors in Columbia (*at the time*), built the family home at Wellesley Drive near Roosevelt Village, a community on the city outskirts. It was in these homes that his parents received aunts, uncles and cousins relocating from the “country” to the “city” to further their education and find employment. As the Glymph home became a respite for those making the transition, George experienced for the second time in his formative years, the stabilizing bond of family unity. His

### Reflections

Coach Ben Trapp (*Lifelong friend*)  
 Coach George Felton (*Former Head Coach, University of South Carolina*)  
 Alex English (*Former NBA Player*)  
 James "Pooh" Abrams (*Former Eau Claire Player*)  
 Thaddeus Delaney (*Former Eau Claire Player*)

### Song

**Walk Around Heaven**  
 Northminster Male Ensemble  
 Kendrick Chiles, Rev. Lucious Frierson, Jr.,  
 Gerald Kelley, Kevin Scott

### Reflections

Junior Laurie (*Former Eau Claire Player*)  
 Danny Pearson (*Former Eau Claire Player*)  
 Jermaine O’Neal (*Former Eau Claire & NBA Player*)  
 Isaiah Thomas (*Former Head Coach, New York Knicks*)  
 Mark Aguirre (*Former Assistant Coach/NBA Player*)

### Song

**Brighter Day Ahead**

Northminster Male Ensemble

### Eulogy

Reverend Michael D. Glymph (*Son*)  
 Associate Minister, Gordon Street Church of God,  
 Camden, SC

### Prayer of Comfort

**The Lord’s Prayer**  
 Reverend Kimani Wright, Pastor  
 Northminster Presbyterian Church (USA)  
 Columbia, SC

### Benediction

Reverend Fleming McClinton (*Cousin*)

### Closing Song

**Let the Church Say Amen**

### Recessional

**Happy Birthday to You**  
 Family and Friends

parents, each, having grown up with nine siblings, modeled generosity, hospitality, and selflessness.

When George and Ernie were in elementary school, they began their “apprenticeship” with their father, a master carpenter. They began their employment as junior laborers. Their father placed their earnings in an envelope which they turned over to their mother who deposited it in their individual savings account. Going to work with his father was never an option. He and Ernie learned the skills of the trade well enough to continue the family business when their father died unexpectedly in 1982. Now the business has been passed down to George’s son Michael, third generation. His father’s motto was “LYW-SFY” (“Let your work speak for you”). On the job training also instilled in the Glymph boys the true worth of “being” and giving; for their father helped to provide, (over time), livelihoods for all male family members (3 brothers, an uncle, in-laws, nephews) as well as young men in the community, oftentimes taking a cut in his earnings to help someone else.



From childhood to manhood, George exhibited many gifts. He could sing, dance, write poetry, act, play the trumpet, sketch, tell hilarious stories, build houses, and draw plans. He as a collector of comic books and baseball cards, as a child. He loved bowling and playing double pinochle. He was a walking encyclopedia of “oldie but goldies” music. Throughout his twelve years of school, he had perfect attendance. He attended Waverly Elementary School and graduated from Booker T. Washington School where he ranked second in his class and was starting point guard on the state championship basketball team. George attended Benedict College where he graduated in 1965 with honors, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics but he never played collegiate basketball because the coach recruited most players from the University of South Carolina, which would not accept him as an

undergraduate student in 1961.

### His Life in Context

George and his sidekick Tommy Martin performed comedy routines from Waverly Elementary school through college. George imitated Dean Martin and Tommy was Jerry Lewis. They made frequent Saturday morning appearances at the Mickey Mouse Club which was held at the then segregated downtown Columbia Palmetto Theatre.

He is featured in the 2008 SC African American History Calendar. His aunt Janie Glymph Goree, the first Black woman elected as a mayor in South Carolina, is featured in the inaugural 1993 calendar. George and his Aunt Janie are both Benedict College alumni who majored in math.

George and renowned football coach Willie Jefferies are cousins, and Aunt Janie taught her cousin Jeffries at Sims High School in Union, SC. Jeffries was also a math major.

George Edward Glymph was foremost a Christian and a teacher. His devotion to the development of young people was exemplified in his second love—that of coaching. He believed that “nothing on earth can make life more worthwhile than the sunshine and warmth of a beautiful smile.”

On Sunday, November 28, 2021, George spoke the following quote at a worship service: “Those who died yesterday, had plans for this morning. And those who died this morning, had plans for tonight. Don’t take life for granted. In the blink of an eye, everything can change. So, forgive often and love with all your heart. You may never know when you may not have that chance again.” -Author Unknown

On Wednesday December 15, 2021, one week short of his 79<sup>th</sup> birthday, George died unexpectedly at MUSC Medical Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina.



He is survived by his college sweetheart Betty Hall Glymph; son Michael (Renee) Glymph; daughter Tiffani Michelle Glymph Dickerson; brother Ernie (Betty) Glymph; sisters Mrs. Milton (Doris Glymph) Greene; Carolyn Glymph (Robert) Walker; adopted brother, cousin Johnny (Mary) Cohen of Tampa, Florida; aunts Mary Agnes Jeter Bradley of Monaco, Pennsylvania and Doris Jeter Fields of Columbia; sister and brother-in-law Delores Hall (J.C.) Haynes, brother-in-law Charles Barr, Sr. of Silver Spring, MD; grandchildren Trent Tobias and Halle Dickerson, Michael Tyler Glymph, Jazzmine Odom, Charles “CJ” McCrea, Kurensii Odom, Wendy Odom of Charleston, SC, Deeisha (Ishmael) Bryan of Ridgeland, SC; great grandchildren Taylor Green, Ishmael Bryan, Emeri Jenkins;

goddaughter Linda Scott Marshall; nieces USAF Colonel Kimberly Greene (Ret.), Professor Doris “Wendy” Greene, Cicely (Sheldon) Maxwell, Candace (John) Webb of Charlotte, NC, Dr. Angela Glymph (Tyriek) Austin of Upper Marlboro, MD, Tanzala Glymph Bates, Attorney Tami (Pete) Dyer of Upper Marlboro, MD, Charlene Barr of Washington, DC, Cheryl Barr of Silver Spring, MD and Kelli Delores Haynes; nephews Milton Bernard Greene, George Christopher Andrew Glymph and Robin “Robbie” Walker of Greer, SC, Charles (Denise) Barr II of Culpepper, VA, Chris (Bridgette) Barr of Clifton, VA, Tony McWhorter of Atlanta, GA and Jeffrey Curtis Haynes.

George also leaves a world of grief-stricken mourners: close cousins, former players, colleagues, students, friends, church family, co-workers, and community members. His dash between 1942 and 2021 (1942-2021) was unforgettable and remarkable. George has certainly left his footprints in our hearts and on the sands of time.

