

Obituary

Mr. Leon Blanks, affectionately known as *Shorty*, was born on July 7, 1948, in Gadsden, South Carolina. He was the son of the late John and Hannah Nathan Blanks. Leon entered eternal rest on Saturday, December 3, 2022, at Prisma Health Richland.

Mr. Blanks was educated in the public schools of Richland County, graduating from Booker T. Washington High School. Leon enlisted in the United States Army and served with honor. After returning home, he became employed with the Veterans Administration Hospital. He later became employed with Richland School District One at Eau Claire High School for 33 years.

Leon joined St. Mark Baptist Church, and was a faithful member until his health began to decline. He loved gospel music and listening to God's Word.

He enjoyed having family fellowships and sharing life experiences; most were true, but sometimes he would add a little twist to make them more fascinating. He loved life to the fullest. His favorite pastime was spending time with his grand and great-grandchildren, who called him, Poppie, sitting on his front porch, and eating a homemade jelly cake.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Lettie Blanks, and three brothers Samuel, Moses, and David Blanks.

Those left to cherish his loving memory are: his loving and caring daughter, Valissha Jackson (Anthony), of Columbia, South Carolina; one stepdaughter, Sharon Jackson, of Columbia, South Carolina; five loving sisters, Lizzie Allen and Thomasena Williams, both of Columbia, South Carolina, Nellie Jones (SSG Ret. Robert), of Blythewood, South Carolina, Diana Fersner, of Orangeburg, SC, and Reverend Helen D. Cofield, of Hopkins, South Carolina; three wonderful brothers, John Blanks, of Columbia, South Carolina, CSM (Ret.) Otis Blanks, of Columbus, Georgia, and SFC (Ret.) Tommy Blanks (Amelia), of Hopkins, South Carolina; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a host of devoted aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, two loyal neighbors, Deacon Earl and Evangelist Laura Gantt, other loving relatives, and friends.

Memories



Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Opening Hymn.....St. Mark Baptist Church Choir

Old Testament.....Psalm 23.....Deacon Mitchell Sims

New Testament....John 14:1-4...Reverend Robert Williams

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Joseph Wilson, Jr.

Musical Selection.....St. Mark Baptist Church Choir

Remarks.....Deacon Melvin Washington
CSM (Ret.) Otis Blanks

Musical Selection.....St. Mark Baptist Church Choir

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Secadia Howell

Recessional & Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

1:00

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Road

Columbia, South Carolina

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes, filled with tears for
me.*

*I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.*

*I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,
and each time you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.*

*When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the
hand*

*The angel said my place was ready in heaven far above
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.*

*But when I walked through Heaven's gate, I felt so much at
home*

*When God looked down and smiled at me from His great
golden throne.*

*He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you."
Today my life on earth is past, but here it starts anew*

*I promise no tomorrow but today will always last
And since each day's the same day, there's no longing for
the past.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far
apart,*

*For every time, you think of me, I'm right there in your
heart.*

Pallbearers

Nephews and Great-Nephews

Floral Bearers

Nieces and Great-Nieces

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mr. Leon *Shorty* Blanks, wish to extend our sincere thanks and deepest appreciation to all of you for your many acts of kindness, comforting words, and prayers, during the passing of our loved one. May God bless and sustain each of you is our prayer.

~The Jackson and Blanks Families

Services Entrusted To:

Taylor Street Chapel 1831 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803)771-7799 I. S. Leevy Johnson -Owner & Director-	Leevy's FUNERAL HOME Chris Leevy Johnson -President & Managing Director-	Lower Richland Chapel 9120 Garners Ferry Road Hopkins, SC 29061 (803) 776-6922 Leverette A. Williams, II -General Manager-
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Homegoing Service Celebrating the Life of

MR. LEON BLANKS



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022
11:00 A.M.

ST. MARK BAPTIST CHURCH
1452 ST. MARKS ROAD
GADSDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA

REVEREND DR. SECAIDA HOWELL
-PASTOR-