

Pallbearers

Capital City Lodge #47

Floral Bearers

Reid Chapel AME Missionaries

*The Bridge Builder*

An old man going a lone highway.  
 Came at the evening cold and gray  
 To a chasm, vast, and deep, and wide  
 Through which was flowing a sullen tide.  
 The old man crossed in the twilight dim.  
 The sullen stream had no fear for him.  
 But he turned, when safe on the other side,  
 And built a bridge to span the tide.  
 "Old man," said a fellow pilgrim, near,  
 "You are wasting your strength with building here.  
 Your journey will end with the ending day.  
 You never again will pass this way.  
 You've crossed the chasm, deep, and wide.  
 Why build you this bridge at the evening tide?"  
 The builder lifted his old gray head.  
 "Good friend, in the path I have come," he said.  
 "There followeth after me today,  
 A youth, whose feet must pass this way.  
 This chasm, that has been naught to me,  
 To that fair-head youth may a pitfall be.  
 He, too, must cross in the twilight dim.  
 Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

*Acknowledgement*

We, the family of SFC (Ret) Paul Coolidge Torian, would like to thank our many friends for all the prayers and loving acts of kindness. A special thank you to the staff of NHC and Abbey Road for the care given to our loved one during his stay in the facility. May God continue to bless each of you with His mercy.

**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-

*In Honor of your Memory*

*SFC (Ret) Paul Coolidge Torian*



*Friday, April 28, 2023*  
 11:00 a.m.

*Reid Chapel A.M.E. Church*  
 704 Gabriel Street  
 Columbia, South Carolina

*Reverend Carey A. Grady, Pastor*

# Obituary

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me...”  
St. John 14:1*

Today we lay to rest a servant of God, a loving father and grandfather, cheerful uncle, and endearing friend. He was a joy to everyone’s life he touched. A native of Orange County North Carolina, he was the son of the late Walter E. Torian and Maggie (Latta) Torian. He was born on April 14, 1928 and departed this earthly life on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. He was predeceased by his siblings: Ernest Arthur Torian, Andrew Eugene Torian, Lewis Edward Torian, Charles William Torian, James Monroe Torian, Robert Franklin Torian, Walter Henry Thomas Torian, Amy Torian, Emma Hayes (Torian) Jones.

He attended Orange County School, North Carolina. He received the Diploma in Heating and Air Conditioning from Richland Technical Education Center, Columbia SC; a Diploma in Servicing Electrical Appliances; a Diploma from the National Radio Institute; Refrigerant Transition and Recovery Certification; Certificate of Completion Climatic Service Training Program Carrier; Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Fort Jackson, South Carolina earning the rank of Sergeant 1st Class E7.

Sergeant Torian enlisted in the army May 22, 1946, at Fort Bragg NC and retired September 30, 1969, at Fort Hood, TX. He served his country honorably for over 23 years. He was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD; Fort Riley, Kansas; Red River Army Depot, Texarkana Texas; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Jackson, SC; Granite City Army Depot, Ill.

Other duty stations overseas: Austria, Germany, Japan, Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam. He did combat tours in Korea and Vietnam. He received honors and awards World War 2 Victory Medal, Army Occupation Medal Germany and Japan, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal w/ Bronze Star, Vietnam Service Medal w/Bronze, Good Conduct Medal w/6 Loops.

He joined Reid Chapel AME under Reverend Reuben S Turner. At Reid Chapel, he served as Trustee, Trustee Pro Tem, Class Leader, usher, Lay President, Scout Master Troop 210, bus driver for VV Reid School, the church and Pack 210, a member of the Board of Directors VV Reid School, maintenance man for VV Reid School and the Ruth C. Simons Family Life Center. On June 30, 2019, Mr. Torian was honored as a Living Legend by the Lancaster District.

He was married to the late Annie Rosa Mae Boyce Torian on April 6, 1957. She passed away on March 20, 2008. To this union one child was born, Brenda Ann Torian who passed away in June 2022. Survivors are a grandson Joseph Paul Scott and many loving nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

# Order of Service

Prelude.....Soft Music

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Opening Hymn.....“Sweet Hour of Prayer”  
*AME Hymn#307*

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Janie Williams

Old Testament.....Psalm 23

New Testament.....St. John 14:1-16

Hymn..... “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”  
*AME Hymn #387*

Remarks.....Mr. Thaddeus Washington

Acknowledgements and Obituary.....Soft Music

Solo.....Ms. Tryphena Taylor  
“May The Work I’ve Done Speak For Me”

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Carey A. Grady

Selection.....“It Is Well With My Soul”  
*AME Hymn 448*

Recessional

Postlude



## Committal, Benediction, and Interment

Greenlawn Memorial Park  
7100 Garners Ferry Road  
Columbia, South Carolina