"I'M FREE"

Don't grieve for me for now I'm free, I'm following the path God laid for me I took his hand when I heard him call, I turned my back and left it all I could not stay another day, To laugh, to love, to work or play Tasks left undone must stay that way, I've found that peace at the close of day If my parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Ah yes, these things I too will miss Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow My life's been full, I've savored much, Good friends, good times, my loved one's

If my time seemed all too brief, Don't lengthen it now with undue grief Lift up your heart, rejoice with me, God wanted me now, He set me free.

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Stephon L. Hayes, extend heartfelt thanks to everyone for all acts of love and kindness, and most of all for your prayers, during our great loss. Special thanks to Prisma Health Baptist ICU Medical Staff, the Clement Road Church of God, Right Direction Church International, and Bibleway Church Atlas Road. Please continue to pray for our strength during the days ahead. May God Bless each of you.



Clement Road Church of God 3701 Clement Road Columbia, South Carolina

Taylor Street Chapel Columbia, SC 2920

Honkins, SC 29061

Lower Richland Chapel

-President & Managing Director-

Homegoing Service
Celebrating the Life MR. STEPHON LORENZO HAYES



SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023 11:00 A.M.

LEEVY'S FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL **1831 TAYLOR STREET** COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

> PASTOR DENNIS T. SMART -OFFICIATING-

Obituary

Mr. Stephon Lorenzo Hayes was born December 12, 1963, in Columbia, SC to Johnny E. Hayes and Rosa W. Patterson. Stephon grew up in Brown Chapel A. M.E. Church, in the Arthurtown Section, of Columbia, SC, and was active with the Brown Chapel Singers. As an adult, he was baptized at the Clement Road Church of God, Columbia, SC.

Stephon was educated in the public schools of Richland School District One and was a proud 1982 graduate of Eau Clare High School. He was a member of the Mighty Shamrock Marching band and The Touch of Class Band. Stephon was blessed with many talents including: the ability to play piano, saxophone, guitar, sing, and draw. Known for his wide smile and bold laugh, Stephon had a wonderful spirit and loved his family and friends dearly.

After high school, Stephon joined the United States Marine Corps and began his career in Logistics. Stephon was always was fascinated with 18-wheeler trucks, even as a child. One of Stephon's first words was truck! He told his grandmother he was going to give her a ride in his big truck one day. Sure enough, Stephon found his passion driving 18-wheeler trucks across the country. After driving for others and learning the business, he was able to realize his ultimate dream and became the owner and operator of Johnny Son Logistics. He freely shared his knowledge of the trucking business with others, and was always happy to see others succeed. Through the years Stephon helped others when they needed physical, mental, or spiritual assistance.

His sisters called Stephon, "Big Brother Bear." He was their protector. Stephon would come to their rescue if needed. When anyone in the family was sick, Stephon would call every day to check on them, and give them his personal recommendation for the day. Stephon was an encourager to his family and friends. He enjoyed meeting people from all over the world, and he never met a stranger. Stephon had a big heart, and wanted others to be happy. When he saw you or called you, he made sure to make you laugh as he did so often.

Stephon was preceded in death by his father, Johnny E. Hayes; stepmother, Alberta G. Hayes; sister, Monica Y. Hayes; grandfather, Earl Hayes; and grandmothers, Georgia B. Hayes and Gardenia B. Williams.

Mr. Stephon Lorenzo Hayes is survived by his mother, Minister Rosa (Frank) Patterson, of Irmo, SC; companion, Valerie Burdex, of Albuquerque, NM; brother, Chris Giess, of Columbia, SC; sisters, Ronda Hayes-Simms and Cecily Watkins, both of Columbia, SC; uncle, Albert (Julia) Green; aunt Katie (James) Armor, of Bear Delaware; nephews, Reginald Sampson, Logan Smith, Ian Giess, and Noah Frink of Columbia, SC; Jayden Washington of Charleston, SC; nieces Lashonda Sampson and Kayla Singletary, both of Columbia, SC; the Hayes Family, of Flordidal the Burdex family of Albuquerque, NM; his dog Diesel; a host of cousins, friends, neighbors, trucker friends all of whom will miss him dearly.

Memories



























A Service of Remembrance

Pastor Dennis T. Smart, Presiding

Musical Prelude	Brother Darris Hassell
Processional	
Viewing	Funeral Directors
Opening Hymn	Brother Darris Hassell
Scripture Reading.	Psalm 23:1-6Mr. Rudy Cunningham
Prayer	Brother Greg Davis
Musical Selection.	Mr. Reginald and Ms. Lashonda Sampson
Remarks	
Musical Selection.	Brother Darris Hassell
Words of Comfort.	

Pastor, Clement Road Church of God

Recessional Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

Lincoln Cemetery 4900 Farrow Road Columbia, South Carolina