Pallbearers

United States Army Honor Guard

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mr. James Arstello Barnes, Jr. would like to thank each of you for your prayers and support shown to us during the passing of our loved one. A special thank you to the VA Hospital Warriors Walk Hospice and the Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church.

Repast

Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church 5326 Ridgeway Street Columbia, South Carolina

CONTACTUS: Taylor Street Chapel 803-771-7799 Lower Richland Chapel 803-776-6922 WWW.LEEVY.COM I.S. Leevy Johnson



JAm Free

by: Shannon Lee Moseley

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 undone must stay that way I've found that peace at the close of the day. If 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 wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savoured much Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your hearts and share with me, God wants me now, He set me free.



Obituary of Mr. James Arstello Barnes, Jr.

Mr. James Arstello Barnes, Jr. was born on February 22, 1937, in Columbus, Georgia, to the late James A. Barnes, Sr. and Sylvia Louise Johnson Barnes. He entered peaceful rest on February 3, 2024.

As a child, James attended elementary schools in Columbus, Georgia, Washington, D.C., and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. At the young age of 16, James joined the U.S. Army, because he "thought he was smarter than the teachers" in school. After basic training, he spent 31 months of his 36-month enlistment in Hanau, West Germany. In 1958, James received his diploma from South Girard High School in Phenix City, Alabama.

After graduating from high school, James briefly attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. He then re-enlisted into the U.S. Army, and retired after completing an additional 22 years of dedicated service. In November 1976, James received the 33rd degree, the highest honor in Freemasonry, in Washington, D.C.

After retirement, James obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Secondary Education from the University of South Carolina (USC). It was his intention to teach high school English, but decided to change directions after what he called, a "negative student teaching experience." He subsequently obtained a job as Maintenance Manager with the U.S. Postal Service, retiring after 20 years.

In his senior years, James received an unexpected blessing when he met the former Linda Marie Oxner. They were joined in wedded bliss in 2004. They shared 19 wonderful years traveling, attending church, going to social events, where they sometimes wore matching outfits, and serving as active members of the Greenview Park Senior Club. James and Linda also cherished the time they spent singing together with the Greenview Park Senior Club Old School Choir.

James attended the Main Post Chapel, Ft. Jackson, where he was active on the Church Council and participated in the Men's Bible Study. He was a member of the Ft. Jackson Retiree Association, United Postmasters/Managers, the USC Alumni Club and was a South Girard High School Class of '58 Alumnus.

What a lasting impression James left on those who knew him - he will be sorely missed for his unique sense of humor, booming voice, love for family, generous heart, and selfless spirit. We are so grateful to have known and loved him. May he rest sweetly until we meet again...

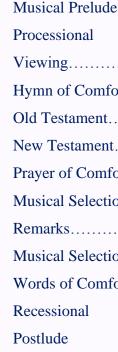
James' parents, sister Jennifer, and daughter, Martina Barnes, preceded him in death.

He leaves to treasure his memory, his devoted wife Linda Oxner Barnes; daughter, Jennifer M. (Earnest) Murry of Fairfax Station, VA; two sons, Rontrez D. (Jillian) Mayes of Oak Grove, KY, and Ricky R. (Crystal) Mayes of Pembroke, KY; bonus children, Tracey Brooks of Irmo, SC, and John (Robbin) Brooks, Jr. of Little Mountain, SC; grandchildren, Martin, Kayleigh, Nici, Ricky, Ja'Rae, and NaJayia; bonus grandchildren, Laken, Justin, Brittany, Johnathon, Sean, and Lyric; bonus great-granddaughter, Avari; godsons, James Fisher III and Stephon Thorn; sister-in-law, Diane Oxner Hardy; brothers-in-law, Jule (Kathryne) Oxner III, Phillip (Juanita) Oxner, and Samuel (Arlene) Oxner; a special cousin, Pastor Claudette Moss; and a host of additional cousins and friends.



Memories











A Service of Remembrance

		Funeral Directors
nfort		"Oh I Want to See Him"
nt	Psalm 24:1-5	Pastor Claudette Moss
ent	John 14:1-6	Pastor Leon Page
mfort		Minister Earnest Murry
ction	Greenview Park Se	enior Club Old School Choir
		Chaplain Claypoole
ction		Ms. Betty Dewelt
mfort		Minister Sean Dreher



Committal, Benediction and Interment

11:00 a.m. Friday, February 9, 2024 **Fort Jackson National Cemetery** 4170 Percival Road **Columbia, South Carolina**