

## When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me,  
And I'm not there to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes  
All filled with tears for me;  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry.*

*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;  
But when tomorrow starts without me,  
Please try to understand,  
That an angel came and called my name,  
And took me by the hand.*

*He said my place was ready,  
In heaven far above,  
And that I'd have to leave behind  
All those I dearly love.*

*As I turned to walk away,  
A tear fell from my eye  
It seemed almost impossible,  
That I was leaving you.*

*I thought of all the yesterdays,  
The good ones and the bad,  
The thought of all the love we shared,  
And all the fun we had.  
If I could relive yesterday  
Just even for a while,  
I'd say good-bye and kiss you  
And maybe see you smile.*

*And when I thought of worldly things  
That I might miss come tomorrow,  
I thought of you, and when I did  
My heart was filled with sorrow.*

*But when I walked through heaven's gates  
I felt so much at home,  
God looked down and smiled at me,  
From His great golden throne.  
He said, "This is eternity,  
Today your life on earth is past  
But here starts anew.  
I promise no tomorrow,  
But today will always last,*

*There's no longing for the past.  
You have been so faithful,  
So trusting and true.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me,  
Don't think we're far apart,  
For every time you think of me,  
I'm right here, in your heart.*

## Pallbearers

Larry Mickens  
David Sutton

Christopher Buchanan, Jr.  
Darryl Sutton

Herbert Barnett  
Christopher D. Taylor

## Floral Bearers

Avis Buchanan  
Latisha Dawn Davis

Toni Wilson  
Rosa King

Diamond Gilmore  
Veronica Barnett

## Acknowledgement

The Mickens Family gratefully acknowledges the many kind and beautiful expressions of sympathy and love shown during our time of bereavement.

To all of our friends, your love and warm support have made this moment bearable. We can never thank you enough.

A special thank you to Minister Dameon Johnson, the staff of Home Health Watch, Lexington Medical Center, Amedtsys Hospice, Veterans Administration, Sally Smith, Quincy Bryce, Karon Rapley, and Nurse Stephanie Fulmer for the outstanding and unwavering care provided to our beloved Father, Grandfather, and friend.

# Homegoing Service In Loving Memory of

## MR. JOSEPH MICKENS



SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024  
11:00 A.M.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH  
1218 LYON STREET  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

REVEREND DR. CHARLES DELAUGHTER  
-PASTOR-

## Services Entrusted To:

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

## Mr. Joseph Mickens

*Devoted Husband, Man of Faith, and Friend to All*

Mr. Joseph Mickens, a kind soul with a heart full of love for his family, church, and community, passed away peacefully in his home, Saturday, May 11, 2024. Born in Columbia, South Carolina on April 28, 1931, Joseph was the son of the late Harry Mickens, Sr. and Zola Hair Mickens.

Joseph's life was a testament to dedication and service. He proudly served his country in the Korean Conflict with the United States Air Force, earning the Korean Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal. He later went on to pursue a distinguished career in social work, after obtaining his Master's degree from Adelphi University, located in Garden City Long Island, New York.

From a young age, faith was Joseph's guiding light. He found a loving church family at St. James AME Church in Columbia. When life took him to the Bronx, New York, his dedication to his faith only grew stronger. At Sharon Baptist Church, he wasn't just a member, he was a leader. He chaired the Family Life ministry, served with the senior usher board, and eventually became the chairman of the trustee board, always looking out for his fellow churchgoers. Returning to Columbia, he found another welcoming community at Bethlehem Baptist Church. There, under the leadership of Reverend Dr. Charles A DeLaughter. Joseph faithfully served in the men's Sunday school class, and as a senior usher, his dedication was unwavering until his health declined.

Joseph's greatest love story was his marriage to his high school sweetheart, Freddie Mae. For over seventy-one years, they were inseparable partners, sharing laughter, faith, and countless adventures. Their unwavering love and commitment to each other were an inspiration to all who knew them.

Joseph was predeceased by his parents and nine brothers. He leaves behind a loving family to cherish his memory, including his wife Freddie Mae, son Kenneth L. Mickens (Virginia), four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, one god-daughter, sister-in-law Rosa B. King, and a host of nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Joseph's legacy lives on in the hearts of everyone he touched. He will be deeply missed, but never forgotten.

# Memories



# A Service of Remembrance

- Musical Prelude.....Minister Dameon Johnson
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Opening Hymn....."Precious Lord Take My Hand"
- Old Testament.....Reverend Dr. Ralph Taylor, Nephew  
Psalm 100
- New Testament.....Reverend Maxie Outen  
II Corinthians 4: 16-18
- Prayer.....Reverend Ryan McConnell
- Musical Selection.....Sister Karen Rapley
- Remarks.....Ms. Penny Morant, Senior Usher Board President  
Deacon Kenneth DuPree  
Mr. Kenneth L. Mickens, Son  
Ms. Rosa King, Sister-In-Law  
Mrs. Sharon Mickens Cook, Niece
- Resolutions.....Ms. Sandra McKie, State of South Carolina  
Mrs. Avis Buchanan, Sharon Baptist Church, New York
- Poem.....Mrs. Veronica Barnett, Niece
- Solo.....Mrs. Barbara Palmer
- Words of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Charles DeLaughter
- Recessional
- Postlude



# Committal, Benediction and Interment

11:00 A.M.  
Thursday, May 23, 2024  
Fort Jackson National Cemetery  
4170 Percival Road  
Columbia, South Carolina