

## Honorary Pallbearers

Innovators of North Carolina and South Carolina RV Club

## Pallbearers

Nephews and Cousins

## Floral Bearers

Nieces and Cousins

## Acknowledgement

Special thanks to: Levi Adams, Jr. for his loving dedication, support and assistance; Lexington Medical Center doctors and nurses; Dorn VA Medical Center Emergency Room doctors and staff; Midlands Regional Rehabilitation Hospital doctors, nurses and staff in Elgin, SC; Amedisys Home Health nurses and therapists. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Harriet Barber House in Memory of James Adams, Jr. and sent to: The Harriet Barber House, PO Box 332, Hopkins, SC 29061

# A Service of Remembrance Celebrating the Life of Mr. James Adams, Jr.



Wednesday, August 7, 2024  
11:00 a.m.

St. John Baptist Church  
230 J. W. Neal Circle  
Hopkins, South Carolina  
Reverend Dr. Sammy L. Wade  
-Pastor-

### CONTACT US:

Taylor Street Chapel  
803-771-7799

Lower Richland Chapel  
803-776-6922

WWW.LEEVY.COM

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# Reflections of the Life of Mr. James Adams, Jr.

Mr. James Adams, Jr. was born on January 1, 1946, in Hopkins, South Carolina. He was the oldest child of the late James Adams, Sr. and Corrine Jackson Adams. He departed this life peacefully at home on Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

Mr. Adams was educated in the public schools of Richland County, South Carolina and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, Class of 1964. He enlisted into the United States Air Force in 1965 and served for four years with assignments in Gila Bend, Arizona and Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, South Carolina. While enlisted, he took the postal service examination on a whim. As a result of that examination, in September 1969, Mr. Adams started his postal career as a window distribution clerk at the Columbia Post Office. While employed full time at the post office, he enrolled at Benedict College, he took classes during the day and worked the late shift. He attended Benedict College from 1971 through 1975, where he majored in accounting, economics and business administration. Mr. Adams continued his education throughout his career with the post office with management training courses and postal supervision training through the US Management Academy in Washington, DC.

Mr. Adams enjoyed a decorated 35-year career in the Postal Service, where he became the first Black Postmaster of Bennettsville, South Carolina. He later became the Postmaster of Conway, South Carolina until 1992. He was honored by the city for his service on the Conway Housing Authority Board. Mr. Adams was then promoted to the Manager of Operations Programs Support for the Charleston District. In 1998, he was selected for the upper-level position of Manager of Operations Programs Support for the Columbia District. He retired after many dedicated years working for the State of South Carolina and was honored with the Order of the Silver Crescent from Governor Jim Hodges in 2001.

In 1965 James met the love of his life, Marie (“the girl who has completed all of my dreams with love”), in Hopkins, South Carolina. Marie graduated from Benedict College in May of 1970. She and James were married in June of 1970 at St. John Baptist Church, in Hopkins, South Carolina. To this blessed union, one son, Kendrick Adarryl, was born in 1974. The family attended St. John Baptist Church until his Postmaster assignments moved them to Conway, where he became a founding member of Joseph B. Bethea United Methodist Church. He served faithfully as the Chief Financial Officer. When the family returned to Columbia, he served as an Advisory Board Member on the Building Committee responsible for the construction of the Holistic Wellness Center. He provided valuable construction project experience because of his postal construction projects in the Charleston District.

After his retirement from the Postal Service, James spent three or four days a week playing golf with his postal buddies at the Fort Jackson Golf Course and at several Myrtle Beach locations and beyond. His priority when he retired was to purchase an RV, which allowed him to travel with a new group of family friends, the Innovators of NC and SC. He loved meeting new RV friends at different RV resorts in South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Washington DC, Maryland, New York, and beyond. His greatest joy was greeting guests and directing the parking of all the RVs that traveled to the historic Harriet Barber House in Hopkins for the annual Congaree Swamp Fest. Prior to retirement, his weekends would provide opportunities for other pleasurable endeavors. He bought his first fishing boat while living in Columbia, enjoying the fellowship with his Highland Park neighbors. These outings gave him time to sharpen his culinary skills. James soon became the expert in frying fish and cooking his specialty, Low Country Boil. There was nothing he could not grill to perfection! When the Congaree Swamp fest celebration added the Friday night BBQ, Blues & Jazz, his succulent BBQ was the most requested food item there!

James and Marie were planning to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on another Soul Train Cruise, which was his favorite of all the cruises he had enjoyed. Unfortunately, his health began to fail in 2020, and his traveling days were limited to short trips. Throughout their 54 years together, they traveled to Los Angeles, Canada, Rio de Janeiro, London, Paris, Italy, Spain, Hawaii, and other destinations along the Mediterranean. They enjoyed cruising to most of the islands in the Caribbeans and a Pacific Coast cruise from Los Angeles to Vancouver, British Columbia.

In addition to his parents, James was preceded in death by his brothers, David Adams and Levi Adams, Sr., and sister, Lorraine Adams.

Mr. James Adams Jr. leaves to mourn his passing: his wife, Marie Barber Adams; a son, Kendrick A. Adams (Dr. Tiffany Boyd), of Mint Hill, North Carolina; brother, Sammuell Adams, of Columbia, South Carolina; sisters, Catherine (Armistead) Burks, Elaine Adams both of Houston, Texas, Diane Adams, Dorothy Adams, and Nellie Randall all of Columbia, South Carolina; granddaughters, Naima Adams and Aniya Adams both of Mint Hill, North Carolina; nieces, Kiev Randell Johnson of Fort Washington, Maryland, Xien Randell of Washington DC, Monica Adams of Atlanta, Georgia, and Kittrell Adams of Columbia, South Carolina; nephews, Levi Adams Jr., Eglon Adams, Rodney Adams, all of Columbia, South Carolina, David Michael Adams, Brock Caldwell, and Robert Adams all of Atlanta, Georgia; a host of great-nieces; great-nephews; many other loving relatives, and caring friends, all of whom will miss him dearly.

## From The Family

Our lives go on without you  
But nothing is the same,  
We have to hide our heartaches  
When someone speaks your name.  
Sad are the hearts that love you  
Silent the tears that fall,  
Living our lives without you  
Is the hardest part of all.  
You did so many things for us  
Your heart was kind and true,  
And when we needed someone  
We could always count on you.  
The special years will not return  
When we were all together,  
But with the love within our hearts  
You will walk with us forever.

## As I Remember

God saw you getting tired,  
When a cure was not to be.  
He closed his arms around you  
And whispered, "Come to Me."

In tears we saw you sinking  
We watched you fade away.  
Our hearts were almost broken,  
You fought so hard to stay.  
But when we saw you sleeping  
So peacefully, free from pain.  
We should not wish you back to  
Suffer that again.  
So treasure him Lord, in your  
Garden of rest  
For here on earth, he was the best.







# Memories



# Memories

