

## *I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God has laid you see.  
I took His hand when I heard His 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 found the peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joys  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored 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 heart, and peace to thee-  
God wanted me now; He has set me free.

## *Acknowledgement*

We, the family of Mr. Paul Lawrence Richardson, would like to extend our sincere appreciation to each of you for the many expressions of love shown to us during the passing of our loved one. It is our prayer that the Lord bless each of you in a very special way.

## **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-

*A Service of Victory*

*Celebrating the Life*

*of*

*Mr. Paul Lawrence Richardson*



*Monday, October 7, 2024*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Leevy's Funeral Home Chapel*

*1831 Taylor Street*

*Columbia, South Carolina*

*Reverend Dr. Jamey O. Graham, Sr.*

*- Officiating -*

# Obituary

Mr. Paul Lawrence Richardson was born on September 15, 1927, in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. The family moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he graduated from Crispus Attucks High School. He ran track and was an outstanding student.

In 1945 he married Edith E. Beal, and to this union three handsome sons were born.

Paul was honorably discharged from the U. S. Army after his deployment to South Korea, having served from 1946 to 1947, He attended Indiana University, in Indianapolis while working several different jobs. He may have been the original “gig worker.” Following his studies, Paul worked 34 years with the IRS. His assignments took him and his family to Gary, Indiana as well as Akron and Cleveland, Oh. He “retired” as Field Branch Chief for Northern Ohio. “Retired” is used loosely, because Paul continued working as a Real Estate Agent and Appraiser for 14 years upon his return to Indianapolis, Indiana.

Paul spent his leisure time with friends and family, enjoyed rounds of golf and playing cards, particularly bridge. He kept his brain sharp by completing the New York Times crossword puzzle daily. He and Edith enjoyed traveling and visited many of the world’s most popular venues, Paris, Rome, The Vatican, parts of Germany, South America, Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Canada. He also served a mission to Malawi, Africa with St. John Baptist Church.

Paul was also a serial volunteer. He enthusiastically shared his knowledge and energy in each city he lived in. Even as his health was declining, he continued to volunteer with the food pantry operated by St. John Baptist Church, in Columbia, S. C.

Paul’s overriding passion was his family. He was a stern task master with a huge heart and a forgiving soul. He and Edith raised three sons who became successful (eventually) in life, primarily due to the high expectations set, coupled with their willingness to forgive. He was always eager to share his wisdom and guidance. His support also extended to his grandchildren, siblings, nieces, nephews and friends.

Paul was proceeded in death by his parents, Tribly “Tib” Stanley Richardson and Jessie Mae Todd (Richardson) Garrett; siblings, Rosetta, Otha, Pearl, Nellie, and Ulysses; and son, Michael. He leaves many cherished memories to his sons, Lawrence (Phyllis) and Anthony (Kyong); four grandchildren, Michael, Alexis, Brandon (Lauren), and Anthony, Jr.; two great-grandchildren, Ilene, and Brooklyn; a host of nieces, nephews, many extended and informal family members.

# Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Opening Hymn..... “Blessed Assurance”

Scriptures.....Minister Harry Patterson  
New Testament – John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort..... Reverend Daniel Canty

Selection..... “Sweet, Sweet, Spirit”

Reflections..... Ms. Sylvia Davis  
Mr. Lawrence Richardson

Solo..... “Victory In Jesus”

Words of Comfort ..... Reverend Dr. Jamey O. Graham, Sr.

Committal

Benediction

Recessional

Postlude

