



Celebration of Life

DR. LONNIE RANDOLPH, JR.

June 3, 1950 (*Sunrise*) - October 19, 2024 (*Sunset*)

Friday, November 1, 2024

12:00 Noon

Brookland Baptist Church
1066 Sunset Boulevard
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., Senior Pastor

DR. LONNIE RANDOLPH, JR.

Lonnie Randolph, Jr., age 74, was born on June 3, 1950, in Columbia, South Carolina, as the second child of the late Pearl and Lonnie Randolph, Sr. He peacefully departed this life on Saturday, October 19, 2024.



Lonnie attended Richland County Public Schools and graduated from Dreher High School, Class of 1968. He pursued higher education at Benedict College, where he majored in biology and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1972. Following this, he attended the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, graduating with his Doctor of Optometry degree in May 1977.

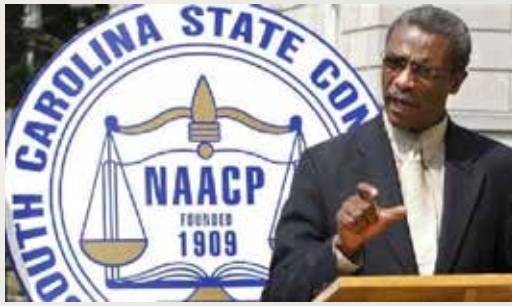
For over 44 years, Dr. Randolph maintained a private optometric practice in Columbia. He held contracts with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and the South Carolina Department of Corrections to provide essential optometric services. Dr.

Randolph served as president of the South Carolina Optometric Physicians Association and was honored as Optometrist of the Year. Beyond his private practice, he founded Palmetto Health's free eye clinic, which provided eye care for K-12 students. He also served on the board of the Columbia Free Medical Clinic and contributed to the Diabetes Task Force of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind.

Dr. Randolph had a rich and enduring history of community service, dedicated to advancing human and civil rights. He served as president of the South Carolina State Conference of the NAACP for over 14 years and led the Columbia branch for more than a decade. Dr. Randolph was also a former trustee of the NAACP Special Contribution Fund, which provided funds to support the Association's programmatic efforts. In recognition of his impactful work, he was awarded the South Carolina NAACP President Emeritus Medal in October 2017.

Dr. Randolph was a pivotal strategist in the Campaign for Dignity in South Carolina, which led efforts to remove the Confederate battle flag from the South Carolina State House dome. He also played an instrumental role in organizing the first *King Day at the Dome* event which drew more than 70,000 protesters from across the Nation to the initial historic march and rally in Columbia.

Dr. Randolph served as chairman of the South Carolina Consumer Affairs Commission, contributing over 30 years of distinguished service. In 2011, in recognition



of his enduring commitment to preserving human rights, he was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor.

Described by his colleagues as a "visionary, passionate, uncompromising about his principles, a civil rights icon, courageous leader, problem solver," Dr. Randolph left a lasting impact on all who knew him.

Baptized at a young age, Lonnie became a devoted member of Zion Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina, with a deep love for the Lord. He enjoyed many hobbies, including reading, listening to jazz, watching and participating in sports, and lending a helping hand wherever it was needed.

Lonnie was preceded in death by his mother, Pearl Rennick Randolph; his father, Lonnie Randolph, Sr., and stepmother, Eloise G. Randolph; brother, John Arthur Randolph; brother-in-law, Dr. Cecil Ray Haltiwanger, Sr.; nephew, Cecil (Cece) Ray Haltiwanger,

Jr.; and in-laws, Earl and Evelyn Reuben. Lonnie leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife of 51 years, Patricia Reuben Randolph; sisters, Joyce Randolph Haltiwanger and Phyllis Randolph; brother-in-law, James Rumph; nieces, Kimberly Haltiwanger and Dr. Cecily Joy Haltiwanger Adeleke; great-nephews, Jason Gabriel (Gabe) Adeleke and Micah Christian Adeleke; aunt, Barbara Chapman; along with cousins, God-children, close friends, and many other loving relatives and caring friends, all of whom will miss him dearly.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests memorial contributions to support free eye health services. Please make donations payable to **Community Partners of the Midlands, LLC**. Please send correspondence to:

Well Partners Eye Clinic
c/o Pam Martin, Director
1818 Blanding Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Order of Service

Presiding – Reverend Charles B. Jackson, Jr.

Prelude

Processional

Opening Selection.....Dr. Lonnie Randolph Celebration Choir
Directed by Dr. Harold Brooker and Beverly Rhoden
Zion Baptist Church, First Calvary Baptist Church
and Brookland Baptist Church

Scripture

Old Testament.....Rev. Dr. M. Andrew Davis, Zion Baptist Church

New Testament.....Pastor Darrell Jackson, Sr., Bible Way Church of Atlas Road

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Dr. Samuel K. Lewis, First Calvary Baptist Church

Musical Selection.....Dr. Lonnie Randolph Celebration Choir

Remarks (2-minute limit please)Mr. Derrick Johnson, *NAACP National President*
Bishop William J. Barber II, *Poor People's Campaign*
Ms. Robyn Ford, *Daughter of Pat and Vince Ford*
Attorney Joseph McCulloch, Jr., *Friend*
Representative Leon Howard, *Friend*
Mr. Willie Washington, *Benedict College, Friend*
Mr. Steve Hamm, Esquire, *SC Consumer Affairs*
Dr. Wayne Cannon, *SC Optometric Physicians Association*
Sheriff Leon Lott, *Richland County Sheriff's Department*

Summary of Citations & Resolutions

Musical Selection.....Mr. Terry Scott, Friend

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., Senior Pastor, Brookland Baptist Church

Recessional

Postlude

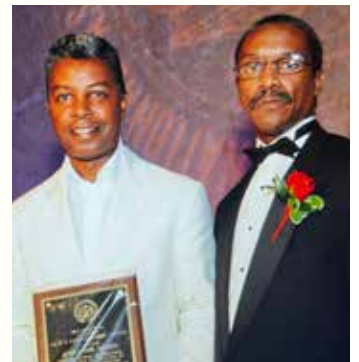
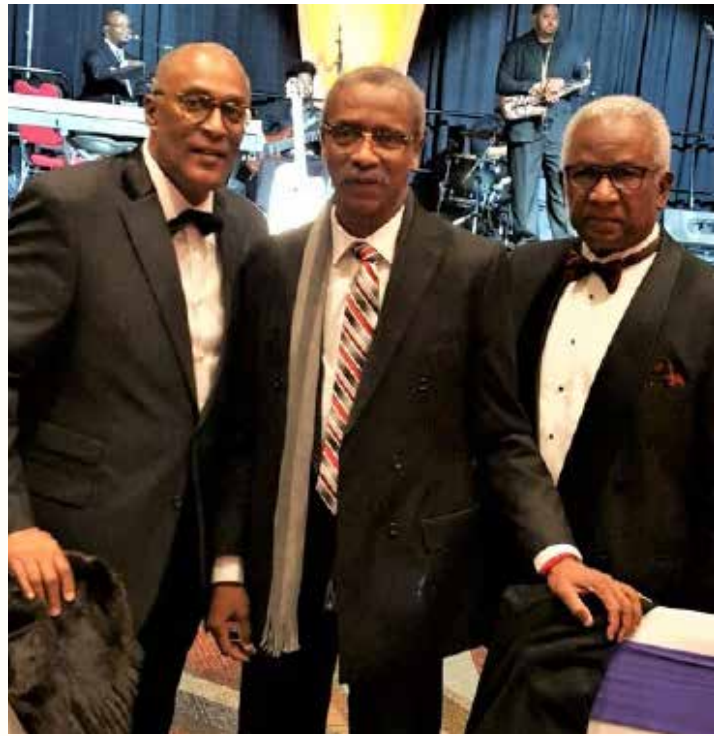


Photo credits: Cecil Williams, South Carolina Civil Rights Museum



Dr. Lonnie Randolph Jr.

Being born in 1941, Dr. Randolph is a young man who attended the University of South Carolina. He was the first African American to graduate from the College of Business Administration. He was also the first African American to graduate from the College of Business Administration. He was also the first African American to graduate from the College of Business Administration. He was also the first African American to graduate from the College of Business Administration.



Photo credits: Cecil Williams, South Carolina Civil Rights Museum



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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 touch
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.

FLOWER BEARERS

Florist Jackson Bowman | Patricia Ford | Alberta Williams Rivers | Laketta Long Casey
Brenda Moultrie | Eleanor Woods Dalton | Cynthia Edney | Cora Gideon Odom | Rachel C. Phelps

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of the late Dr. Lonnie Randolph, Jr., would like to thank everyone for their abundant support and outpouring of love for us throughout the years.
Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO



Leevy's
"A Temple of Service"
1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 771-7799