

Honorary Pallbearers

Earnest Merle Haynes, Jr. Richard Faulk David Zerzycki
David Williams Steven "Timmy" Cole Barrick Belton

Pallbearers

United States Army Honor Guard

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

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.

CONTACT US:

Taylor Street Chapel
803-771-7799

Lower Richland Chapel
803-776-6922

WWW.LEEVY.COM

I. S. Leevy Johnson
-Owner-

Services Entrusted To:



Chris Leevy Johnson
-Managing Director-

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:



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-General Manager-

Homegoing Service
In Loving Memory
of
CSM (RET) EARNEST MERLE HAYNES, SR.



THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025
11:00 A.M.

LEEVY'S FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL
1831 TAYLOR STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

DR. DEBORAH L. BROWN
-OFFICIATING-

Obituary

Mr. Earnest Merle Haynes, Sr. (CSM US Army, Ret.), was born in Ponca City, Oklahoma on December 3, 1945. He was the twelfth of twelve children born to Willie and Olene Haynes. Earnest departed this life in Columbia, South Carolina on Saturday, March 1, 2025.

Earnest graduated from Ponca City High School, and received his bachelor's degree from Langston University, in Oklahoma. He also attended Oklahoma University, where he received a master's degree in urban development. Upon the completion of the master's program, Earnest worked as an Urban Development Specialist on Indian reservations in Oklahoma and Colorado. He later joined the Army. His assignments included Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, Vietnam, Korea, Ft. Bliss, Texas, Ft. Hood, Texas, Hawaii, Germany, and retiring as a Command Sergeant Major at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina.

During his assignment in Korea, he met Chong Suk Kim, who later became his wife on November 6, 1977. They became the parents of two children, Barbara Ellen Haynes and Earnest Merle Haynes, Jr. After his retirement, Earnest made his home in Columbia, South Carolina.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, James, Elza, William, Mark and Leo; his sisters, Joanna Morris and Juanita Blackwell.

Earnest is survived by his wife Chong; two adult children, Barbara and Earnest, Jr.; three grandchildren, Mikee, Michael and Micah Taylor; two sisters, Amy Griffin (Virgil), San Marcos, California and Barbara Rosser, Lake Mary Florida; two brothers, Judge Theodore Haynes (Andrea), Lake Mary, Florida and Charlie Haynes (Helen), Edmond, Oklahoma; a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Order of Service

Prelude.....“Sweet Hour of Prayer”
Processional
Viewing.....Funeral Directors
Opening Hymn..... “Blessed Assurance”
Scripture Readings.....Minister David Johnson, Jr.
Old Testament – Psalm 23
New Testament – John 14:1-6
Prayer.....Minister David Johnson, Jr.
Musical Selection.....Elder Anthony Stubbs
RemarksMrs. Natalie Michelle Cole-Turner
Ms. Deborah Brown
Musical Selection.....Elder Anthony Stubbs
Eulogy.....Dr. Deborah L. Brown
Recessional
Postlude



Committal, Benediction and Interment

1:00 p.m.

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road
Columbia, South Carolina

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mr. Earnest Merle Haynes, Sr. (CSM US Army, Ret.), would like to thank each of you for your prayers and support shown to us during the passing of our loved one. It is our prayer that the Lord blesses each of you in a very special way.