

Obituary

Mr. Johnnie Lee McKnight, affectionately known as “Chick,” was born on March 12th, 1960, in Williamsburg County, South Carolina. He was the son of Ms. Martha Lee McKnight and was reared by his grandparents Mr. Daniel and Louizah Scott. He departed this life on Saturday, November 22nd, 2025, at the MUSC Columbia Medical Center.

Johnnie attended public school in Andrews, South Carolina and was a member of the graduating Class of 1978. He went on to earn a bachelor’s degree from Florida International University, where he pledged his beloved fraternity Phi Beta Sigma. This was a badge of honor he loved and respected dearly. Upon graduating from college Johnnie joined the United States Navy and was honorably discharged. Upon leaving the Navy, Johnnie relocated to Los Angeles, California, where he owned and operated several successful businesses. But his first love was always music. Johnnie founded McKnight Management where he oversaw the careers of several successful R&B artists for many years. He was also one of four men that created the R&B group IMAGE. IMAGE recorded several songs but the most memorable for Johnnie was “Who do you Love.”

Johnnie “Chick” McKnight was preceded in death by his mother and grandparents. Johnnie touched the lives of many across this country with his infectious smile and tender, kind spirit.

He leaves to mourn his passing: a dear friend and father figure, Mr. James McGee, and a host of family and friends who will miss him dearly.

Memories



Order of Service

- Prelude.....Medley of Songs
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Musical Selection.....“Goodness of God”
Recording by: Cece Winans
- Old Testament.....Psalm 23
- New Testament.....II Timothy 4:7-8
- Prayer.....Deacon Wendell McGee
- Solo.....Mrs. Eva Prioleau
- Remarks.....Mr. Danny Grant, Friend
Ms. Paulette Dozier, Friend
Mr. Lee McGee
- Solo.....Mrs. Eva Prioleau
- Words of Comfort.....Apostle Deshawe Rouse
- Recessional
- Postlude

Committal, Benediction and Interment

12:00 Noon
Tuesday December 2, 2025
Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road
Columbia, South Carolina

God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be
So he put his arms around you
And whispered "Come to Me"

With tearful eyes we watched
you
As you slowly slipped away
And though we loved you dearly
We couldn't make you stay

Your golden heart stopped
beating
Your tired hands put to rest
God broke our hearts to prove
to us
He only takes the best.

Honorary Pallbearers

John Dingle
Danny Grant
Jermaine Singletary
Bob Williams
Willie Harvey
Roscoe Warren

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

The family of Mr. Johnnie Lee McKnight would like to thank each of you for the many kind expressions of sympathy and support during this time of bereavement. We have been blessed with prayers, cards, visits, flowers, calls and other gestures of thoughtfulness. We would also like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Cresent Hospice staff for their professional and compassionate care during Johnnies final days.

Repast

Antioch Baptist Church
5715 Koon Road
Columbia, South Carolina

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-
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Honoring
HIS LIFE



Mr. Johnnie Lee McKnight
Saturday, November 29, 2025
11:00 a.m.

Leevy's Funeral Home Chapel
1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, South Carolina
Apostle Deshawe Rouse, Officiating