

## When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes, filled with tears for  
me.*

*I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,  
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.*

*I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,  
and each time you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.*

*When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand  
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the  
hand*

*The angel said my place was ready in heaven far above  
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.*

*But when I walked through Heaven's gate, I felt so much at  
home*

*When God looked down and smiled at me from His great  
golden throne.*

*He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you."  
Today my life on earth is past, but here it starts anew*

*I promise no tomorrow but today will always last  
And since each day's the same day, there's no longing for the  
past.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far  
apart,  
For every time, you think of me, I'm right there in your heart.*

## Pallbearers

James Jeffery  
John W. Backstrom  
John D. Backstrom, Jr.

Jamar Brown  
Arthur Johnson  
Darrell Johnson

## Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

## Acknowledgement

**We, the family of Mr. Ladson Hayes, Sr., would like to thank each of you for your prayers, love, 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.**

*A Service of Victory  
Celebrating the Life  
of  
MR. LADSON HAYES, SR.*



MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026  
12:00 NOON

BROWN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH  
808 BARNES STREET  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

REVEREND DR. DENNIS BROUGHTON, JR.  
-PASTOR-

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  
**Leevy's**  
Chris Leevy Johnson  
-Managing Director-

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:  
  
Leverette A. Williams, II  
-General Manager-

# Obituary of Mr. Ladson Hayes, Sr.

Mr. Ladson Hayes Sr. was born on April 30, 1933, to Mrs. Martha Hayes and Mr. William Hayes of Columbia, SC. He departed this life on Sunday, April 19, 2026. Mr. Hayes Sr. met and married the love of his life, Mrs. Dorothy Hayes. Their marriage of 67 years bore two sons, Ladson Hayes, Jr., and Carl Edmund Hayes. Mr. Hayes Sr. was preceded in death by: his mother, Mrs. Martha Hayes; his father, Mr. William Hayes; his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Hayes; his sons, Ladson Hayes Jr. and Carl E. Hayes. Mr. Ladson Hayes Sr. leaves to mourn his passing a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, a daughter-in-law, a great-grandson, cousins, and friends.

### A Life Well Lived

Ladson "Uncle Lat" Hayes lived a life defined by strength, dignity, and unwavering devotion to those he loved. Born and raised in South Carolina, he carried a rare blend of athletic talent, business sense, and deep responsibility that shaped every chapter of his journey. Baseball was his first love. He was a devoted fan of the Brooklyn Dodgers, inspired by Jackie Robinson's courage and legacy. As a teenager, he rose to local fame as a gifted first baseman, playing alongside grown men and becoming the team's star. Though invited to pursue baseball for the city and professional league, he chose to support his family, sacrificing his dream in a testament to his character.

### A Love for the Open Road

At fifteen, he asked his father, William "Pa" Hayes, for a motorbike. Instead, he received a 1931 Pontiac, his first car, which sparked a lifelong passion for automobiles. Over the years, he owned classics like a 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air and several Cadillacs, starting with a Sedan DeVille. He loved driving between Columbia and New York despite long, dangerous trips during segregation, facing each journey with courage and determination.

### A Man of Business, Wisdom, and Determination

Outside of baseball, Uncle Lat became passionate about politics and business. Starting as a parking lot attendant in New York City, he worked his way up with guidance from a mentor to eventually own his own lot. He valued smart investing, saving, and long-term planning, and his business connected him with people from all walks of life. After the tragic loss of his youngest son, Carl Edmund Hayes, he returned to South Carolina. He opened a gas station on Farrow Road around 1966—a testament to his resilience and determination.

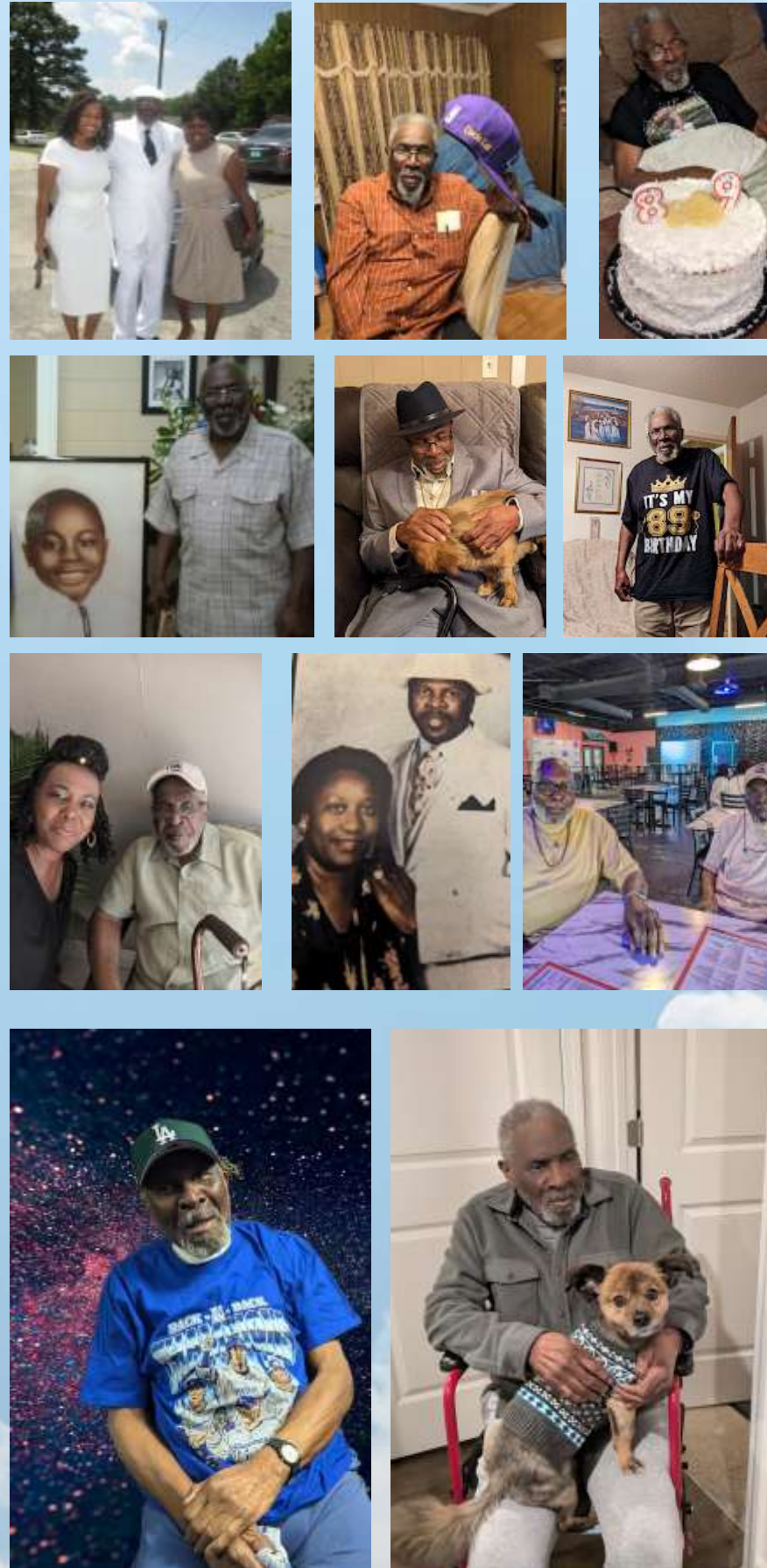
### His Legacy

Uncle Lat lived a life full of stories, achievements, and quiet acts of courage. He worked hard, loved deeply, and carried himself with grace, touching all who knew him. He leaves a legacy of perseverance, integrity, and love—values he lived daily and passed down through generations. His life reminds us that true greatness lies in everyday acts of love, provision, and strength. Today, we honor not just his years, but how he lived them—with purpose, passion, and heart.

### Final Thought

*"A life well lived is not measured by years, but by the love we give, the lives we touch, and the legacy we leave behind."*

## Memories



## A Service of Remembrance

*Reverend Dr. Dennis W. Broughton, Jr., Presiding*

Musical Prelude

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Opening Hymn.....#325 "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

Invocation.....Reverend Ronald McFadden

Old Testament.....Psalm 23.....Reverend Kenneth McFadden

New Testament.....John 14:1-3.....Brother Willie Eigner

Musical Selection.....Brother Darris Hassell

Remarks.....Sister Ida Jackson, Class Leader/Community  
Sister Brenda Williams, Family

Musical Selection.....#326 "Amazing Grace"

Acknowledgements.....Dr. Barbara McCoy

Musical Selection.....Reverend Kenneth McFadden

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Moses Rembert

Recessional

Postlude



## Committal, Benediction and Interment

**Lincoln Cemetery  
4900 Farrow Road  
Columbia, South Carolina**