

My Loving Husband

As I think back on all we shared, I realize more than ever how lucky and blessed I was to have had you in my life. You were a wonderful man whose love made my life richer, and you always tried to make every day special.

The longer I loved you, the more I discovered just how incredible you truly were.

The longer I loved you, the more I understood just how blessed I was to be the one to share the wonderful life I had with you.

I will love you always, Sam.

Rest in peace, my love.

-Brown



Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

The family of MSG (Ret) Samuel Whitten would like to extend an overwhelming thank you to everyone. We gratefully acknowledge and deeply appreciate your prayers, your many acts of kindness, calls, expressions of love, sympathy, and condolences during this most difficult time. Our hearts are broken, but we find comfort in knowing what you all have done for our family.

May the Lord bless and keep you.



*In
Honor
of your
Memory*

MSG (Ret). Samuel Whitten



June 3, 1954 – July 1, 2026

Thursday, July 9, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Leevy's Funeral Home Chapel

**1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, South Carolina**

Reverend Eva Mae Husser

-Officiating-

Obituary

Master Sergeant (Ret) Samuel Whitten, affectionately known as “Big Z”, “Cheezie John Arthur”, “Vic”, and “Sam”, entered eternal rest on July 1, 2026. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend whose life was marked by service, love, and unwavering dedication to his family and community.

Samuel was born June 3, 1954, to Eddie Whitten and Mary Ann “Cheezie” Whitten. He graduated from Cross High School in May 1972. In 1980, he met his beloved wife, Bonnie “Brown” Whitten, and in November 1982, he began his distinguished career in the United States Army. Together, Samuel and Bonnie welcomed their son, Samuel Jay Whitten, on October 1, 1991, in Glendora, California. Throughout his years of military service, Master Sergeant (Ret.) Whitten and his family embraced the opportunity to live in various parts of the United States and abroad, creating lasting memories in Germany, Kansas, California, Texas, Alaska, and Arizona.

Samuel enjoyed fishing and hunting and was admired for his impeccable sense of fashion. He was also a proud member of the PHA Free Masons, where he believed deeply in the strength and power of brotherhood. In 2002, after faithfully serving his country, Samuel retired from the United States Army as a Master Sergeant. He later continued his life of service as a Deputy Sheriff with the Richmond County Sheriff's Department, Augusta, Georgia, where he served for eight years before retiring in 2010.

Samuel leaves to cherish his memory: his loving wife of 43 years, Bonnie “Brown” Whitten; his son, Samuel Jay Whitten (Roseline); his granddaughter, Samara Evelune Rochelle Whitten; his sister, Mary Jane Pringle (Albert) of Ridgeville SC; his brothers, Elijah Whitten (Ernelle) of Clarksville TN, and Charles Whitten of Cross SC;; along with his brother-in-law, sisters-in-law, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, and many special friends.

Memories



A Service of Remembrance

Prelude

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Greetings.....Reverend Eva Mae Husser

Opening Hymn.....Elder Anthony Stubbs

Old Testament.....Mrs. Julie Mae White

Psalm 23

New Testament.....Mrs. Roseline Whitten

John 14:1-6

Prayer.....Mr. Albert Pringle

Acknowledgments.....Ms. Melinda Lee

Remarks.....Mr. Elijah Whitten, Family
Mr. Johnny Eadie, Friend

Musical SelectionElder Anthony Stubbs

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Eva Mae Husser

Selection.....Elder Anthony Stubbs

Benediction.....Reverend Eva Mae Husser

Recessional

Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

1:00 P.M.

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Road

Columbia, South Carolina