

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 his call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the 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 you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured 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 share with me,
God wanted me now,
He set me free.*

Pallbearers

Willis Langley III	Erin Whetstone
Christopher Clay	Rapheal Jenkins
Norman Washington	Corey Jenkins

Floral Bearers

Missionaries of Gill Creek Baptist Church

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Trustee David Heard, would like to thank each of you for your prayers and support during the passing of our loved one. It is our prayer that the Lord blesses each of you in a very special way.

Repast

**Richland County Wellness Center
306 Flora Drive, Suite A
Columbia, South Carolina 29229**

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:



Leverette A. Williams, II
General Manager

Homegoing Service In Loving Memory of

TRUSTEE DAVID HEARD



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026
11:00 A.M.**

**GILL CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
2116 CUSHMAN ROAD
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**REVEREND JAMES WOODLEY
-PASTOR-**

Obituary

Trustee David Heard was born November 10, 1944, in Elberton, Georgia. He was the son of the late Johnny and Lillian Upshaw Heard. He departed this earthly life on Thursday, September 3, 2026.

David was educated in the public schools of Elbert County, Georgia, and graduated from Blackwell Memorial School. Upon graduation, he served in the United States Army for three years. After receiving an honorable discharge, he continued his education at Denmark Technical College, where he earned an associate degree in Interior Decorating.

It was in Denmark, South Carolina, that David met the love of his life, Mary Donaldson. The two were united in marriage on February 23, 1966. Their marriage was blessed with more than six decades of love, commitment, family, and partnership.

David had a lifelong passion for sports. Soon after he and Mary were married, he began coaching his oldest son, Derrick, along with many other children throughout the community. Through coaching, David became more than a coach, he became a mentor, role model, and positive influence in the lives of countless young people.

In 1969, David met the late Mr. Earl Middleton, who recognized David's potential and gave him the opportunity to open his own car insurance agency. In December 1969, The Heard Agency was established in Denmark, South Carolina. What began as an opportunity became a lasting family legacy.

In 1976, David and Mary moved to Columbia, South Carolina, where they raised their four children. They later became members of Gill Creek Baptist Church, where they continued to build their family and community relationships. David worked as a life insurance salesman for many years. Determined to continue building his own business, he faced significant legal challenges in his efforts to establish his agency in Columbia. Through perseverance and determination, he eventually received the opportunity to open the agency in Columbia in 1998.

David subsequently sold the Denmark office, and he and his daughter, Lisa, launched the business in Columbia. His vision, hard work, and entrepreneurial spirit established a legacy that continues today. The Heard Agency is now owned and operated by his children, Lisa and Tri, carrying forward the foundation their father built more than five decades ago.

David was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, mentor, and friend. His life was defined by perseverance, faith, family, service, and commitment to helping others.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his beloved wife of more than 60 years, Mary Donaldson Heard; Derrick Heard (Sherry), Carmen Heard (Lisa), Kenyatta Heard Williams (Ronald), and Tri Heard (Anika); five grandchildren, Typorrean, Alex, Courtney, Danielle, and Jordan; two great grandchildren, Chancellor and Carnell; four surviving siblings, George, Paul, Alma, and Otis; a host of nieces, nephews, in-laws, extended family members, friends and loved ones.

David's legacy lives on through his family, the business he established, the young people he coached and mentored, and the countless lives he touched throughout his journey.

Though he is no longer with us in person, the legacy of David Heard will continue through the generations he loved, the community he served, and the family foundation he worked so faithfully to build. Rest well, Heard. Your work here was meaningful, your love was lasting, and your legacy will live on.

Memories



Order of Service



- Prelude.....Gill Creek Baptist Church Choir
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Opening Selection.....Mrs. Letitia “Tee” Smith
- Old Testament.....Mr. Spencer Donaldson
- New Testament.....Mrs. Adorea Smith Hawthorne
- Prayer.....Ms. Inez Bush
- Tributes.....Mrs. Kenyatta Heard Williams, Daughter
Danielle Heard, Granddaughter
Mr. Norman Washington & Mrs. Latonya Brown Derrick,
Extended Family
- Musical Selection.....Mr. Kevin Brantley
- Words of Comfort.....Reverend James Woodley
- Recessional
- Postlude



Committal, Benediction and
Interment
Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road
Columbia, South Carolina