

Homegoing Celebration
for
Cecil Taft Kirksey

MARCH 8, 1949 - MARCH 14, 2023



TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023
12:00 NOON

UNION CHAPEL M.B. CHURCH
315 WINCHESTER ROAD
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35811

DR. O. WENDELL DAVIS, PASTOR

Obituary

Cecil Kirksey was born to the late Peter James Kirksey and Florence Lee McAlpine Kirksey. At an early age, he accepted Jesus as his savior and joined the Pine Grove C.M.E. Church in Dollarhide, Alabama. With Jesus in his life he passionately lived by three major principles: believe "God is in control" (his favorite phrase), love God, and love your Neighbor.

Cecil grew up working on his family's farm in Greene County, Alabama. He graduated from Carver High School and went on to complete his bachelor's degree at Alabama A&M University in 1971. Cecil was later united in Holy Matrimony to Esther Strong. This union was blessed with two loving and dedicated sons, Terrence and Terran.

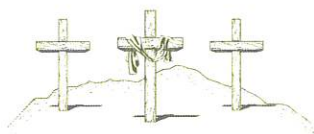
Cecil was employed with several different employers during his life, but no time was more treasured by him than the time spent talking to his family and friends. He always greeted you with an award-winning smile and he was always ready to discuss the most newsworthy events. Cecil would often begin a discussion asking you what you thought of the current political and social news. He would then share some of the most thoughtful and interesting perspectives ever heard during those conversations.

Cecil fought a long and courageous battle against cancer before he was called to his eternal rest with God on March 14, 2023. During the battle, Cecil maintained his relationship with Jesus and joined the Union Chapel M. B. Church. Despite the ups and downs of his illness, he also was involved with the Huntsville area NAACP.

Cecil will most certainly be remembered for the time he spent with his lovely wife, the history he shared with his grandchildren and the thoughtful debates he had with his sons but let us remember him most of all for his love for God and his love for his neighbor.

Cecil was preceded in death by his sister Marcia Kirksey Pride; and his brothers: Verba James Kirksey and John Henry Means.

He leaves to cherish his memory a loving and devoted wife, Esther Strong Kirksey of Huntsville, Alabama; his adoring sons: Terrence Antonio Kirksey (Yolanda) of Castro Valley, California and Terran Alan Kirksey (Brittany) of New York, New York; his loving sister Gwendolyn Kirksey Change of South Holland, Illinois; three sisters-in-law: Estella Darwin and Elma Ree Boykins of Huntsville, Alabama and Ruby O. Hardy (Stratford) of Wichita, Kansas; two brothers-in-law: Robert Lee Strong (Ida), and William Lawrence Strong (Drucilla) of Huntsville, Alabama; three brothers/nephews-in-law: Elder Larry Smith (Pamela) and Michael Smith of Huntsville, Alabama, and Pastor Wayne Smith (Medora) of Jackson, Tennessee; three beautiful granddaughters: Kayla Allison Kirksey, Candace Alexis Kirksey, and Cara Alexandra Kirksey of Castro Valley, California; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.





Pallbearers

Nephews & Grandnephews

Flower Bearers

Nieces & Grandnieces

Interment

Strong Cemetery
303 Robert Strong Road
Huntsville, AL 35810

Repast Union Chapel M.B.Church Fellowship Hall

Acknowledgement

The Kirksey Family would like to express their sincere appreciation for the love and care shown by family, friends, and the Union Chapel M.B. Church Family during the illness and passing of our loved one. Special thanks to the staff at Clearview Cancer Institute & Huntsville Hospital Hospice Care.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO
Royal Funeral Home, Inc. & Crematory
4315 Oakwood Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35810
(256) 534-8481