

# The Family Tribute

*Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning*

**Mr. Joe Blackwell**, was born in Harrisburg, Pa. on March 14, 1946, and was the son of the late Lombe and Beulah Cowan Blackwell.

He entered into eternal rest Thursday, April 2, 2020. He was also preceded in death by three sisters, Carolyn Blackwell, Brenda Rankin and Mary Francis Blackwell Tucker.

Joe was a graduate of Unity High School Class of 1964. He also was a proud member of the United States Army serving in the Vietnam War from May of 1969 – May of 1970. Joe was a faithful member of the Greater New Mt. Olive Pentecostal Holiness Church. While attending Greater New Mt. Olive, he was Vice President of the brotherhood at church, Vice President of the Usher Board and served on the financial committee of the NC State Council, Sunday School Teacher, and was also a part of OMS choir for many years. He was married to Pauline Scott Blackwell, who survives.

In addition to his wife, he leaves to cherish the memory of his life, three son, Deleon Watts, Sr. of Statesville, Derek (Latorya) Blackwell of Charlotte and Anthony Blackwell of Statesville; five grandchildren, Deleon (Jessica) Watts, Jr., Sakari Johnson, Jamaury Blackwell, Shyla Blackwell and Kase Blackwell; one great grandchild, Deleon Watts, III; two sisters, Sallie L. Witt of Statesville and Sarah (Bishop Joseph) Farmer of Ringgold, Virginia; one brother, Douglas (Kathy) Blackwell of Troutman; one uncle, Henry (Essie) Steele of Statesville; one aunt, Mary Steele of Statesville; and a host of dedicated nephews, nieces, cousins, church family, other relatives, neighbors and friends.

## HE IS GONE

We can shed tears that our loved one is gone,  
 or we can smile because he has lived.  
 We can close our eyes and pray that he'll come back  
 or we can open our eyes and see all he has left.  
 Our hearts can be empty because we can't see him  
 or we can be full of the love he shared.  
 We can turn our back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
 or we can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.  
 We can remember him and only that he's gone  
 or we can cherish his memory and let it live on.  
 We can cry and lose our minds,  
 be empty and turn our back;  
 or we can do what he would want...  
**SMILE, OPEN OUR EYES, LOVE AND GO ON.**

*Submitted with love,  
 by the Family*



## The Celebration of Life for MR. JOE BLACKWELL

**Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.**  
**Greater New Mt. Olive Holiness Church**  
*Statesville, North Carolina*  
**Bishop Jerome Temoney, Officiating**  
**Pastor Carolyn Morrison, Eulogist**

### The Order of Service 12:00 p.m.

- The Processional
- The Invocation
- The Selection
- The Scripture
  - Old Testament ..... Elder Corey Rhoney
  - New Testament ..... Pastor Henry Steele
- The Prayer of Comfort ..... Pastor Shelia Chambers
- The Selection .../..... LaTorya Blackwell
- The Remarks: *(limit two minutes please)*
- The Tribute
- The Acknowledgments and Commemorative Presentation .....  
 ..... Funeral Director
- The Selection ..... Tonika Witt
- The Eulogy ..... Pastor Carolyn Morrison
- The Folding of the Flag and the Committal
- The Recessional

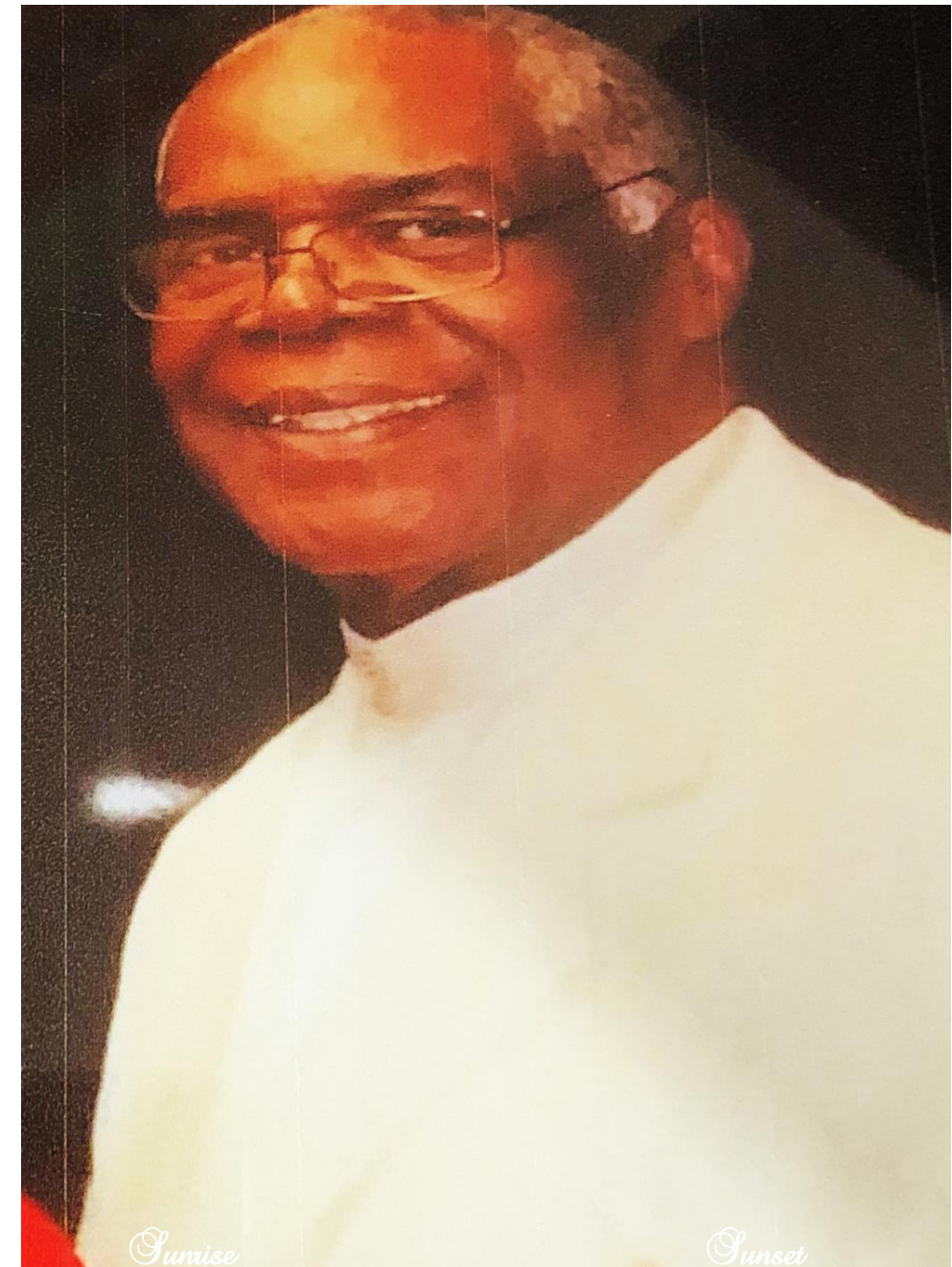
*In the procession to the cemetery, please remember to turn on your headlights,  
 take caution at all intersections, and fasten your seatbelts for safety.*

*Please remain prayerful as we go to the final resting place*  
**Private Burial At The National Cemetery**  
*Salisbury, North Carolina*  
**Friday, April 10, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**  
**The Gathering of the Christian Community**  
**The Final Departure**





*A Service of Remembrance*  
**Mr. Joe Blackwell**



*With Our Thanks*

*...that we through the patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope, (Romans 15) God has given us our church family, neighbors and dear friends, to help us as we go forward. God's Word has been manifested through your many expressions of sympathy and support; we praise God from whom all blessings flow. Thank you for honoring the memory of our beloved Joe and for remembering us during his illness and passing. In our risen Lord, we have peace that passes all understanding. The Family*



*Professional Services Entrusted to "Those Who Care"*  
**Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary, Inc.**  
603 S. Center St., Statesville, NC 28677 704-873-3611  
Visit Mr. Blackwell's Online Tribute at  
[www.rutledgeandbigham.com](http://www.rutledgeandbigham.com)

*"I have fought the fight, I have finished  
my course, I have kept the faith."  
2 Timothy 4:7*