



## Birnie Geddis Jr

February 5, 2021

### Sharing His Life's Journey Birnie Geddis, Jr.

Birnie Geddis, Jr., beloved and devoted husband of Barbara Jean Hasty-Geddis for 51 years and son of the late Birnie Geddis, Sr. and Mary Lee Lane Geddis was born in Sumter, South Carolina on August 4, 1946. He was raised by his uncle and aunt, the late Willie Black and Rosa Geddis Black since birth due to the passing of his mother. He entered eternal rest on Friday, February 5, 2021 at Prisma Health Baptist Hospital. His battle with serious medical issues in recent months showed his courage and dignity in facing life challenges with a smile. Despite the pain, Birnie came out a hero and stayed strong until the end.

His Christian journey began at an early age when he accepted Christ as Lord and Savior and joined St. Luke A.M.E. Church. Birnie was a lifelong member of St. Luke and loved his church and its members dearly. He loved spending time in church and seeing to the upkeep of St. Luke. Birnie served in the following ministries: Steward Board, Trustee Board, Lay Organization, Sons of Allen, Pastor's Aid. He was the president of the St. Luke Inspirational Choir and member of the Sons of Allen Choir and Combined Choir. He loved to sing praises to God. His favorite songs were "Under The Blood" and "I Come To The Garden Alone".

“Brother”, as he was affectionately known, was educated in the public schools of Sumter, graduating from Lincoln High School with the Class of 1964. Birnie joined in holy matrimony to the love of his life, Barbara and to this union three children were born.

Birnie was loved and cherished by his family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. He loved talking with young people who affectionately called him, “Uncle Birnie”. He never met a stranger he didn’t like. Birnie appreciated people and was always ready to give a hand, kind word or advice to anyone he felt needed his words of wisdom and comfort. He loved to visit and check on people daily.

Birnie was employed by Georgia Pacific. He was later employed by Cooper Tools as a machine operator and retired after 31 years.

In addition to his parents, uncle and aunt, he was preceded in death by one grandson: Nicholas Smith; three sisters: Geraldine Brockington, Catherine Geddis, Bernice Geddis Perry, two brothers: Willie Joseph Geddis and Anthony Clodious Geddis.

Those left to cherish precious memories are: his wife, Barbara J. Geddis; his children, Elunda M. Geddis, Bernice F. (Kevin) Geddis-Burgess, and Birnie L. (Shenequa) Geddis; five sisters, Rosa L. Terry, Schertz, TX, Amelia Porter, Columbia, SC, Beverly Geddis, Sumter, SC, Ethel (Harold) Banks, Orange, NJ, Vivian Gore, Columbia, SC; one brother, Garnett Mack of Bronx, NY; sisters-in-law, Darnellé (Elder Robert) Wilson and Ingrid Geddis both of Sumter, SC; brothers-in-law, David (Sally) Hasty, Jr., Jimmy (Linda) Hasty and Preston Hastie; a granddaughter, Serenity Stewart; two special Godchildren, Brittany Green-Vereen and Donté Gary and special grandniece, Janiya Clark. as well as a host of nephews, nieces, dear friends and church family.

A special thank you to the staff at ContinueCARE Hospital at Prisma Health Baptist in Columbia, S.C. for their loving care and support during his final

days.

To access the livestream of the service, please go to Facebook.com, search for Palmer Memorial Chapel Inc, and "like" the page. The livestream video will begin at 2:00 pm on the day of the service.

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

FEB **14.** 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Palmer Memorial Chapel  
304 South Main St.  
Sumter, SC 29150  
(803) 773-3381

## Graveside Service

FEB **15.** 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Luke A.M.E. Church Cemetery  
Sumter, SC

# Tribute Wall



“ *Birnie Geddis Jr*

October 04, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *My condolence to the family. May you be encouraged in the words of Phil. 4:6,7.*

dy - February 25, 2021 at 12:32 PM



“ *I will always remember “Brother” as an uncle and a father figure growing up. He was kind, loving, and funny. He loved us, me & my sisters, like we were his own. Mostly I remember his dedication to his family, how he cared for them and took really good care of them, always. He was a gentle giant and forever will be missed.*



Khatalina Johnson - February 15, 2021 at 10:05 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Birnie Geddis Jr.*



February 15, 2021 at 01:44 AM

SG

“ *COMPASSIONATE, EMPATHETIC, TRUSTWORTHY  
DEPENDABLE, INVOLVED, ABOVE and BEYOND, a listening ear,  
#1 husband, there for his kids, his Godchildren; their kids, the family  
kids, "the neighbor's kids"!! These are just some of the attributes  
Birnie had and I could go on, but there are too many to name!!! One  
moment I will NEVER forget! I had my daughter in 1985, just as  
Sunday morning, "greet one another" had ended, Birnie quickly  
made his way over to me and said, "WHENEVER you decide to  
christen that baby, I want to be her Godfather"!!! FAREWELL Birnie  
Geddis Jr 🌸, I will ALWAYS remember your commitment, your  
loyalty, your kindness and the LOVE you have ALWAYS shown ME  
and OUR girl!! I WILL miss you 💋*

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**Shirley Green** - February 14, 2021 at 05:35 PM

Linda  
English

“ *To The family of Brother Bernie. The English  
family is going to really miss Bernie. Mother  
English will miss him coming with a smile and  
saying to her family that their mom is his  
mom. We are sadden to know that he has  
been taken home to heaven and will keep everyone in their prayers.  
We love you all.*



*Mammie English and Family*

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**Linda English** - February 14, 2021 at 04:44 PM



“ *My condolences to all of you. Your husband and father is such an amazing and wonderful person. He gave so many to others with his smile, his conversations and his all around willingness to help people. His beautiful spirit did not go unnoticed. I am grateful that I was one of those persons who benefitted from his kindness. You are in my prayers. God is a comforter and is ever-present with us.*  
Love,  
*Rev. Jacqueline Pinkney.*

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**Jacqui Pinkney** - February 13, 2021 at 03:33 PM

SG

“ *Uncle Bernie was inspiration to many people just as he was to me growing up. Uncle Bernie was definitely warm and gentle soul. In addition, he also made sure that St. Luke AME Church was on point weekly. The same goes for Community Street. Uncle Bernie would leave with encouraging words of wisdom. Plus, he will keep you laughing and in the know of things happening in St. Luke. He knew how to light up the room. Uncle Bernie always encouraged me to rely on my faith in the Lord and stay encouraged. The truth of the matter is that St. Luke and the Community has lost their leader. My Uncle Bernie has left a very rich legacy. Once again, Uncle Bernie may rest peacefully within in the Kingdom of Our Mighty God.*

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**Sherrod Gary** - February 13, 2021 at 02:07 PM

AW

“ To the Geddis Family, I send my condolences on the transitioning of your, husband, father & brother. I will never forget his voice, smile & his warm genuine personality that welcome me into your family, (after Vivian & I became close friends). My heart is heavy along with yours & his presence will be truly missed. I'm lifting you all up in my prayers for the days ahead. Be encouraged my sisters.

v/r

*Anna Monic Charles- Williams*

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**Ana M. Williams** - February 13, 2021 at 02:03 PM

WJ

“ Birnie was a loving and friendly person to come in contact with. He was the type of person that would always speak to you and show his love for you. He will be missed by Rev. Clarence & Lillie Hunter and Family. May God continue to be with you during this time.



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**Willodine L. James** - February 13, 2021 at 12:14 PM

ES

“ We Elijah and Essie Johnson of Sumter, Sc are sending our Blessings to the Geddis family. Birnie was the kind of person who found joy in connecting with others, he loved bringing joy and smiles to someone's face during times of happiness or comfort, and in times of struggle; he was a gem. People loved him because they saw who he was, we want his family to know that you're never, alone nothing takes God by surprise when you're weak God is strong may each new day bring reminders of God's ever-faithful love as He strengthens you all with His healing touch.

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**Essie & Ei Johnson Sumter, SC** - February 13, 2021 at 08:13 AM

DS

“ *SENDING MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE GEDDIS FAMILY... IM SOOOOOO SORRY FOR YOUR LOST... I WASN'T FORTUNE ENOUGH TO MEET HIM, BUT ALWAYS HEARD GREAT THINGS OF HIM...MAY GOD BLESS YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AT THIS TIME..( DEBRA -- SHENEQUA SISTER FROM NEW YORK)....*

Debra Stewart - February 13, 2021 at 08:04 AM

DS

“ *Debra Stewart sent a virtual gift in memory of Birnie Geddis Jr*



Debra Stewart - February 13, 2021 at 07:59 AM

DS

“ *Debra Stewart lit a candle in memory of Birnie Geddis Jr*



Debra Stewart - February 13, 2021 at 07:58 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Birnie Geddis Jr.*



February 12, 2021 at 09:12 PM

CP

“ To the Geddis family. Sending prayers and condolences to you all. I have never met your husband and father but I have heard wonderful things about him. Shenequa talked about how kindly he treated her and Serenity when ever they visited. Lorenzo, brother in law, you have always treated me with respect and the way Nee talked about your father I can see where you got it from. Please accept my prayers for your family from mine. Carolyn Stewart Peoples and family.

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**Carolyn Stewart Peoples** - February 12, 2021 at 06:55 PM

AC

“ Angela Carrington lit a candle in memory of Birnie Geddis Jr



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**Angela Carrington** - February 12, 2021 at 05:53 PM

AC

“ Angela Carrington sent a virtual gift in memory of Birnie Geddis Jr

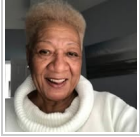


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**Angela Carrington** - February 12, 2021 at 05:52 PM

MH

“ My friend, classmate, couison and most of all church member. You will truly be miss.

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**Maggie S. Hunter** - February 12, 2021 at 05:43 PM



“ *Helen Chapman lit a candle in memory of Birnie Geddis Jr*



Helen Chapman - February 12, 2021 at 03:14 PM



“ WE THANK GOD FOR THE FOND MEMORIES OF MR. BIRNIE :  
 "DECENTLY DIGNIFIED, SPIRITUALLY REFINED AND GODLY SOPHISTICATION:"  
 REST IN PEACE !  
 LEON N. & VIRGINIA B. RICHBURG,SR & FAMILY  
 SUMMERTON,SOUTH CAROLINA

LEON N.RICHBURG,SR - February 12, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ *You we're the best Uncle Bernie, your smile, your hugs, words of wisdom, and you singing your songs in the chior. I miss you so. I love you.*

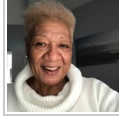


Jamecia Gary Cummings - February 11, 2021 at 11:22 PM



*Lorenzo & Family, I am so sorry on the loss of your beloved father. Please know that many prayers are being sent your via your extended in- laws in North Carolina. All of you are in our thoughts. Remember all of the precious moments that you've shared with your father. May God continue to watch over each of you now & in the days to come. 🙏  
 Deepest Sympathy., Anne Chapman Williams, Laverne & Leon Kornegay & the Chapman Family.... Grifton, Ayden & Greenville, N. C.*

Anne Chapman Williams & Family - February 12, 2021 at 06:57 AM



*Lorenzo and the Geddis Family, So sorry to hear of your loss as our hearts truly go out to you at this difficult time. Will keep you and your family in our prayers.in . Love, Aunt Von & Family*

**Helen Chapman** - February 12, 2021 at 03:22 PM

AC

*Lorenzo and family I am so very, very sorry for the loss of your father, although I never met him, I've heard wonderful things about him. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers  
Angela Carrington and family, Queens, NY*

**angela carrington** - February 13, 2021 at 07:49 AM

TF

*Our condolences to the Geddis family. Mr. Geddis was a kind man who took our son, Leroy under his wings the summers he worked at Cooper Tools during his college days. He will be missed. Peace and love.  
Leroy and Louvenia J. Dinkins, Sumter, SC*

**The Dinkins Family** - February 13, 2021 at 11:55 AM

PC

*Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Geddis Family, please know that I am praying for you all during these difficult hours and days to come. Bernie was one of the best choir members I've ever worked with. He was always willing to sing, always at rehearsals, encouraging and just an all around pleasure to work with. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord! SIP. Peace and blessing, Phaedra Carolina*

**Phaedra Carolina** - February 15, 2021 at 02:06 PM