



Mr. John W. Jumper

August 1, 1935 - February 21, 2024

Life Reflections

The life of John Wendell Jumper began on August 1, 1935, in Hopkins, South Carolina. He was the second of six children born to the late Julius Lowman Jumper and Catherine Frierson Jumper. On Wednesday, February 21, 2024, in the stillness of the afternoon John very peacefully entered into eternal rest. John received his formal education in the public schools of Richland County, South Carolina graduating from Booker T. Washington High School in 1953. After graduation he attended Benedict College before later enlisting in the United States Air Force where he served his country faithfully and dutifully for twenty-one years. During this time, he also completed his degree in Business Administration from Columbia Commercial College and Midlands Technical College. John was employed with Southern Bell where after twenty years of dedicated service he retired as a Network Translations Assistant.

John was married to Surlina Simpson and from this union five children were born. John was an avid fisherman, enjoyed traveling, dancing, jazz music, baking and gardening.

John never met a stranger and would always greet you with a smile and a firm handshake. He found fulfillment in tutoring children in the community. He enjoyed helping children gain an understanding and greater appreciation of mathematics.

In 1953, John joined First Nazareth Baptist Church where he was a faithful

and dedicated servant for 70 years. During this time, he was a member of the bowling team, a founding member of the Brotherhood and Brotherhood Chorus, Couples Ministry, Senior Citizens Ministry, Sunday School, Citywide Brotherhood (Treasurer), Finance Committee, Budget Committee served as Financial Secretary and Treasurer. He was the first van driver for the senior citizens and attended the Progressive National Baptist Convention for many years. In 1978, John was Ordained as a Deacon at First Nazareth Baptist Church and served faithfully becoming Deacon Emeritus in 2018.

Though we cannot capture the true essence of John in these few paragraphs, we can say that he was a man of strong faith and a true believer of the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. John loved the Lord, his family and his church. He believed "If you pray about it, why worry. If you're worrying, why pray".

John was preceded in death by a daughter, Valencia Michele; two brothers, Julius and Odell.

Though the presence of one so dear to us is no more, John leaves a legacy of love and Christian faith with his beloved wife of 64 years, Surlina Gertrude, of the home; children, Wendell Simpson (Christine) Jumper, Ronald LeGrand Jumper, Vanesa Marionette Jumper and Darryl John Jumper, Sr. all of Columbia, South Carolina; sisters, Annie (Ervin) Cook, Fayetteville, North Carolina, Doris Jumper Jones, Columbia, South Carolina, Jacqueline Wagner Columbia, South Carolina; sisters-in law, Doris D. Jumper, Columbia, South Carolina, Orié Latrell Jumper, San Diego, California, brother- in law, Hampton M. James, Columbia, South Carolina; eight grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; two godsons; nieces, nephews loving relatives and friends all of whom will miss him dearly

Previous Events

Public Viewing

FEB 28. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Palmer Memorial Chapel
1200 Fontaine Place
Columbia, SC 29223

Lie in State

FEB 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Nazareth Baptist Church
2351 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC, SC

Homegoing Celebration

FEB 29. 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (ET)

First Nazareth Baptist Church
2351 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC, SC

Live Streaming

FEB 29. 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (ET)

First Nazareth Baptist Church
2351 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC, SC

Please visit www.firstnazareth.com for access to the live stream.

Interment

FEB **29**. 1:00 PM - 1:15 PM (ET)

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Rd
Columbia, SC 29229-8307
(803) 699-2246

Tribute Wall

BP

“ Love you Uncle John: I loved the way you guys went fishing in Charleston: everything is done for you. And that fish was delicious. 🐟🐟🐟 It's the most relaxing way to fish. 😂😎 Thanks 🙏🏠🤍

Brenda Pickett - April 05, 2024 at 09:18 PM

BP

“ Brenda Pickett lit a candle in memory of John Jumper



Brenda Pickett - April 05, 2024 at 09:11 PM

TE

“ My deepest condolences and prayers to the family and relatives.



Tammy Edwards - March 01, 2024 at 03:28 AM

EC

“ We , the Watson Family are lifting you in our thoughts and prayers for comfort and strength! John Jumper has left a Spirit-filled legacy of love and respect! He will always be remembered as our Big Brother! 🙏🙏🙏



Eunice Watson Cornelius - February 29, 2024 at 11:33 PM

LP

“ With heartfelt sympathy to the Jumper family. Our love and prayers are with you.

Lou Ann and William Pyatt

Lou Ann Pyatt - February 28, 2024 at 10:16 PM

RC

“ Rosalind, James, Javelle, & Christion purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. John W. Jumper.



Rosalind, James, Javelle, & Christion - February 28, 2024 at 06:18 PM

RC

“ Rosalind, James, Javelle, & Christion planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John W. Jumper.

Rosalind, James, Javelle, & Christion - February 28, 2024 at 06:18 PM

CJ

“ Our sincere condolences to the family.

Cecily, Kecia, Irvin H. and Sonya

Cecily B. Johnson - February 28, 2024 at 03:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. John W. Jumper.*



February 28, 2024 at 02:53 PM



“ *I pray that doing this time the family find comfort In God. And know that God cares for you. Will miss my friend . Love and Blessings*



Helen Blanks Cofield - February 28, 2024 at 01:12 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. John W. Jumper.*



February 28, 2024 at 12:58 PM

KP

“ I’ve known Mr & Mrs Jumper all of my life. Best friends to my Nan & Papa (SGM John & Ella Prioleau) travel partners, dance partners, so many times of eating and fellowships at each other’s homes . A man of dignity and love for all. From High School friends until their eternity in 2013 they were inseparable. Your presence will be missed Mr John and you are one of those rare people I will say I am thankful I had the opportunity to know..Continue to get your well deserved rest, give Nan & Papa my love and know that like in this picture Rudy & I will continue to fellowship with our brother & sister Wendell & Christine and love on Mother Jumper too
Love Always
Karen Prioleau-Rudolph



Karen Prioleau-Rudolph - February 28, 2024 at 11:14 AM

KS

“ My prayers are with the family of Mr. John Jumper, I worked with him at Bellsouth and also lived in the Riverview Terrace neighborhood. Always a kind gentle man. He will be missed.

Keith Staton - February 28, 2024 at 11:04 AM