



## Joshua Neal Jr.

July 12, 1925 - September 4, 2016

Joshua Neal, Jr., 91 departed this earthly life on Sunday, September 4, 2016 at Palmetto Health Tuomey in Sumter, S.C. Born on July 12, 1925, he was the fourth of six children born to the late Joshua Neal, Sr. and Jimmie Lee Warley Neal in the Privateer Township of Sumter, South Carolina. He attended Sumter County Public Schools, where his father was principal. At the age of 14, after the death of both his parents, he and his four brothers began working to support themselves in a parentless household. This helped all of them to become self-sufficient and hardworking. A faithful family member, Martha B. Leneau, adopted these young men into her family and raised them as her own sons. Mr. Neal was a lifelong resident of Sumter, S.C. He grew up in New Bethel Baptist Church, where he served on the Trustee Board and participated in Church School. The current church sanctuary was built by the Neal Brothers.

In 1944, Joshua was drafted into the United States Army and later served in the United States Air Force. After receiving an honorable discharge, he began working in construction as a carpenter. In 1952, Mr. Neal became a construction superintendent for Dan Trotter Construction of Sumter. In this role, he supervised commercial and residential projects in South Carolina. He worked for Trotter Construction until 1955; then he decided to start his own business. His first contract to build a home was for the late Rev. R. W. Stallings of Sumter. Mr. Neal then built several houses along North Main

Street for ministers, formerly known as “Preachers Row”, Runnymede subdivision and numerous other homes throughout the state of South Carolina.

On June 15, 1955, he married the former Miss Eula Mae Holliday. To this loving union, two sons were born, Wilfred and Edwin.

In 1960, he convinced his brother Birnie to become his partner in the construction business. According to Mr. Neal, his brother Birnie was the best trim carpenter and cabinet man in town. The business was incorporated and Neal Brothers Builders was established. For the next 56 years, Neal Brothers would develop a reputation for quality construction, honesty and integrity. They also created jobs and taught their trades to many young people. Their excellent reputation would spread and they were able to build many homes and small commercial projects throughout the midlands of South Carolina. Other builders would frequently call on them for assistance with complex construction projects. The company by any measure became a true success story. In 1970, the company built an office and warehouse facility at 1361 Pocalla Road and provided a baseball field for community recreation. The corporate office remains at this location and the baseball field is still being used for adult and youth sports. In 1996, Birnie Neal passed away and his son Al became more active in the business. Finally, Joshua’s son Wilfred entered the business in 2001 and is currently continuing the legacy.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers: Dewey, Birnie, Douglas, and Albert; one sister Ophelia; one foster brother, Isaiah Leneau, and three foster sisters: Anna Blanding, Gladys Miott and Martha Cureton.

Those left to cherish precious memories are his beloved wife of 61 years, Eula Mae Neal of the home; two sons, Wilfred (Karen) Neal , Charlotte, NC, Edwin

(Marie) Neal, Rock Hill, SC ; four grandchildren, Brandon (Kerbie) Neal, Christopher, Trace Neal, and Tessa Neal; two great-grandchildren, Kennedy Neal and Caleb Neal; three sister-in-laws, Dorothy Neal, Long Island, NY, Marie (Ike) Taylor, Sumter, and Mary Lou Holliday, Baltimore, Md.; five brother-in-laws: Louis (Audrey) Holliday, Baltimore, Md., Claude (Beulah) Holliday, Fort Lauderdale, Fl., James (Vivian) Holliday, Sumter, Herbert (Vertell) Holliday, Owings Mill, MD, Alfred (Deloris) Holliday, Severn, MD.; three foster sisters, Lena Rice, Brooklyn, NY, Edna Newton, Balitmore, MD and Jimmie Lee Osborne, Newman, GA.

# Cemetery Details

## Neal Family Cemetery

Highway 15, South  
Sumter, SC 29150

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

SEP 8. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Palmer Memorial Chapel - Sumter  
304 South Main Street  
Sumter, SC 29150  
(803) 773-3381  
palmermemorialchapel@sc.rr.com  
<https://www.palmermemorialchapel.com>

## Funeral Service

SEP 9. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church  
3249 Highway 15 South  
Sumter, SC 29150

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joshua Neal Jr.*

October 04, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *Edwin and Wilfred and Mrs. Neal:*

*The Darla Moore School of Business sends our deepest sympathy to your family at this time. Mr. Neal sounds like he was a wonderful man, and as I told Edwin earlier, the apples don't fall far from the tree, because Edwin and Wilfred are also outstanding gentlemen and so very well respected in their communities.*

*Praying for you during this time of grief. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.*

*Mary Ruffin W. Childs  
DMSB*

Mary Ruffin Childs - September 13, 2016 at 05:23 PM



“ *My Generation Charlotte leadership purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joshua Neal Jr..*



My Generation Charlotte leadership - September 09, 2016 at 12:13 PM

CJ

“ Thanking God for allowing us to know such a pillar of a man as Mr. Neal. Not only did we know him as a business man, but most especially as a friend. Rest In Peace Mr. Neal. You will be missed. We extend heart felt condolences to the entire Neal family.

---

**Carolyn & John H. Johnson** - September 09, 2016 at 08:44 AM

LS

“ Edwin, Wilfred, and Ms. Eula Mae  
God has called up a mighty fine carpenter and business man--ever ready whenever he was called and it was always "yes." May the angels comfort you  
Love,  
Lakita (Larky) Stukes-Coe, Dzata Coleman , and Arthur Coe  
Sumter, SC

---

**Lakita Stukes-Coe** - September 09, 2016 at 06:39 AM

YD

“ Wilford, Karen and Edwin,  
On behalf of the DuPree family in Bennettsville, please accept our heartfelt sympathies on the loss of your father. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers for the days ahead.

*Yolonda G. DuPree and Ryan  
Beatrice J. DuPree*

---

**yolonda dupree** - September 08, 2016 at 04:53 PM

KD

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you.

---

**Kris Duffy** - September 08, 2016 at 04:52 PM

TF

“ *The Riley Family from St. Petersburg, Florida purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joshua Neal Jr..*



---

**The Riley Family from St. Petersburg, Florida** - September 08, 2016 at 04:09 PM

MC

“ *Eula and Family God is with you during this time and always. For your comfort Psalms:91:2 I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Amen.*  
*Mae R. Cooke*

---

**Mae R. Cooke** - September 08, 2016 at 03:56 PM

HH

“ *To the Neal Family*  
*Sorry about your lost and I wanted to let you know that you all are in my prayers. May God comfort you and give you peace in times such as these and the days ahead.*

*Herman Hart*  
*Charlotte, NC*

---

**Herman Hart** - September 08, 2016 at 01:00 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Life Tributes*



---

**Palmer Memorial Chapel** - September 08, 2016 at 11:44 AM

MR

“ Our deepest sympathy to the Neal Family. We are saddened to learn of the loss of your husband. Let the memories you have with God's help sustain you during this time of a tremendous loss.

*Alpha Pi Chi National Sorority, Inc.  
Alpha Epsilon Chapter  
South Carolina State Council of Alpha Pi Chi*

*Marilyn R. Ragin - President*

---

**Marilyn R. Ragin** - September 08, 2016 at 11:12 AM

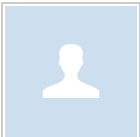


“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



---

**Palmer Memorial Chapel** - September 08, 2016 at 10:05 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Joshua Neal Jr..



---

September 08, 2016 at 08:59 AM

AW

“ Neal family,

*Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.*

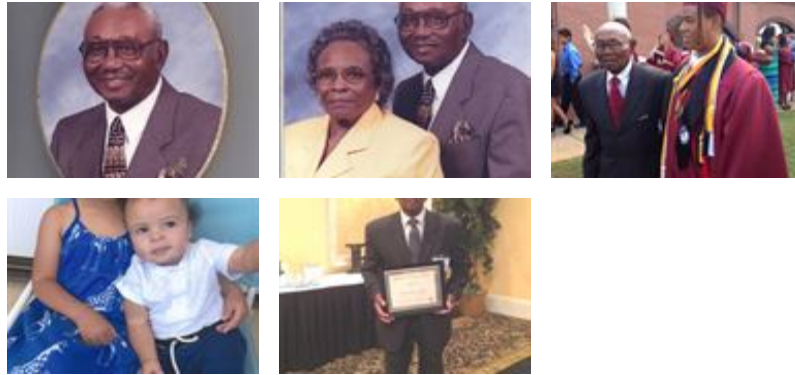
*Al Williams  
Charlotte, NC*

---

**Al Williams** - September 07, 2016 at 08:45 PM



“ 27 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



---

**Palmer Memorial Chapel** - September 07, 2016 at 07:39 PM

GS

“Cousin Josh, you will be missed, but because of your encouragement and participation in the upkeep of the Neal Cemetery, the Gray Hair Crew, Aldreyfus, William, Ernest, Andy, Mae Neal, your wife, Eula Mae and I will stay diligent to our task of keeping the cemetery neat and clean. God bless you for the legacy you leave us. Rest in Peace.

*Gloria Jean Neal Showers*



---

**Gloria Jean Neal Showers** - September 07, 2016 at 03:55 PM

RS

“My condolences in the death of your beloved family member. When death claims our loved ones, it is so hard to accept. Our loving God Jehovah understands the deep emotional pain death causes us, so he offers comfort through his word the Bible. Psalm 34:18 says: Jehovah is close to the brokenhearted; He saves those who are crushed in spirit. Also Hosea 13:14 says: From the power of the grave I (God) will redeem them; From death I will recover them. May these promises from God provide you comfort now and in the days ahead.

---

**R. Sweatman** - September 07, 2016 at 12:39 PM

RJ

“ Our deepest sympathy to the Neal family. Mr. Neal, a kind-hearted, industrious, artistic Christian builder, gave much to the comfort of others and added beauty and value to our community. He has nobly left unforgettable memories in our hearts. Every day our family is enjoying living in our home which The Neal Company built in recent years. We thank God for the productive life of Mr. Neal who fully and respectfully employed his God-given talents. We pray that the comforting spirit of Jesus Christ will abide with the entire Neal family now and always. Mrs. Rubye J. Johnson & Family

---

**Rubye J. Johnson** - September 07, 2016 at 04:23 AM