



## Mr. Laval Oxendine

June 10, 1943 - July 11, 2024

Mr. Laval Oxendine of Wedgefield, South Carolina transitioned to his eternal resting place on July 11th, 2024 to be with the Lord. Born on June 10, 1943 into a large loving family, Laval lived a full and prosperous life on the foundational principles of God, Gardening, and Golf.

From the beginning, a curious child with a heart for learning, Laval excelled both academically and in all the opportunities he could find to serve others. As he developed into the man of God who would come to bless each of us, Laval's passion for learning and his penchant for servant leadership made his diverse studies in the fields of Criminal Justice, Business Administration, and Agricultural Education an obvious choice for creating a life that would make the world a better, more fruitful place for others. Undeniably brilliant, Laval then set his post-graduate sights on passing his wisdom on to others — whether during his years of service in the U.S. Army as a Nuclear Missile Expert, molding young minds in the Washington, D.C. Public School System, or for nearly three decades as a County Extension Agent with Clemson University on various assignments throughout the state of South Carolina.

Not only a diligent student, hard worker, and revered leader, Laval was a husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, friend and overall beloved member of the Oxendine family and greater community. A firm believer that to prioritize God is to prioritize his calling to his family. He spent his personal time

on earth with the people he loved, and who loved him right back. It was at China and Johnson Barber shop on Liberty Street in 1971 where he met the love of his life, Mary Alice affectionally known as Alice. They fell in love over their shared love of family and bowling, blending seamlessly as one to build a life filled with joy, fortitude, love and laughter for themselves and their beloved children. He is remembered not only by his wife and children, but by all who loved and knew him as the kind of man all should aspire to be. He truly let God lead him in all endeavors, and knew exactly what it meant to take care of his family, to lead and guide and love those he had been trusted with, and to share that love with everyone he encountered. As a firm believer in order and discipline, his participation in the National Association of Parliamentarians was a natural fit. He lived to give, and it didn't matter if the price he paid was service to his country, backbreaking work in agricultural research or his thriving garden, the cost of a cheeseburger or even a pack of M&M's. With his signature firm handshake, he created community and he challenged stereotypes. It is evident from the life he lived that Laval, more than anything, was a man who strived to exude God's love here on earth. A beloved patriarch and undoubtedly a friend, father, and life long educator to all, he has a host of loved ones who succeed him in carrying on his earthly legacy.

He is preceded in death by his mother Mary Oxendine Harvin; his son, John Wesley Oxendine and five sisters: Magoline Ramsey, Louise Wright, Pearl Henderson, Jean Lloyd, and Ruth Lane. Laval's brother Dellie Sr. has also transitioned. Laval will now unite with the Lord and reunite with loved ones who are gone.

Laval leaves his wife Mary Alice Oxendine, Wedgefield, SC; daughters Valencia Balkcom (Thomas) Atlanta, GA and Aldrith Cobb (William) Charlotte, NC; and daughter in law, LaTonya Oxendine Columbia, SC. Laval's three grandchildren Kiaja Rose, Isaiah Oxendine and Jeremiah Oxendine will miss their Papa dearly. Laval has three surviving siblings: Harrison Oxendine Sr.,

Wedgfield, SC; Willie Lee "Bill" Oxendine (Joan) of Bowie, MD; and Frances Ann Oxendine of Washington, D.C.

Laval forever lives in each of our hearts from his signature hats and belt, to his knee socks (and sometimes sandals) and infectious spirit, as well as in the lessons he taught, the memories he made, the stories he told, and in all of the ways we can strive to live more like him.

In lieu of flowers, The Oxendine Family kindly asks that donations be made in Laval's name to the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692, or web address [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org)

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUL 18. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

JUL 19. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

New Hope Ministries  
95 Community St.  
Sumter, SC 29150

## Burial

JUL 19. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Bethel AME Church  
1605 Highway 261 South  
Wedgefield, SC

# Tribute Wall

RE

“ Reecia & TJ Edwards purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Laval Oxendine.



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Reecia & TJ Edwards - July 18, 2024 at 08:47 AM

RE

“ Reecia & TJ Edwards planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Laval Oxendine.

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Reecia & TJ Edwards - July 18, 2024 at 08:47 AM

VB

“ Please accept heartfelt condolences. May you be comforted in your time of loss. May he sleep in peace. Virgil Billups



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virgil. billups - July 18, 2024 at 12:40 AM

KH

“ Keith & Bridget Holmes purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Laval Oxendine.



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Keith & Bridget Holmes - July 17, 2024 at 10:22 PM

KH

“ Keith & Bridget Holmes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Laval Oxendine.

Keith & Bridget Holmes - July 17, 2024 at 10:22 PM

RG

“ Robert E. Ransom , member pine grove lit a candle in memory of Laval Oxendine



Robert E. Ransom , member pine grove - July 17, 2024 at 09:16 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Laval Oxendine.



July 16, 2024 at 01:56 PM

AC

“ Alton W Conyers purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Laval Oxendine.



Alton W Conyers - July 16, 2024 at 11:37 AM

AC

“ Alton W Conyers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Laval Oxendine.

Alton W Conyers - July 16, 2024 at 11:37 AM

D1

“ Delta Nu Spring 1997 purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Laval Oxendine.



Delta Nu Spring 1997 - July 15, 2024 at 11:26 PM

MH

“ I knew Laval as an Extension Agent. He always seemed to be in a good mood, laughing and joking around. I once remember he was one of the "ladies" in a womanless beauty pageant held for the SC Assn. of Cooperative Extension Secretaries. He was a "hit" and stole the show! He may have even won the contest!! He was a good man and one who I know will be missed by all who knew him. May God bless his family in the days and months ahead ... Mary Harvey

Mary S Harvey - July 15, 2024 at 05:41 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the Oxendine Family. Mr. Oxendine will be greatly missed. Every time we met, he always had a smile on his face. Our prayers go out to you today and in the days to come.  
Pastor Eric & Lady Angela Ramsey

Eric Ramsey - July 15, 2024 at 02:52 PM