



## Marcel D Blakely

March 3, 1928 - May 5, 2020

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. II Timothy 4:7-8

Marcel D. Blakely peacefully answered his Master's call on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, at Prisma Health Richland Medical Center. Born March 3, 1928, to the late George and Marian Hayes Blakely, he attended Waverly Elementary School and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School. He earned both Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees from South Carolina State College (now University).

As an educator for over thirty years, he consistently provided nurturing, guidance, and mentoring for hundreds of students at W.A. Perry Middle School and C.A. Johnson High School where he taught Mechanical Drawing. Upon retirement, he worked at the Spring Valley Country Club for a number of years.

He was committed to God and Chappelle Memorial AME Church where he was a lifelong member. At Chappelle, he served in various capacities including: Class Leader, Trustee Emeritus, member of the Sons of Allen, Man of the Year, and Honorary Father of the Church. In addition to his service at

Chappelle, he served the larger community as an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated in their various charitable endeavors.

Always active, Marcel learned to play golf in addition to his love of traveling. He maintained a positive outlook and served as an inspiration to all he encountered.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his older brothers: George E Blakely and William Blakely; and his sister Rosalee Blakely.

He leaves to cherish precious memories five nieces: Carnetta Blakely of Raleigh, North Carolina, Gene Blakely (Sammie) Parks, Gwendolyn M. White both of Columbia, South Carolina, Glorya (Charlie) Rencher of Oakwood Village, Ohio, and Gladys M. Tolbert of Las Vegas, Nevada; two nephews: LTC (Ret.) William Blakely of Raleigh, North Carolina, and Gerald E. Blakely of Warr Acres, Oklahoma, all of whom affectionately called him Uncle Dent; a special and devoted friend Ruth Black and children; a host of other relatives and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## **Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church Cemetery**

808 Barnes Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

# Previous Events

## **Graveside service**

MAY 11. 10:00 AM (ET)

Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church  
808 Barnes Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marcel D Blakely*

October 04, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *Mr. Blakely was my neighbor for many years. When I needed a notary, Mr. Blakely was ready and waiting with his seal and pen!. I was hoping to visit with him and found that he has passed. He was always caring and helpful. My condolences to his family and friends. He was loved and respected. Carolyn Y S Wise Garrett*

**Carolyn Y S Wise Garrett** - March 21, 2022 at 10:44 AM



“ *Sitting here thinking about Mr Blakely I found out late that he passed and it really broke my heart he was such a nice man I will miss him*

**Shuntai Wallace** - May 17, 2021 at 07:41 PM



“ *DON JENNINGS lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



**DON JENNINGS** - June 28, 2020 at 03:37 AM

WD

“ *Willie Mae Hayes /William Hayes Daughter lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



Willie mae Hayes /William Hayes daughter - May 19, 2020 at 06:31 PM

PM

“ *Priscilla Foggy Murrell lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



Priscilla Foggy Murrell - May 17, 2020 at 07:04 PM

GH

“ *Gwendolyn Jackson Hoskins lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



Gwendolyn Jackson Hoskins - May 14, 2020 at 05:50 PM

JE

“ *Mr. B was a gem with an infectious smile and an inquisitive mind. He always asked about my extended family and always told a story about me while growing up. He will be greatly missed to the family and especially my aunt. May his memories continue to permeate our minds and heart. May he rest peacefully in eternally.*

Jenise - May 11, 2020 at 07:33 PM

GH

*Uncle Couz is what I grew up calling him. He was a neighbor and family friend. We lived at 2401 Chapelle and he and Aunt Billy lived 2 houses down. Our house Ms. Justine Moses then his with the very nice porch with the awning on the front porch. Life was great and neighbors were real friends. I went to visit him in the nursing home about a month ago, and he was himself and very much in command of what he thought said and did. I remember the people in our old community with a great deal of respect and fondness. Black men like him will live on in our hearts for their great achievements in spite of the challenges they faced. You are a blessed to have had him. Not forgotten Gwen Jackson daughter of Melvin & Lyda Jackson*

**Gwendolyn Jackson Hoskins** - May 14, 2020 at 06:01 PM



*“ My condolences to the Blakely Family/ I always admired my cousin Marcel Blakely. Many times while visiting Columbia, SC, I noticed when he walked in, he would light up a room. Now his light is shining throughout Eternity and all we need do is think about his light and he will be there with us. Love to my Family during this time of bereavement.*

**Sharon Blakely-salaam** - May 11, 2020 at 11:51 AM

MC

*“ What a fine and lovely gentleman Marcel Blakey was and how blessed we were to have known him for so many years. He will be missed in our community for sure. He certainly did win the race. Rest In Peace now .Margaret and Bill Cain*

**Margaret Cain** - May 11, 2020 at 10:34 AM

Melton  
Hudgens

“ Oh, how we need more men like Mr. Blakely. He had the green light to disciple me; when needed. My engraved pledge paddle was on his wall of fame. (Broken) The day after I made the famous wall, he smiled at me. For those of you who took his class, you understand what I am talking about. I still got the “A’s” and traveled to SC State each year; when I thought that he would have given up on me. I’ve told that story hundreds of times over the years, because what he did meant so much to me. RIP Mr. Blakely!

Mel “Butch” Hudgens

OneLove!

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Melton Hudgens - May 11, 2020 at 12:13 AM

TB

“ Mr. Blakely will surely be missed. I will miss him not greeting me in the morning as I report to work. I could always count on him to drop wisdom and knowledge everyday to everyone he encountered. His words were filled with purpose and substance. Well done thy good and faithful server. Go on home, the angels are awaiting your arrival.

Rest In Peace  
Tracy Bryant, RN  
PruittHealth Blythwood

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Tracy Bryant - May 10, 2020 at 08:15 PM

SR

“ RIP MR. BLAKELY.

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sharon robinson - May 10, 2020 at 09:05 AM

CH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Carlette Henderson - May 09, 2020 at 09:01 PM

DJ

“ Don Jennings lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely



Don Jennings - May 09, 2020 at 07:45 PM

TY

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Tammy Young - May 09, 2020 at 05:11 PM

CS

“ Carlos Smith

Carlos L. Smith - May 09, 2020 at 01:45 PM

CS

“*Mr. Marcel D. Blakely was my Mechanical Drawing teacher and mentor at W.A.Perry Jr. H.S. in the early '60's. He taught and guided me well!*

*In the 8th grade, Mr. Blakely entered me in the old Trade and Industrial (T & I) competition in Mechanical Drawing. Under his guidance, I won the City Championship (at BTW), State Championship (at SCSU), and was the 2nd Place finisher in the National Championship that was held at Tuskegee University. Always the encourager, he said, according to the judges, I should have won it, but I ran out of time. I was always slow when taking exams and remain that way throughout my academic career!*

*Mr. Blakely drove me to Tuskegee and back to Columbia. With just the two of us alone during that long ride, I'll never forget the guidance and wisdom Mr. Blakely imparted to me. He was a brilliant man!*

*Over the years, I would see Mr. Blakely occasionally and we would have a great conversations! He always stated he had kept up with me and my career, and how proud of me he was!*

*I thank God that He allowed a man of Mr. Blakely's wisdom and intellect to enter my life during my formative years, and to remain a dear friend throughout the years! Mr. Marcel D. Blakely helped me to become the man I am today!*

*May God receive him into His Eternal Kingdom, and Mr. Blakely's family experience His Perfect Peace, which surpasses our understanding!*

*Me. Marcel D. Blakely was a good man!*

*Sincerely,  
Dr. Carlos L. Smith*

**Carlis L. Smith** - May 09, 2020 at 01:43 PM

RG

“ *I must do the works of him that sent me while it is day. When night comes no man can work.*  
*John 9:4*



**Rhonda Gipson** - May 09, 2020 at 12:07 PM

RH

“ *Mrs. Gene, heartfelt condolences to you and the entire family of Mr. Blakely. I have so many fond memories of my classleader, and best friend. Mr. Blakely, affectionately called Marcel, inspired and helped so many. I met him and Mrs. Black when I served as an associate minister at his church.*

*He never met a stranger. He was loved by everyone he met. He was kind, friendly and ever so witty. He was like a real father to me. He was my best friend and father in the Lord. When I needed him he was always there. He loved the Lord, people, the church, fried chicken and South Carolina State. Lord knows I will miss him asking me, "what's up kiddo?"*

*On an occasion that I had to go to the ER, I called Marcel and in minutes he was there by my bedside and those were his words. He had an infectious smile. The world needs more people like Marcel. Life well lived...My thoughts and prayers are with each of you. May he rest in peace with the Lord. Rev.Rhonda Gipson-Florida*

**Rhonda** - May 09, 2020 at 11:41 AM

RH

“ *Rest in Peace Mr. Blakey.*  
*Rev. Gipson*

**Rhonda** - May 09, 2020 at 11:05 AM

MP

“ *Marci Parks lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



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**Marci Parks** - May 09, 2020 at 10:39 AM

TY

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Tammy Young** - May 09, 2020 at 02:12 AM

TY

“ *Tammy Young lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



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**Tammy Young** - May 09, 2020 at 01:27 AM

LP

“ *Lolita Pinckney lit a candle in memory of Marcel D Blakely*



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**Lolita Pinckney** - May 08, 2020 at 11:21 PM

TY

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Tammy Young - May 08, 2020 at 08:24 PM

TY

“ Rest In Paradise “Mr. B”! 🙏😞



Tammy Young - May 08, 2020 at 08:22 PM

PC

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Palmer Memorial Chapel - May 08, 2020 at 12:46 PM