



## *Floral Bearers*

*Classmates and Friends*



## *Acknowledgment*

*Thank you for spending this time of sharing with us. We will always remember your acts of kindness, prayers, gifts and well wishes during Sam's illness. We ask your continued prayers as we move through this period of bereavement. He has left us a legacy of love, courage and tenacity on which we can cling and build.*

*-The Johnson Family -*

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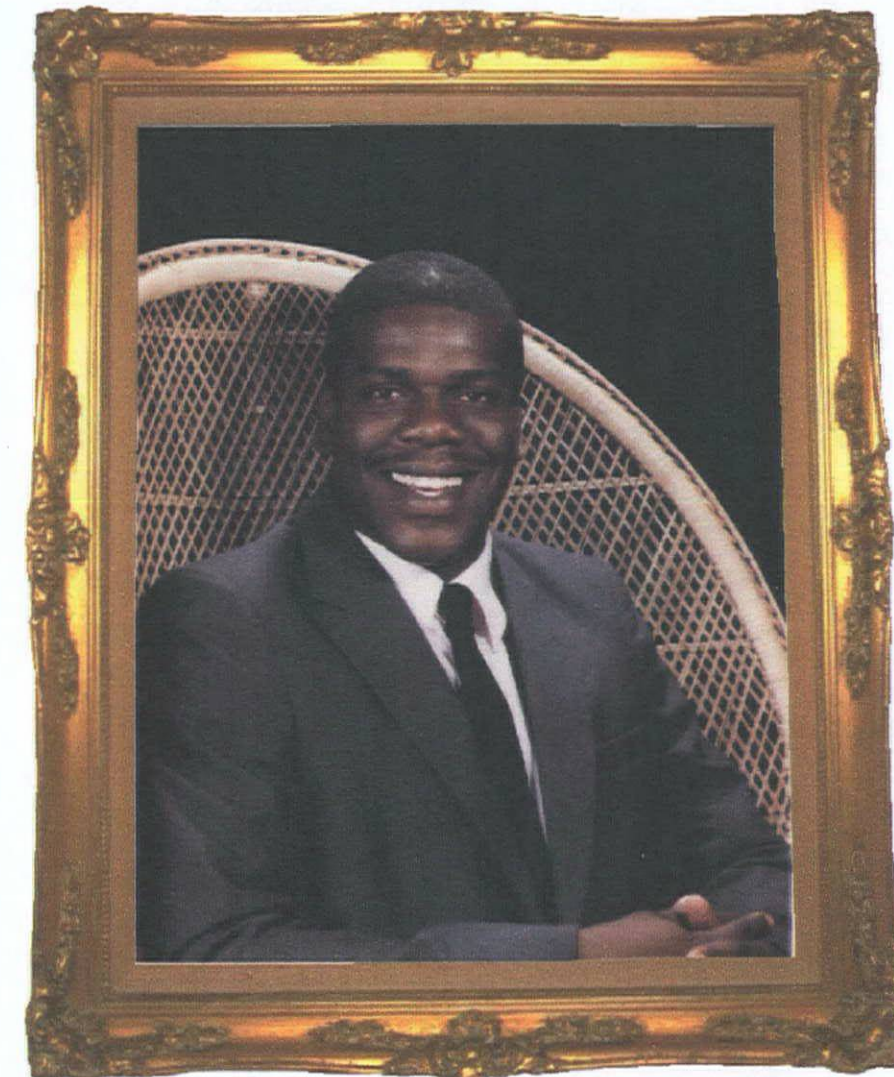
*Services Entrusted To*

*Knotts and Son Funeral Home  
1501 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Siler City, NC 27344  
919-742-4602*

# *Service of Remembrance for Samuel Alexander Johnson*

*Sunrise  
March 13, 1964*

*Sunset  
September 7, 2003*



*Wednesday, September 10, 2003  
Two O'clock in the Afternoon  
Oliver's Chapel AME Zion Church  
Staley, North Carolina  
Reverend Gaylyn Wilson, Officiant*



## OBITUARY

*Here is my life, I want to live it.  
Here is my life; I want to live it serving my fellow man  
Doing the will of God,  
Here is my life!*

His powerful, rich baritone voice filled Memorial Auditorium. The audience of Shaw University administrators, faculty, staff and student peers wildly applauded during the 1986 Convocation when **Sam** reached the climax of this powerful song, Here is My Life. Whenever **Sam** sang, he stirred the hearts and souls of all who heard him. He used his gift of song to serve his fellow man, doing the will of God....this was his life.

**Samuel A. Johnson** was born to Paul and Annie Johnson on March 13, 1964. He was cherished by his siblings: Annette Bittle (Sam) of Liberty, NC, William Johnson of Asheboro, NC, Shirley Johnson of High Point, NC and Jennifer Johnson of Raleigh, NC. **Sam** was also devoted to his nieces and nephews: Courtney Johnson, Mariah Anderson, Kameisha Anderson and Steven Currie. He also had three devoted friends: Ms. Gertrude Pope, Ms Lonieta Cornwall and Vickie Holliday all of Raleigh, NC.

Upon graduating from Eastern Randolph High School in Ramseur, he matriculated at Shaw University, in Raleigh, from where he received the Bachelors Degree in Music with Vocal Concentration. **Sam** was a valued member of the Chorale Society of his beloved Alma Mater. He was held in high esteem by the faculty and dearly loved by his peers.

In keeping with his desire to serve his fellow man, **Samuel** taught the Behavioral and Emotionally Handicapped children of Granville, Wake and Vance Counties. He will always be remembered as a compassionate, caring teacher who did not mind spending extra time to service his students and their families.

At a young age, **Sam** joined Oliver's Chapel AME Zion Church where he shared musical gifts as soloist and choir director. He later rededicated his life to the Lord and was baptized into the Seventh-Day Adventist Church by Elder James Wray, Jr. He accepted the Bible truth of the Seventh Day Sabbath, and the Second Coming of Jesus. He also knew that his gift of song was given to him by God to be used for His glory as well as for service to his fellow man. Just last Christmas, **Samuel** comforted many who were struggling with illness, loss, depression and sadness by singing his resolve..... *I feel like going on.....in the sunshine and rain....through sickness and all of my pain.....I feel like going on.....*

**Samuel Alexander Johnson** will always be remembered as a man who "said what he meant and meant what he said". There was never a dull moment in his presence. His love for gardening, beautiful plants and flowers is evident in the many yards that he cultivated in Raleigh and Staley.

During his last difficult months, Jennifer remained close by his side as his health began to deteriorate. Even in pain, **Sam** always had a word...yet he remained faithful, hopeful and courageous. On Sunday, September 7, 2003 at 6PM, he entered rest, and now awaits the resurrection, when the dead in Christ will rise first and greet their coming King.

The many friends and family members that will miss **Sam** are as numerous as the stars - too many to list. He has left a legacy of love and forthrightness that is unparalleled.

*Rest, Sam! Here was your life. You lived it!  
You lived it by serving your fellowman, Doing the will of God  
This was your life!*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE.....	Ms. Lonieta Cornwall
PROCESSIONAL.....	Reverend Gaylyn Wilson Oliver's Chapel AME Zion Church
HYMN OF ASSURANCE.....	"Blessed Assurance" .....Choir and Congregation
OLD TESTAMENT .....	Psalms 121: 1-8
ANTHEM.....	"God Is" .....Franklinton SDA Church
NEW TESTAMENT.....	I Thessalonians 4: 13-18
SOLO.....	"We Shall Behold Him" .....Ms. Lisa Dunston
PRAYER of COMFORT.....	Elder Cullus Dunston Franklinton SDA Church
PRAYER RESPONSE.....	Franklinton SDA Church
TRIBUTES/REMARKS.....	Dr. Ocie M. Brown Mrs. Ruby Booth Ms. Lonieta Cornwall Ms. Makalea Ene and Mr. Kekoa Celab Rev. Kenneth Brooks
OBITUARY.....	Read Silently
SOLO.....	Rev. Juanita Cannon
EULOGY.....	Pastor Ezekiel Wilson Franklinton SDA Church
HYMN OF HOPE.....	"When We All Get to Heaven" .....Choir and Congregation
BENEDICTION.....	Rev. Gaylyn Wilson
POSTLUDE.....	Ms. Lonieta Cornwall