

DEAR DAD,

It was a blessing and an honor to take care of you in your golden years. I will miss your presence greatly. God called you home quickly without allowing you to suffer, and for that I will be eternally grateful. Rest well, dad.

Love,

Terri

MY GRANDFATHER,

Cleveland Bedgood, always felt steady and sure. Unshakable in spirit, he accomplished so much—with quiet strength—in his work, his faith, and his love for our family.

Some of my most cherished memories are of riding beside him in his truck as a child, just listening to him talk. It felt like classroom lectures just for us. As I grew older, diving into his brilliant, thoughtful mind remained such a gift.

Though they only knew each other for a short while, his adoration for his great-granddaughter Bette was undeniable. I cherish the memories of them together.

His love was constant and his legacy profound. I will carry his steadiness, humor, and love with me always.

Marissa

FLOWER BEARERS

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Theta Xi Omega Chapter

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Bedgood Family is eternally grateful for the many acts of courtesy shown in our time of bereavement. The prayers, phone calls, and all personal touches of love will be long remembered.

PLEASE NOTE

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to:

St. Paul C.M.E. Church

P.O. Box 35

Hogansville, Georgia 30230

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO



Thrash & Sons Funeral Home

117 West Main Street

Hoganville, GA 30230

office: (706) 637-8791 | fax: (706) 637-8796

Jrt5485@att.net

www.thrashfuneralhome.com

"Providing Caring and Professional Service to you Since the 1920's"

Family Owned and Operated

James R. Thrash II, Funeral Director



CLEVELAND
Bedgood, Jr.

OCTOBER 20, 1932 - MAY 1, 2025

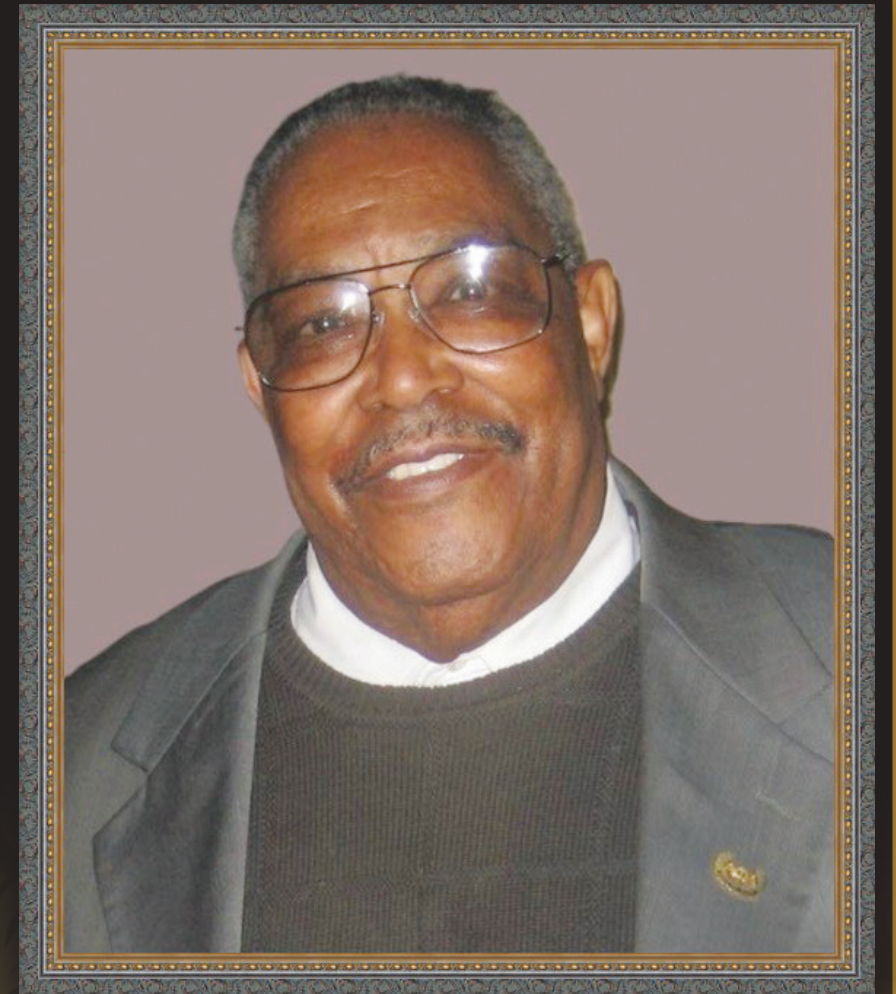
Wednesday, May 7, 2025 | 11:00 AM

ST. PAUL C.M.E. CHURCH

463 Sewell Road

Grantville, Georgia 30220

Reverend Montavious Brinson, Officiating



A Life of Dedication and Service CLEVELAND BEDGOOD, JR.

Cleveland Bedgood, Jr., a native of Birmingham, Alabama, passed away suddenly and peacefully on May 1, 2025. Born to the late Cleveland Bedgood, Sr., and Beatrice Bennett Bedgood, he was one of five children in a family that valued education, faith, and community service.

Cleveland's journey began in the Birmingham Public School System, where he graduated from the renowned A.H. Parker High School. His academic pursuits led him to Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas, under the guidance of his uncle, William Walter Bennett, Sr. While at Jarvis, Cleveland not only excelled in his studies, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, but also showcased his athletic talents on the football field.

Following his graduation, Cleveland was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served for two years before being honorably discharged. Upon returning to Birmingham, he embarked on a career as a mail carrier, a role that reflected his dedication to serving his community.

Cleveland's was united in Holy Matrimony to the late Betty Ann Phillips. Their union was blessed with three children, and together, Cleveland and Betty pursued careers in education. Their commitment to teaching led them to the Meriwether County School System in Georgia, where they made a lasting impact on countless students.

The Bedgood family settled in the Lone Oak and St. Mark communities, where Cleveland's influence continued to grow. He taught Biology at Greenville Consolidated High School and Greenville High School before advancing to administrative roles as Assistant Principal at Woodbury High School and Hogansville High School. His career culminated in his role as Principal of Luthersville Elementary School, where he left an indelible mark on the school and its students.

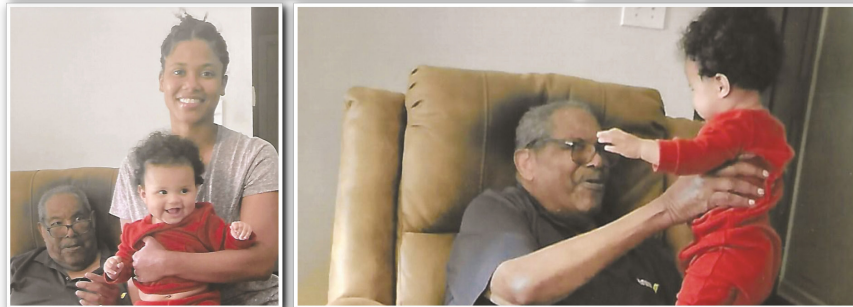
Cleveland's dedication to education was matched by his commitment to lifelong learning. He earned Master's degrees from Atlanta University and West Georgia College, continually seeking to expand his knowledge and skills. His passion for service extended beyond the classroom, as he became an active member of numerous organizations. Cleveland was a Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and a member of 100 Black Men of West Georgia. He also contributed to the Meriwether County Democratic Party, the Meriwether County Lions Club, and the Meriwether County Zoning Commission.

A man of deep faith, Cleveland's spiritual journey began at Trinity Baptist Church in Birmingham. He later joined St. Paul C.M.E. Church in Lone Oak, where he was a dedicated member of the Male Chorus and served on both the Steward Board and the Trustee Board.

Cleveland Bedgood, Jr., leaves behind a legacy of love, dedication, and service. He is survived by his three children: Terri Lynne Bedgood, Candace Anita Bedgood Stiles (Raymond), and Richard Rene Bedgood (Michele); six grandchildren, Annelise Stiles, Marissa Stiles (David), Suzanne Stiles, Rachel Stiles, Richard (Quade) Bedgood IV, and Peyton Bedgood; and one great-grandchild, Elara Bette Stiles. He also leaves a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, fraternity brothers, and friends who will cherish his memory.

Cleveland's life was a testament to the power of education, the importance of community, and the strength of faith. His legacy will continue to inspire all who knew him.

PRECIOUS *Memories*



ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional Song... St. Paul C.M.E. Choir and Congregation

Opening Prayer Reverend Montavious Brinson

Scripture Readings Reverend Carlton Mahone, Sr.

Expressions

As a Church Member Mr. Michael Mitchem

As a Teacher Mrs. Betty Blount Neal

As a Fraternity Brother Brother Solomon Ferguson

As a Grandfather Miss Suzanne Stiles

Presentation of Resolution Alpha Phi Alpha Proclamation

Solo Mr. Marion Mitchell

Eulogy Reverend Dr. James C. Clements

Closing Prayer Reverend Montavious Brinson

Recessional Song..... St. Paul C.M.E. Choir & Congregation

