

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 02, 2023 🖉 5:00 PM

> PERRY PARK. HARDAWAY CHURCH COMMUNITY anta

and

PRAYER OF COMFORT ..... PASTOR WENDY B. MORGAN **READING OF** HOLY SCRIPTURES ...... PASTOR WENDY B. MORGAN SELECTION ...... WILLIE GEORGE "LEWIS" FANIEL PRESENTATION OF SLIDESHOW ..... CREATED BY LAKESHA M. PERRY PRESENTING OF MEMORIAL KEEPSAKE ...... WILLIAM HODGE

WORDS FROM THE BULLOCK COUNTY COMMISSION ...... ALONZO ELLIS, CHAIRMAN

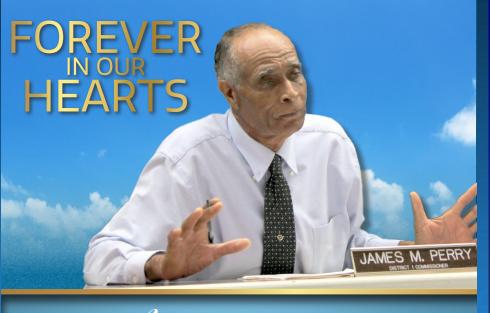
CLASS RESOLUTION.....CLASSMATES OF 1964

Reflections

**FAMILY & FRIENDS LIMIT 2 MINUTES PLEASE** 

RECEPTION .....

WORDS OF COMFORT.....PASTOR HAWTHORNE REED BALLOON RELEASE ...... FAMILY & FRIENDS BLESSING OF THE FOOD .....PASTOR HAWTHORNE REED



Acknowledgements

Suzy, Kesha, Jonathan and Katerra would like to thank you for your prayers and support during our time of loss.

It has meant so much to our family. God gives us comfort in the form of good friends. May his peace be with you, His love never ends.

Special Thanks to the Staff at Fresenius Kidney Care Union Springs, AL.

Special Thanks to the Cardiopulmonary Critical Care Staff At University Of Alabama Birmingham Hospital (UAB).



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## **MY LAST REOUEST**

Please don't say that I gave up, just say that I gave in. Don't say I lost the battle, for it was God's war to lose or win. Please don't say how good I was, but that I did my best Just say I tried to do what's right, to give the most I could, not less. Please don't give me wings or halo's that's for God to do. I want no more than I deserve, No extras just my due. Thank God for my soul's resting. Thank God for I've been blessed. Thank God for all who loved me, and Praise God who loves me best



## IN MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED

## **JAMES MCARTHUR PERRY**

Celebrating the life of James McArthur Perry, who transitioned peacefully on August 17,2023 in Hardaway, AL.

James M. Perry was born December 17, 1946 in Union Springs, AL to the late Olden and Minner Perry. He joined Hardaway A.M.E Church at an early age, proclaiming his life to Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. James served Hardaway A.M.E church as Sunday School Superintendent following in his father's footsteps. He demonstrated his devotion to living the word of God with acts of love, kindness and fellowship to his fellow parishioners. His unconditional grace and patience was well known in the community to anyone that was blessed to cross his path. A classmate and dear friend described him as "guiet" as a young man but as time passed he became known for his captavating storytelling.

He is a graduate of Merritt High School, class of 1964 and a veteran of the United States Air Force with an honorable discharge. After the military, he returned home and chose not to dwell on his military service, instead he rejoined his father farming side by side. He lived his life close to home, kept his fathers's promise to take care of the land ensuring his brothers and sisters always had a place close to their heart. He married Susie (Suzy) Peal Outsey on August 26, 1973. A lasting union just shy of 50 years. Together they raised a son and daughter, Jonathan and LaKesha. James and Suzy are names embedded in the heart and soul of Hardaway, their generosity and compassion is contagious. Families all over can attest to the support James and Suzy gave freely without hesitation hence the saying "it takes a village."

Farming was his passion. Period. His life was spent working on the land, through endless amounts of challenges and too few triumphs, his heart and his soul were entwined with every seed and every grain he touched and prayed over. His desire to join the Black Farmers Lawsuit and traveling to Washington DC was in an effort to elicit positive changes to his family's livelihood. He also hoped the rights of farmers would be protected and valued but most of all he fought for fiscal sustainability not just for him but for several generations to come. James was a community leader and community organizer in every aspect. He did not turn away from a phone call at any hour, a commitment, a family, a friend, foe, livestock, you name it he was there, just ask Suzy! Those who know him best can vouch for his genuine demeanor.

Suzy, Jonathan, Kesha and Katerra shared him with the masses. James was once a coach of a town favorite softball team, Bobcats! James and Suzy both played on the teams and it was legendary. Summer nights at the Perry Park field, passionate competitive arguments about team plays, the smell of hotdogs, popcorn and Annie's homemade ice cream and best of all James Perry standing in the dugout watching intently, both hands placed on his sides savoring the moments waiting for that bat to swing.....

In addition to his many endeavors, James had the bright idea to get into politics, Whew, what a BRAVE, guestionable soul, but we are talking about James Perry who's heart always longed for the world to be fair and he did not shy away from a challenge. He was elected Bullock County Commissioner District 1, holding the position from 1993-2006. Politics can bring ups and downs but James took it in stride. He advocated for the school system to retrieve misappropriated all know, respect and love.

He is preceded in death by his mother, father, brothers; Earnest, Benjamin and Ocie Perry; sister Mae Rena Cowan. James is survived by his wife Susie (Suzy) Perry, son Jonathan, daughter Kesha and granddaughter Katerra; sisters Ora (Roger) Clay, Oakland, CA, Mary "Lou" Parker, Alabaster, AL and Peggy (Eunice) Ford, Jacksonville, Elijah (Willie Bell) Outsey, Perote, AL; sisters in law: Mary Alice (Willie George) Faniel, Perote, AL; Alice Fae Outsey, Montgomery, AL. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.





## **PRECIOUS MEMORIES**

funds in addition to supporting sanitation workers rights to time off during holidays. This is just a small sample of his accomplishments. One might say his Loyalty to his hometown of 76 years is his most valued and most appreciated achievement.

It goes without saying the life, the legacy, the legend of James M. Perry can go on for several pages. Although Suzy, Jonathan and Kesha knew him best, his granddaughter Katerra "little girl" immediately stole his heart. His family and his faith were his rock that enabled him to be the man, the Christian and the leader we