

When Great Trees Fall

By Maya Angelou

When great trees fall,
rocks on distant hills shudder,
lions hunker down in tall grasses,
and even elephants lumber after safety.

When great trees fall in forests,
small things recoil into silence,
their senses eroded beyond fear.

When great souls die,
the air around us becomes light, rare, sterile.

We breathe, briefly.

Our eyes, briefly, see with a hurtful clarity.

Our memory suddenly sharpened,
examines, gnaws on kind words unsaid,
promised walks never taken.

Great souls die and our reality, bound to
them takes leave of us.

Our souls, dependent upon their nurture,
now shrink, wizened.

Our minds formed and informed by their
radiance, fall away.

We are not so much maddened
as reduced to the unutterable ignorance
of dark, cold caves.

And when great souls die,
after a period peace blooms,
slowly and always irregularly.

Spaces fill with a kind of
soothing electric vibration.

Our senses, restored, never
to be the same, whisper to us.

They existed. They existed.

We can be. Be and be better.

For they existed.

Lovingly submitted, The Family

Remember Me

Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all good times,
Shared throughout the years.

Now I am contented

That my life it was worthwhile,
Because I know by loving you
That I made you smile.

When you are walking down the street
And you've got me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps
Only half a step behind.

So please don't be unhappy
Just because I'm out of sight,
Remember that I'm with you
Every morning, noon and night.



Interment

FULL MILITARY HONORS

All Cemetery

Committal Service, Prayer & Benediction
Allendale, South Carolina

Pallbearers & Floral Attendants

Friends of the Family

Repast

B&G Backside

Allendale, South Carolina

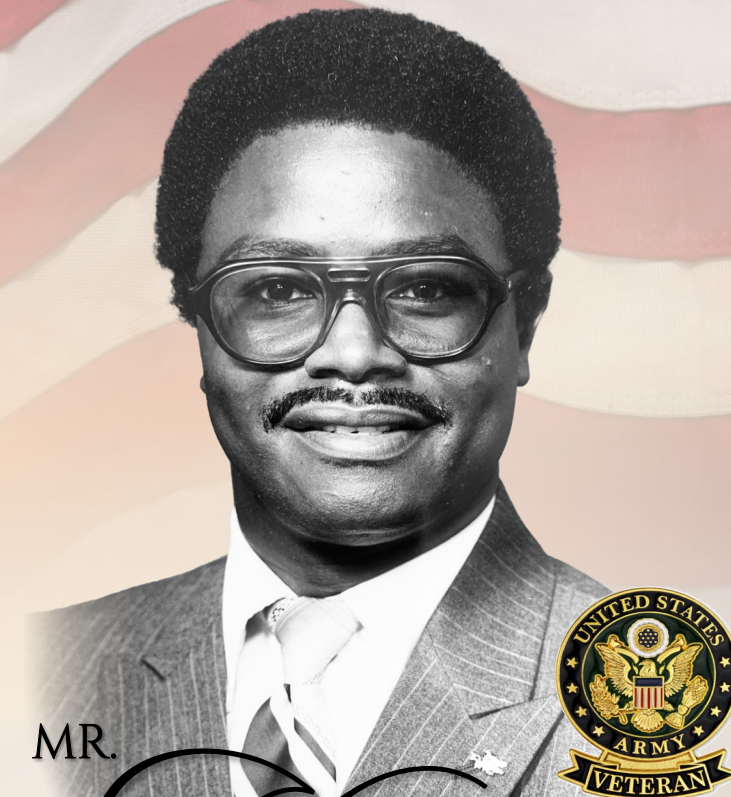


Dr. Betty D. Strudwick
Licensed Mortician
156 Pleasant Street West
Allendale, SC 29810

Tel: (803) 584-4488 | Fax: (844) 884-6210
www.allendalecommunityfuneralhome.com

"Where Comfort Is Found In Memories"

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR



MR.

Ferlie LEE
CHESS

Sunrise: December 18, 1947 - Sunset: October 30, 2024

NOVEMBER 9, 2024 AT 12 NOON
NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
2036 CONCORD CHURCH ROAD
ALLENDALE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29810

REVEREND DWAYNE L. GREENE, PASTOR

Order of Service

REVEREND MCKINLEY NEAL, PRESIDING

- PreludeSoft Music
- Processional/Final Viewing..... Clergy, Family & Friends
- Opening Selection.....Sister Erica Brisbon
- Scripture Readings
Old TestamentReverend Dr. Bernice Graves
New Testament Evangelist Gwendolyn Neal
- Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Dwayne L. Greene
- Selection.....Sis. Cynthia Thompson
- Words of Remembrance
As a Friend/Classmate ...Deacon William “PeeWee” Green
Family Tribute.....Herlie “Ren” Chess (son)
- AcknowledgementsAllendale Community Funeral Home
- Special Selection..... Bro. Donald Armour
- Words of ComfortMinister Valaree C. Smith
- Recessional “I’ll Fly Away”

Acknowledgments

We the family of the late Mr. Herlie L. Chess would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to each of you for the kindness and love extended to us during the time of our bereavement. May God bless each of you.
The Chess Family



Reflection of Life



MR. HERLIE LEE CHES was born in Allendale County, South Carolina on December 18, 1947 to the late Johnny Chess and the late Bessie Wright Chess Rouse. His biological father was the late Robbie Patterson.

At an early age he joined New Zion Baptist Church in Allendale, SC and was later baptized. Herlie was educated in the public schools of Allendale County and was a graduate of C.V. Bing High School class of 1968. He was awarded a full scholarship to the Citadel College. After high school he joined the United States Army and served in Vietnam as a helicopter and heavy equipment mechanic. He was a graduate of the Technical College of Low Country under the instruction of James Black.

He was employed with the Barnwell County Milliken Manufacturing. Herlie retired from Savannah River Site in many trained expertise and managerial positions. In his spare time, he was an excellent mechanic known for his work in the community and was a Boy Scout Leader for many years.

He entered into eternal rest on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at his residence in Allendale, South Carolina.

He was preceded in death by both parents; sister, Mary Frances; and brothers: Weldon Brown, Bennie Chess, Eugene Chess, Holman Chess and Wesley Patterson.

He leaves to cherish his fond memories: his wife, Yvonne Drummonds Chess; son, Herlie “Ren” (Joanne) Chess of Allendale, SC; daughters: Ladrettia Harley of Allendale, SC, Kedra Drummonds of Barnwell, SC and Shanetta “Skoota” (Aaron) Keel of Tallahassee, FL; nine grandchildren: Valandrea, Raven, Felicity, Yasmine, Lerend, Allanah, Destiny, Erykah and Ja’Hirin; four great grandchildren: Egypt, August, Sebastian and Skylar; seven sisters: Emma Lee (Thomas) Priestler, Jenny “V” Hammonds, Betty Butler, Jeanette Oliver, Allene Mincy, Mary Cullum, and Betty Butler; two sisters-in-law: Thelma Chess and Annie Mae Chess; a special cousin, Freeman Fitts; special friends: William “PeeWee” Green, Charlie “Pony” Anderson and Mary Bowman Issac; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other loving relatives and dear friends.