

Poem Of Life

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road,
To sweet eternity.

We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
But never meant to stay...

Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.

And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.

Author Unknown

Flower Bearers & Pall Bearers

Nieces, Nephews, and Cousins

Honorary Pall Bearers

Prince Hall Masons

Acknowledgments

The family would like to extend our gratitude for your expressions of sympathy, the demonstrations of love, and the evidence of your care, prayers, and presence.

May God bless each of you!

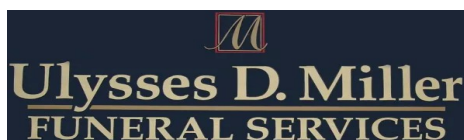
Special Thanks

Reton Lathan Caregiver Team

Prince Hall Masonic Bodies and Family

Charles George VA Medical Center, Asheville, NC

Wells Spring United Methodist Church, Forest City, NC



485 Poors Ford Road | Rutherfordton, NC 28093 | Phone: 828-287-3800
"We Are The Voice of Comfort In Your Hour of Grief"

CELEBRATION OF LIFE BURTCHUS RETON LATHAN, SR.



Drawing courtesy of Karmyn Pittman

A Gift Given

March 19, 1930

A Gift Returned

June 30, 2024

Saturday, July 6, 2024

Moments of Visitation: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Service – 12:00 p.m.

*Wells Spring United Methodist Church
201 Wells Spring Road
Forest City, North Carolina 28043
Reverend Lisa Moore, Officiating*

Order of Service

Musical Prelude – Organist, Reverend Carol Davis
Processional
Hymn of Praise – Wells Spring United Methodist Church
Scripture
Old Testament – Reverend Carol Davis
New Testament – Reverend Norman Aiken
Prayer of Comfort – Reverend Stinson Quarrels
Solo – Jewanda Turner accompanied by Jerry Freeman
Reading of Acknowledgments – Stacey Wilkerson Tillman
Resolution of Respect – Jeffrey Littlejohn
Poem – Karin Mitchell Pittman

Remarks *(2-minute maximum please)*
Mickey Bland, Mayor of Spindale
Scott Webber, Spindale Town Manager
Linda Smith, Neighbor
Parris Miller Simrel, God-Daughter
Jeffrey Lathan, On Behalf of the Family
MWGM Daniel L. “DT” Thompson, Masonic Remarks

Obituary *(silent reading)*
Solo – Wesley Neal accompanied by Jerry Freeman
Eulogy – Reverend Christopher Martin
Masonic Rites
Benediction
Recessional – Organ Postlude

Interment

*Wells Spring United Methodist Church Cemetery
Forest City, North Carolina*



Obituary

Burtchus “Reton” Lathan, Sr.

Burtchus “Reton” Lathan entered eternal rest on Sunday, June 30, 2024. He was born on March 19, 1930, in Pumpkinton, SC to the late Albert and Erma Lathan.

Reton received his early education in Rutherford County public schools, graduating from Carver High School, in Spindale NC. He also attended North Carolina College for Negroes, in Durham, NC, now known as North Carolina Central University. His professional career included teaching brick masonry at R.S. Central High School in Rutherfordton, NC. After 30+ years of teaching, he retired from the Rutherford County School System. Following his retirement Reton continued his passion for brick masonry hardscape work.

Reton was very wise and well-respected. He loved his family and community deeply. His hobbies included listening to jazz, watching his favorite television show *Hee Haw*, cooking and smoking barbeque, as well as hosting family and friends at his home.

In addition to his parents, Reton was also preceded in death by his wife of over 53 years, Minnie Mae Davis Lathan; sons, Burtchus Reton Lathan, Jr. and Tony Fitzgerald Lathan; brothers, Henry Lathan, Eugene Lathan, and Lee Owens Lathan; sisters-in-law, Laura Davis Harris and Edna Davis Michael; brothers-in-law, Palmer Davis, Leon Harris, and Roscoe Conn.

Left to cherish his memory are his loving daughter, who was the apple of his eye and a faithful caregiver, Tiffany Laverne Lathan of Raleigh, NC; devoted son, Kevin Todd Lathan, Sr. (Gail) of Fayetteville, NC; grand-daughters Cquokeysha Garner (Darnell), Rosalind Law (Thomas), Honnee Foster, and Stephanie Whiteside; grandsons, Kevin Lathan, Jr. (Heather) and Kenneth Lathan (Brittney); sister, Josephine Conn; brother-in-law, James Michael; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, god-children, cousins, and friends.

We thank God for the life of Burtchus Reton Lathan, Sr.