

A Life Well Lived! James Franklin Michael

Mr. James Franklin Michael was born on July 16, 1930 to Flossie and James E. Michael. He was the oldest of three children. He departed this life on Thursday, January 22, 2026 in Rutherfordton, NC.

James was preceded in death by his mother and father Flossie and James E Michael, wife Edna D. Michael, sisters Wilma Allen and Arvis Miller, and in-laws Minnie and Reton Lathan and Laura and Leon Harris, and Henry Allen.

After high school, James entered the military, where he enjoyed a 20 year career, of which he had many stories to tell of friendships and survival. After retirement, he married the love of his life, Edna and to that union came Maria and Jonathan. James then went on to work at what eventually became known as AT & T for nearly 20 years where he then retired in 1990 for a second time.

James was a very faithful member of Wells Spring United Methodist Church where he served as Chairperson of Trustees, United Methodist Men President, and was a part of the groundskeeping of the church until he passed on the torch. James also had other community interests that kept him busy during retirement. He volunteered with Habitat for Humanity to help build local homes, attended the local Democratic headquarters meetings and worked the polls occasionally. He also was a member of the NAACP where he diligently bought and collected supplies and took them to the Asheville VA center until the covid pandemic.

James was truly a loving person with a contagious smile that would light up a room. He will be missed tremendously, especially by his family. He leaves behind to cherish many great memories of him, son Jonathan Michael (Angel) of Raleigh, NC, daughter Maria Commedo (Timothy) of Charlotte, NC, grandkids Jayden Michael, Jordin Michael, Alexis Martin (all of Raleigh, NC), Laila Hamrick of Charlotte, NC, Genesis Commedo of Marion, SC and great-grands Briley Martin, Braedyn Martin and Bronx Martin of Raleigh NC, and Zaniyah Commedo of Marion, SC. Also, he leaves a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, god-children and special friends who loved him dearly. One special friend, Billy Wilson who was always there to provide friendship, laughter and a helping hand when needed. And a special cousin, Belinda Davis, who always was there when we couldn't be.



Moments of Sharing

Processional

Family Visitation.....11:00 am - 12:00 Noon

Order of Service

Reverend Lisa D. Moore, Officiating

Scripture

New TestamentReverend Eddie Littlejohn

Prayer.....Reverend Carol Davis

Selection.....Jewanda Turner

Church Resolution.....Jeffery Littlejohn

Remarks (2 minutes or less please)Larry Blanton
Reverend Travis McEntyre
James "Keeno" Whitfield
Vanessa Murray

Selection.....Jewanda Turner

Eulogy.....Reverend Christopher Martin

Recessional

INTERMENT

Wells Spring United Methodist Church
Forest City, North Carolina

Floral Bearers
Nieces and Cousins

Pall Bearers
Nephews and Cousins



*Your Legacy Lives On
Your laughter echoes in our dreams,
In every sunrise, your spirit gleams.
A guiding light, a steady hand,
You built a life upon love's sand.
Though tears may fall and hearts may ache,
Your love, dear father, no end can break.
In the tapestry of our lives, you're woven in,
A father's strength, a family's kin.
We celebrate the joy you brought,
The precious lessons that you taught.
You haven't left, you've just moved on,
In every heart, your legacy lives on.*



Acknowledgements

Our family would like to express our most and deepest sincere thanks to called, texted, visited, offered prayer and warmest thoughts. We do appreciate all of the love shown to us during this difficult time.

Also, a heartfelt thanks to Rev. Lisa Moore and Wells Spring UMC, and Ulysses Miller Funeral Services staff and musicians.



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

A Home Going Celebration Honoring the Life and Legacy of MR. JAMES FRANKLIN MICHAEL



FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

July 16, 1930 - January 22, 2026

Saturday, February 7, 2026
12:00 pm

Wells Spring United Methodist Church
201 Wells Spring Road
Forest City, North Carolina 28043

Reverend Lisa D. Moore, Pastor