



Flower Bearers

Family & Friends

Honorary Pallbearers

VFW Post #2785
American Legion Post 512
Friends and Former Coworkers

Active Pallbearers

Military Body Bearers

Acknowledgments

As a family, we gratefully acknowledge every expression of sympathy extended to us during this time of sorrow. Your kind and comforting words, prayers, flowers, visits, food and telephone calls have warmed our hearts. May God bless each of you in a special way.

A special thank you is extended to the members of Rose Hill Baptist Church, DCI of Dawson, GA and Gentiva Hospice. Your presence meant the world to him.

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CELEBRATING
THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF



Deacon Harold J.
ANDERSON

Retired Command Sergeant Major

March 12, 1947 – February 05, 2026

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2026
2:00PM

ROSE HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
TERRELL COUNTY, GA

REV. JOHN E. THOMAS JR., PASTOR
REV. DR. MARVIN BROWN, OFFICIATING

~ Reflections of Life ~

Retired Command Sergeant Major Harold J. Anderson, the son of the late Esther (the late William Cliff) Sanders and the late Edward (the late Isabelle) James, Sr. was born March 12, 1947, in Dawson, Terrell County GA. He was a 1965 graduate of George Washington Carver High School.

After high school, he enlisted in the United States Army and volunteered to go to Vietnam to defend the freedom of American Citizens. After his Honorable Discharge, he desired to join the local Army National Guard in Dawson, GA, but was told, and I quote, "It's not time for ya'll yet." After a while, the federal government required the admission of blacks in the National Guard, and this was the beginning of a lifelong career of breaking many racial barriers.

Believing that work was an integral part of any man's character and ultimately his success, he began working for CSX Transportation, (formerly Seaboard Coastline, Dawson, GA). He started as a Trackman and retired as a Floating Servicing Foreman for the Florence/Savannah Division after 36 years of employment.

In 1995, CSM Anderson attended and completed the Sergeant Major's Academy in El Paso, TX. In 1996, he earned the recognition of being the First Black Command Sergeant Major in the History of the Georgia Army National Guard. He has traveled the world extensively defending our freedom. Because of his dedicated service, we (American Citizens) are able to enjoy the freedoms of this world. He has served in two (2) major wars: Vietnam and Desert Storm. In 2006, CSM Anderson retired after 39 years 4 months and 16 days of faithful service.

CSM Anderson retired from the military battlefield, but he continued to serve in the Army of Our Lord. He was a faithful and dedicated member of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Terrell County, GA where he served as Deacon and Church Treasurer. The American Flag still flies at his residence in Dawson, GA that he shared with his wife of 57 years, Air Force Veteran Burnie D. Williams Anderson. Additionally he is survived by his four children, Auburn (Latesa) Sherrod, Monica D. Johnson, Carmen (Retired CW3 Michael) Goode, Retired USN Chief Information Technician Carol B. (Retired USN Chief Radionman Darrel L.) Donald; three sisters, Belinda (Ronald) Quillet, Elaine James and Barbara (Kenneth) Reid; four brothers, Douglas Sanders, Edward (Neidra) James, Jr., Donald (Laura) James and Richard Ricks; 15 grandchildren; seven great grands; 2 aunts, Mary Lewis and Mary James; in-laws, Ethel Williams and Bismarck Opoku and a host of family and friends that will miss him dearly.

On Thursday, February 5, 2026, CSM Harold J. Anderson peacefully exchanged the busy walk of earthly life for sweet eternity at his residence surrounded by his family. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Rosa Sanders and Helen Opoku and grandson, Austin Johnson.

Harold was a devoted family man that had a love for people and helping the community. The joy of his day was being able to spend time with his great grands: Dallas, Ayden and Major. They referred to each other as 'Best Friend'. Their relationship was beyond words. He was instrumental in starting the local branch of Habitat for Humanity. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 512, Albany, GA and a life member of VFW Post #2785, Albany, GA.



My Soldier. My Love

In Loving Memory of Retired Command Sergeant Major Harold J. Anderson

You wore your uniform with honor and pride,
Command Sergeant Major, standing strong as my guide.
Through years of service, sacrifice, and duty's call, You
gave your country your very all. Retired, yet your
courage never faded away,
You led with strength in every way.
Not just a soldier brave and true,
But a loving husband whose heart I knew.
Your boots are now resting, your watch finally done,
God called home a hero, a faithful one.
Though I miss your voice, your smile, your hand,
I know you now rest in Heaven's command.
Forever my soldier, forever my heart,
Even in Heaven, we are never apart.

Love Always,
Your Wife

~ Order of Celebration ~

Processional

Hymn of Praise.....Rev. Christopher O'Bryant

Prayer of ComfortDea. Vernon Jessie

The Holy Word

Old TestamentRev. John E. Thomas Jr.

New TestamentRev. John E. Thomas Jr.

Song of Praise.....Johnson & Son

Reflections.....Two Minutes, Please

As a Spiritual Son.....Rev. Larry Thomas Jr.

As a Classmate.....Dea. Otis Oxford

As a Patient.....Cassandra Milledge

As a Guardsman.....John Heath, Retired Brigadier General

Song of Inspiration.....Deacon Johnny B. Dennard

As a Fellow CSX Employee.....Bobby Sampson

As a Sibling.....Edward James, Jr.

As a Father.....Monica D. Johnson

Open.....Family & Friends

Tribute of Love.....Bishop Tremaine O. Alford

Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. Marvin Brown

Acknowledgments/Resolutions.....Johnson & Son

Musical Postlude

Interment with Full Military Honors

Cedar Hill Cemetery
Dawson, GA

