

## *Father*

*His charming ways and smiling face;  
Are a pleasure to recall;  
He had a kindly word for each;  
And died beloved by all.*

*The peace of Jesus filled his breast;  
And in His arms he sank to rest.*

*All his toils and conflicts o'er.  
Lo, he dwells with Christ above;  
Oh, what glories he's discovered;  
In the Saviour whom he loved.*

*You're not forgotten father, dear;  
Nor ever shall you be;  
As long as life and memory last;  
I shall remember thee.*

*His weary hours and days of pain;  
His troubled nights are past;  
And in our aching hearts we know;  
He has found sweet peace at last.*

*Gone is the face we loved so dear;  
Silent is the voice we loved to hear;  
Too far away for sight or speech;  
But not too far for thought to reach;  
Sweet to remember him who once was here;  
And who though absent, is just as dear.*

*His smiling way and pleasant face;  
Are a pleasure to recall;  
He had a kindly word for each;  
And died beloved by all.  
Some day we hope to meet him;  
To clasp his hand in a better land;  
Someday we know not when;  
Never to part again.*

*Our family circle has been broken;  
A link gone from our chain;  
But though we're parted for awhile;  
We know we'll meet again.  
We shall meet with many a loved one;  
That was torn from our embrace;  
We shall listen to their voices;  
And behold them face to face.  
Sunshine passes, shadows fall;  
Love's remembrance outlasts all*

## *Honorary Pallbearers*

Deacon John Calhoun      Deacon Jerry Fryer  
Deacon Charles Hardy      Deacon Larry Coleman

Class of 1956

## *Pallbearers*

Grandsons

## *Honorary Floral Attendants*

Class of 1956

## *Active Floral Attendants*

Family and Friends

## *Interment*

Mallet Cemetery



*Final Arrangements Entrusted to:*

**Royal Funeral Home**

P.O. Box 163 • 247 W. Pine Street • Jesup, Georgia 31598

## *Celebrating of Life* for

**Deacon James E.  
Dawson, Sr.**



**Sunrise      Transition**  
August 29, 1936      May 31, 2012

**Saturday, June 9, 2012**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church**  
1365 Kinlaw Road • Kingsland, GA  
**Reverend, Dr. Leon Washington, Pastor**



## Life's Story

**THE EARLY YEARS** | Deacon James Edward Dawson, Sr. was born August 29, 1936 in the Greenville Community. He was the first-born child to his parents, the late Brother Roosevelt Dawson, Sr. and the late Sister Vernie Lee Pearson-Dawson. During his childhood, Deacon Dawson often reminisced of working in his father's field and attending to the family's cattle. Also, Deacon Dawson recalled memories of playing with siblings, cousins, and friends from the neighborhood.

Deacon Dawson was educated in Camden County Schools and graduated from Ralph J. Bunche High School in 1956. As a student at Ralph Bunche, Deacon Dawson exhibited his athletic prowess on the Hornets' football team. Following high school graduation, Deacon Dawson enlisted in the United States Army. He trained at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina. Also, Deacon Dawson served a tour of duty at Fort Hood, Texas.

**WORK** | Gilman Paper Company was Deacon Dawson "occupational get-a-way"; he toiled arduously at the company for 40 years. Deacon Dawson spent the majority of his career in Gilman's wood yard operating machines like the stacker. A dedicated employee, Deacon Dawson received perfect attendance honors for several years. He understood the value of hard-work and modeled this behavior to his children. One of his favorite quotes was, "A man who doesn't work, will starve."

**CHURCH LIFE** | Reverence of the Almighty God was implanted in Deacon Dawson's heart from an early age. Deacon Dawson attended Zion Sisters Missionary Baptist Church in the Greenville Community, under the tutelage of the late Rev. Bethel Strickland. In adult years, Deacon Dawson joined New Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Gross, Florida.

He was ordained a deacon by the late Rev. Dr. Delores Holmes, and he was dedicated to the works of the ministry. He was appointed Chairman of the Deacon's Board and Church Trustee Board. Like his dedication to his career, Deacon Dawson was passionate about his role as laborer in Christ. One would always see Deacon Dawson encouraging the youth to advance in education or ill members about God's healing touch. His favorite hymn was "Father I Stretch My Hands to Thee." Deacon Dawson graciously worked alongside his wife and pastor, Sr. Apostle Christena Dawson in handling church affairs until his health caused him to transition.

**FAMILY LIFE** | Love filled the air in the fall of 1965, when he met and fell in love with Apostle Christena Brown-Dawson. Deacon Dawson embraced Apostle Dawson's family, for she was guardian to her four younger sisters, Delores Brown-Holmes, Alice Brown, Jacquelyn Brown-Coleman, and Shyrel Brown-Mack, a nephew, Antonio Tyson; and her children, Dallice Douglas-Mitchell, Flossie Douglas-Eakins, and William Douglas. In June 1967, the

love birds married. The following year, Deacon and Apostle Dawson welcomed a son, James, Jr. Six years later, a baby girl Ivy, was born.

Deacon Dawson transitioned from this life on May 31, 2012 at UF and Shand's Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. He leaves to cherish his memories his loving wife of 44 years Christena. His children: James Dawson, Jr. (BSE); Reverend Ivy Dawson (BS; MBA); William Douglas (Surgical Technology) & Wanda (General Manager); Dr. Dallice Mitchell (BSEd; MBA; D.Min.) & Wesley; Minister Flossie Eakins (BS.Acct) & Darrell, Sr. (USN Retired); Antonio Tyson, Sr. (BS.Bio) & Sheri (BS.Soc; MBA); Missionary Evang. Alice Brown (AAS.Hs; BA-Crim; SEGA-LE); Minister Jacquelyn Coleman (BS.Chem.; Certified Quality Assurance Engineer) & Deacon Larry Coleman (BS.Chem.; MBA); Minister Shyrel Mack (Biblical Theology, Diploma; A.Th) ; Reverend Leon Mack (B.Th; M.Th). Dr. Delores Holmes preceded him in death.

Granddaddy Jim's memories will always be cherished by his Grands: Jinada (Surgical Technology) & E5 2nd Class Petty Officer Tim (Navy), Kristopher; Darrell, Jr. (BSE; MBA), Darrin (BSE), Deion; Kimberly & Ronald, Sr., Javario (Computer Information Technology) & Donnisha, Javante, Shantae', Keisha, and Korenski; Diallo (BBA); Dr. LaRae Coleman-Brown, M.D. (BS.Bio; BS.BioChem.) & Joe (BS.Ba; MBA), Dr. Jeremy Coleman, M.D. (BS.Bio; BS.Biochem.) & Shalanda (BS.Eng. Lit.; MA.Eng.); Shanya (BBA-Inf.Sys.) & Eric, Sr. (BA.Soc.), India (BSN-RN; MSN-FNP), Ina (BSEd.) & Oscar (BS.Soc.), Vyctoria; Antonio, II, Aye'Anna, Courtnie; Courtney Adell, and Arnesha.

Great-Grandchildren: Jaelin, Kimbreyunia, Ronald, Jr., Inaya, Isyss, Ty, Liana, Jaison, Eric, Jr., Asia, Zaiden, LaTia, and Tiara.

Also cherishing his memories, Mother-in-law, Rubye Brown. Father-in-law, Deacon William Brown preceded him in death.

And his brothers: Deacon Roosevelt, Jr. (Agnes), Kingsland, GA, Deacon Arthur Lee (Linda), and Deacon Howard (Robine), St. Marys, GA. His Sisters: Bertha Dawson, Deloris Dawson, Mansaline Everett, and Naomi Dawson, Kingsland, GA; and, Kathy Jones, College Park, GA. Brothers-in-law: Deacon Leroy (Carmen, RN) Holmes, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina; Bishop Samuel Green, Sr., Little Rock, Arkansas; and, Raymond Myers, St. Marys, GA. Sisters-in-laws: Dr. Ava Green, Ed.D, Orlando, FL; Queen Dawson, Fernandina Beach, FL; Ruby Dawson, Yulee, FL; and, Dorothy Myers, St. Marys, GA. Brothers Alvin Dawson and Harvey Dawson preceded him in death.

A special daughter, Lisa Walton. Godchildren: Harold Jr., Amanda, and Tracy and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. Extended family members: Woodrow Monlyn, Jr.; Coleman, Annette, Danielle, Amber, and Khalil Green; and, Timothy and Lynn Roberts; Jerry, Katherine, and Devante Fryer, Hannah Franklin; Cassandra and Demonja Parker, and Bishop Thomas K. Coleman, Sr., Donnice, Danielle, Thomas, Jr., and Destiny, and LaCandace Jackson.

## Order of Service

*Apostle Jeanette Richo, Presiding*

Processional

Selection .....Min. Vernon Richo

Scriptures

Old Testament ..... Pastor James Payne

New Testament ..... Rev. Leon Mack

Invocation ..... Evg. Ann Kimble

Selection ..... Third Mt. Zion Male Chorus

Resolutions & Acknowledgements ..... Min. MoRonica Ravenell

Tributes

The Grands ..... Dr. LaRae Coleman-Brown

Other Family Members

Dad's Legacy ..... Min. Jacquelyn Coleman

Cherished Moments ..... "Photography: The Love of His Life"

Selection .....Min. Vernon Richo

Eulogy ..... Bishop T. K. Coleman, Sr.

Parting Glance

