

Order of Service -

Reverend Richard C.K. Harkness, Sr.

Officiating

Reverend Franklin Washington, Presiding
New St Matthews Baptist, Bennettville, SC

Prelude.....Organist

Processional.....Minister and Family

Hymn of Praise.....“Blessed Assurance”

Invocation.....Reverend Walter Jenkins
Shioh Missionary Baptist Church, Parker’s Ferry

Choir Response.....Olive Branch AME Choir

Solo.....Sister Tierra Washington

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament.....Psalm 91

New Testament.....2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Minister Charles Gilliard, Jr

Solo.....Brother Bernard Manigault

Remarks.....Sister Patricia Singleton, Class Leader/ Sister
Sister Mildred Harrell, Community Friend
Brother Chris Major, Mason Brother/Friend

Tribute.....Brother Jeron Gilliard, Grandson

Resolutions.....East Cooper Council Ushers #7

Olive Branch AME Church

Solo.....Sister Virginia Washington

Words of Comfort...Reverend Richard C.K. Harkness, Sr.

Recessional / Final Viewing

CommittalOlive Branch Memorial Gardens

Benediction.....Reverend Richard C.K. Harkness, Sr.

Life Reflection -

Brother James Gilliard, Sr, affectionately called “Big Jim” was born on March 12, 1934 to the late Willie and Eva Gilliard in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. He was the second child of eleven children.

Big Jim was educated in the public schools of Charleston County in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

He was united in holy matrimony to Albertha Lawrence, and to this union five children were born. They were married for 45 years until Albertha was called to her heavenly home.

He was a member of Olive Branch AME Church, where he served on the Trustee Board, Steward Board, Senior Usher Board and he was the leader of Class 16A.

Brother James was also a member of the East Cooper Inter-denominational Usher Council #7 and served faithfully until his health began to fail. He also was a member of East Cooper Masonic Lodge #470 since 1975 where he served faithfully until the time of death.

Big Jim was a very hard worker and excellent provider for his family. He was a very kind and giving person and always willing to give a helping hand. Big Jim will truly be missed. He always strived to better himself and encourage others to do the same. Especially his children and siblings.

He was employed at Western Auto where he was the first African American to hold the position as lead mechanic in the 60’s, which was a great accomplishment during the segregation era. This was an inspiration for many to see him working in Western Auto. He used this position to encourage everyone, especially the younger ones. He retired from Western Auto, but because of his strong ethics he was employed by Westminster Presbyterian Church West of the Ashley, because of his kindness, dedication and strong work ethics, the Pastor, Staff and Members of the church respected and treated him as though he was a member not an employee. He retired a second time, this time from Westminster Presbyterian Church. After these retirements, Big Jim was employed with Goodwill Industries for many years.

Two sons, James Allen and Dwayne Smalls, one daughter, Althea Guest and one grandson, Joshua Singleton proceeded him in death.

Life Reflection Continues...

Brother James leaves to cherish his memories; his children, Jacquelyn Singleton (Isaiah), James Gilliard, Jr. (Carol), Dianna Bennett (Anthony), Frances Shaw, Jeanette Pinckney, Anthony Major, Elaine Major Kathy Seabrook (Derrick), Tammy Smalls (Daniel), Marc Bellarmy (Leroy), and Michael Dingle; two sisters, Patricia Singleton (Isaac) and Rebecca Swinton; thirty-nine grand children; forty-four great grand children; nine great-great grand children; seven sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friend.



When I Must Leave You

When I must leave you for a little while;

Please do not grieve and shed wild tears

And hug your sorrow to you through the years,

But start out bravely with a gallant smile;

And for my sake and for my name

Live on and do all things the same,

Feed not your loneliness on empty days,

But fill each waking hour in useful ways,

Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer

And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near;

And never, never be afraid to die

For I am waiting for you in the sky!

- Helen Steiner Rice



Happy Birthc
James Gilliard S



until we meet again

Honorary Pallbearers

Jeron Gilliard
Lawrence Singleton
Christopher Singleton
Jordan Gilliard

Dontell Gilliard
Gregory Singleton
Johnathan Singleton
Glenn Singleton

Pallbearers

Masons of East Cooper Lodge #470

Floral Pallbearers

Ushers of Olive Branch AME Church
East Cooper Ushers Council #7

Acknowledgement

The family of the late James Gilliard, Sr. wishes to extend their sincere gratitude for all expressions of kindness and comfort shown during their period of bereavement. Special thanks to Roper Hospital Hospice for their kindness and care shown during brother James Gilliard deepest time. The family forever grateful.

Professional Service Entrusted To:

JOHNSON-HALLS FUNERAL HOME
PS Johnson's Incorporated



440 Venning Street • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464-5329
843-884-4252 (Office) • 866-884-4252 (Toll Free)
843-971-9809 (Fax)

Programs: just ink by Jackie (843) 568-1826
jacquelynsnipe@gmail.com

Celebration
of Life

**BROTHER
JAMES GILLIARD, SR.
"BIG JIM"**



Sunrise
March 12, 1934

Sunset
June 3, 2023

Olive Branch A.M.E. Church
1734 Highway 17 North
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Thursday, June 8, 2023
11:00 AM

Reverend Richard C.K. Harkness, Sr.
Pastor
-Interment-
Olive Branch Memorial Gardens