



Garden of Grace Board of Directors Member Passes

Garden of Grace Board of Directors Member Pastor Willie Joe McLemore passed September 10, 2017. Pastor McLemore was born on September 20, 1934, to Willie H. and Daisy McLemore in Frairs Point, MS. His parents, siblings, son Dexter and daughter, Christine, preceded him in death.

He graduated high school and took up a trade in electronics. Soon after, he entered the military and started a family in Memphis, TN, where he attended the Memphis Vocational College, sharpening his skills in electronics. After being discharged from the military, he moved his family to California, where he worked several jobs and pursued advanced training in electronics at Citrus Community College. During this time, he began a career with the US postal Service. While in Memphis and California, Pastor McLemore sang professionally with a few men's gospel groups.

Due to his notable skill set, he was offered and accepted a substantial promotion as an instructor within the US Postal Service and relocated to Oklahoma and later accepted the call the Lord placed on his life. The Lord sent him to Pastor Jesse Woodfork and Community Missionary Baptist Church where he commenced his ministerial calling. He was ordained as a minister in August 1988. The Capital Baptist Association made it possible for Pastor McLemore to have a mission church. The doors to Calvary Missionary Baptist Church were opened April 1989. He became Pastor there on October 10, 1993.

Pastor McLemore made a positive impact in the lives of the people around him and anyone he met. He was the most humble, God loving man and applied Biblical principles in his daily living. He was a truly great man of God. He loved sharing the Word, the love of God and music. His legacy speaks for itself. He always said, "What you do, speaks so loud, that what you say can't be heard."

He is survived by his living wife Dennis Ruth; three daughters, Vivian Atkins (Ken) of Fontana, CA; Jan Griffin (John) of Houston, TX; Dale Ramirez (Randall) of Gilroy, CA; stepchildren, many grand an great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, a host of relatives and an abundance of friends.

A special thank you to Thelma Jackson (Elijah) of Memphis, TN, for loving support and care "Down through the years."

Pastor McLemore Quotes

1. What you do speak so loud, that what you say can't be heard.
2. All is well.
3. It's a blessing to be in service, one more time.
4. Amen walls!
5. The SUN didn't shine, because the SON was shining!
6. You don't have to say amen; I know I'm right about it!
7. Whatever the Lord's will, it shall be done.
8. Some people that join the church think . . . they on a gravy train riding down hill with biscuit wheels sopping up all the gravy.
9. In his younger life, he used to say, "Anyway the wind blows, is a cool breeze to me!"
10. Where the Lord is, that's where I want to be.
11. After every phone call, he ended with "God Bless!"