



Celebrating The Life of

Melvin Houston, Sr.

Sunrise

April 1932

Sunset

December 2017

Proverbs 1:8

*Listen, my son, to your father's
instruction and do not forsake
your mother's teaching.*

Home Going Services

December 28, 2017

Visitation 10:00 AM

Services 11:00 AM

Vines Funeral Home, Inc.

211 B Street SW

LaFayette, AL 36862

Memorial Services

January 27, 2017

Compassion Baptist Church

2650 E 95th St

Chicago, Illinois 60617

The Life's Legacy of Melvin Lewis Houston, Sr.

Melvin Lewis Houston, Sr. was born April 13, 1932 in Wadley, Alabama to the union of Willie Lee and Willie Mae Houston whom preceded him in death. Melvin was preceded in death by his brothers, John Clinton Houston and Willie Lee Houston, Jr.

Melvin attended Randolph County Training School until 1952 when he decided to enlist in the United States Armed Forces where also obtained his high school diploma.

Melvin married Martha on December 28, 1954 and to this union three children were born, Melvin Jr., Beverly and Patricia.

Melvin received his General Service Technicians Course Certificate for Basic Electricity and Wiring, DC Power and Motor Repair, and AC Power and Motor Repair in 1956 from Coyne Electrical School. His work experience consisted primarily of Coil Winding and supervising Coil Winding Departments. Melvin was a the epitome of union man and worked diligently to uphold the rights of Local 3718 members from 1984-1987 as President. Melvin spent 23 years with Challenger until the company relocated. He then retired after 12 years with Rivera Transformer Company in 2000.

Melvin enjoyed racing cars (secretly) with his boys back in the day. Melvin enjoyed his "Deuce-and-a Quarters", purchasing one every two years until Buick ceased production.

He also enjoyed the game of Ten Pin which became a family favorite with his wife Martha, who still bowls today, his daughters, grandsons and great-grandsons. Two 300s have been bowled by Beverly and Kishawn.

Melvin was admired for his no nonsense approach to life and his impeccable taste for fashion left a lasting impression on everyone.

Melvin Lewis Houston, Sr. departed this physical life on Thursday, December 21, 2017. He will be dearly missed. Melvin leaves to cherish and celebrate his life: his loving wife of 63 years, Martha Houston; three children, Melvin Jr., Beverly and Patricia (Dr. James Guess); three grand sons, Darryll, Kishawn and Samuel-James; four great-grand sons, Dante, Dashawn, Kivonte and Kylene

Order of Service

Thursday, December 28, 2017
Visitation: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Service 11:00 AM—12:00 Noon

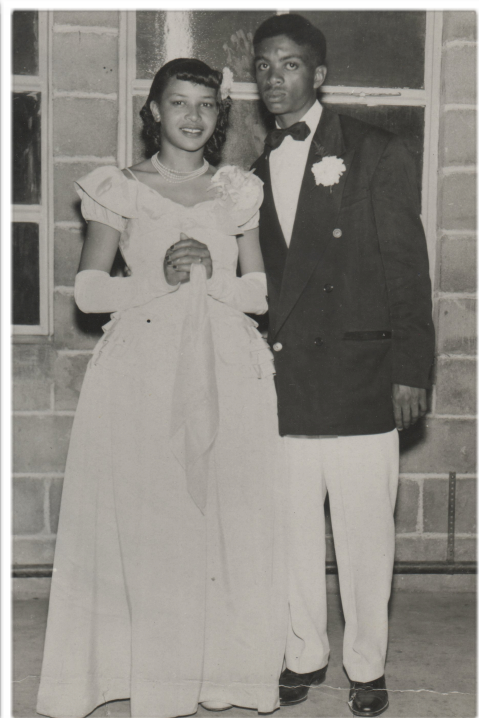
Vines Chapel
211 B Street SW | LaFayette, AL 36862

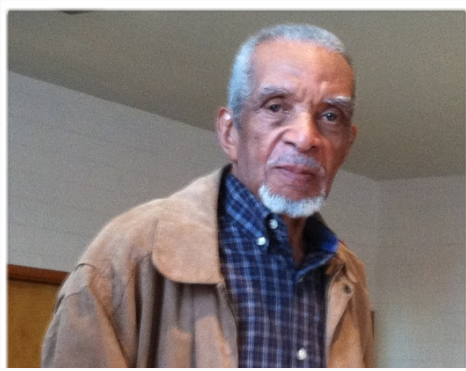
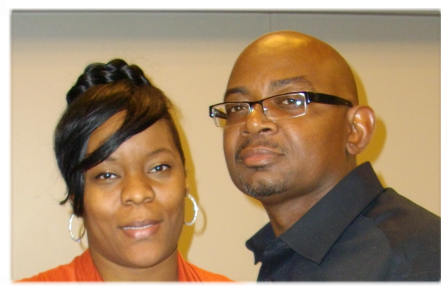
Order of Services

<i>Organ Prelude Processional</i>	<i>Family</i>
<i>Scripture</i>	Rev. James Wright
<i>Old Testament</i>	<i>Psalms 119:30-50</i>
<i>New Testament.....</i>	<i>Luke 2:28-32</i>
<i>Prayer</i>	Pastor Jeffrey Watson
	<i>South Central Conference of Seventh Day Adventists Montgomery, AL</i>
<i>Selections</i>	<i>Vernel Billings</i>
<i>Remarks (2 Minutes)</i>	<i>Family and Friends</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>Joyce Wyatt</i>
<i>Resolutions</i>	<i>Reggenia Watson</i>
<i>Obituary</i>	<i>Read in Silence</i>
<i>Selection</i>	<i>Vernel Billings</i>
<i>Eulogy</i>	Senior Pastor Bob Rice
	<i>Northeast Bible Church, Plano, TX</i>
<i>Recessional</i>	<i>Winans (Every Day The Same)</i>

Legacy in Photos

Melvin Lewis Houston, Sr.





Saying Goodbye

"Won't It Be Grand!"

Uncle Melvin is at rest now,
No more suffering, no more pain.
Another golden link is missing,
From The Houston family chain.
It feels like such a whirlwind,
The farewell seems way too swift,
But my voice declares in gratitude,
"Thank You Jesus for this gift!"
The husband of dear Aunt Martha,
The Houston's handsome son,
The dad of Mickey, Bev, and Pat,
All of the grandkid's hearts he won!
Though Chicago was his dwelling place,
The SOUTH lived in his heart.
A city slicker country boy,
A firm foundation for his start.
How to go forth from here without him,
NO finite human tongue can tell,
ONLY God can grant the needed strength,
To endure the loss of Uncle Mel.
With prayers of faith and Houston courage,
We'll press on and run life's race,
Til we rejoice at the Houston reunion,
And behold our Savior's face!
The venue will be the earth made new,
No Houston cap but a golden crown.
T-shirts will be replaced by long white robes,
We'll never cry nor wear a frown.
Loved ones reunited will include Uncle Mel,
A song will resound from the choir stand,
"We're Going Home To Live With Jesus,"
"Won't It Be Grand, Won't It Be Grand!"
With Heart deep Love,

Reggenia Watson Baskin



Saying Goodbye



I'm going to miss Poppy. When we did get a chance to spend time together, it was always fun. He would show me how to do things and was just good to be around. Since I know Jesus too, I know I will see him again.

Samuel-James Guess



I'm Kivonte Houston great grandson of Melvin Houston Sr., but to me (Poppy). For the 16 years of my life I've known him, my understanding and demeanor has been impacted based off his qualities. Some through him and some I've learned from my father and uncle. His character was one of strength and loving more (tough love). Plus Poppy and nana came to my sports activity's when they could to be part of my support system which I truly appreciate since not a lot of people in this world have that. I'm thankful for the long weeks of school to return to spending time over his house with the rest of my family. Also the 16 birthdays and Christmas he has blessed me with a gift. I know you are in a better place in peace and know your qualities will live through me.

With Love and Blessings. Kivonte Houston

When I was little my mom said I had to come up with a name for you, and that I couldn't just keep calling you "that man", I'm blessed and honored to have been your first great grandson, the first person to all you "Poppy" and the reason me and my brother and cousins call you that.

You guided my father, uncle, brother, cousins, and myself with as much light as you could shed us, a lifetime of lessons on being a man. You always knew what to do In any situation, giving advice only Poppy could give us. I pushed hard to finish my latest piece of work so I could show you what my decade of hard work in music has paid off to be. You were always there supporting and looking out for me, whether it was picking me up from school the airport, or just listening to my music. When we get to meet again, we will go fishing.

Dante Sanders-Houston

Hi Poppy, I'm going to miss talking to you about of you. sports. I'm going to miss going in the garden to pick the tomatoes with you. I'm going to miss sitting on the porch with you during the summer. There are many memories we share. You and Nana took me to Alabama when I was 3, which was my first time out of town; I can still vividly remember that trip. I remember when you would always tell me to put my socks on because the cold floor can give me a cold. I really enjoyed talking to you about your time in the military. Hearing your stories about how you use to race with your friends back in the day was always entertaining. Also, I remember when I was much younger, I would help you clean your truck in the alley, that was always fun. I will always cherish my memories

Love you Poppy
Dashawn Sanders-Houston

Melvin Lewis Houston, Sr.

Pallbearers

Darryll Houston Kishawn Houston Samuel-James Guess
Dante Houston Dashawn Houston Kivonte Houston

Honorary Pallbearers

Melvin Houston Jr. Charles Houston Dr. James Guess

MISS ME – BUT LET ME GO!

Author Unknown

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little – but not too long
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me – but let me go.*

*For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good
deeds.*



Acknowledgments

The family of Melvin L. Houston, Sr. appreciate each and every expression of kindness shown during this difficult time. Thank you for continuing to keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

Interment & Repast

Mt. Olive United Methodist Church
County Road 823, Wadley, AL 36276