

# FOREVER LOVED...



*A piece of our heart lives in*  
*Heaven*

**PALLBEARERS & FLORAL BEARERS**  
*Family and Friends*



## God's Garden

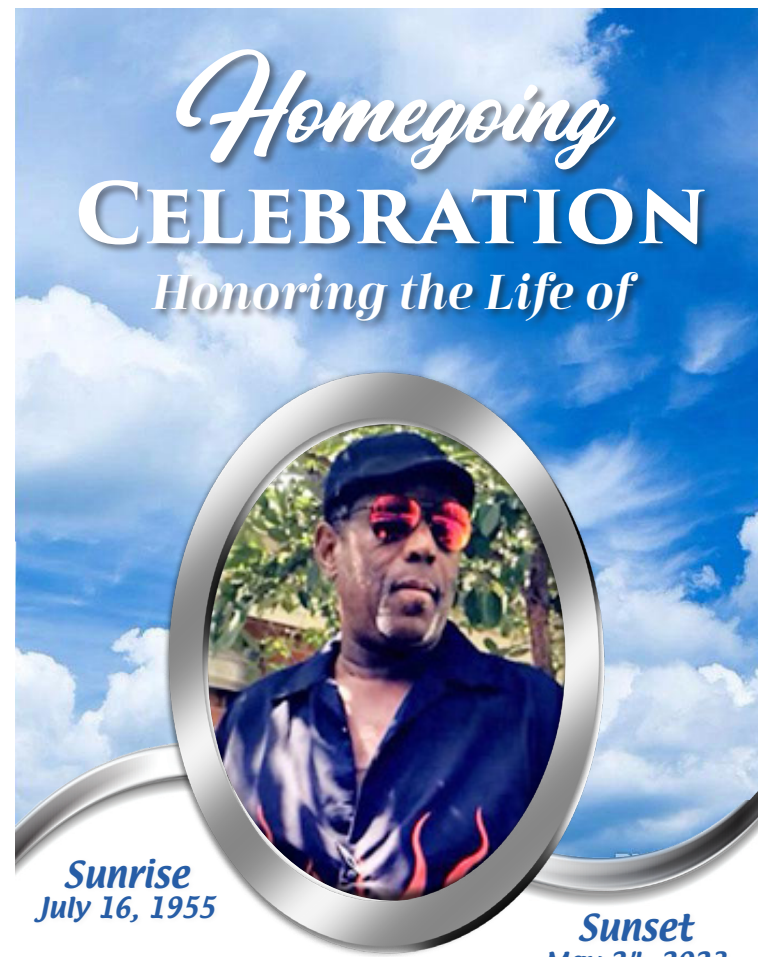
*God looked around the garden, and found an empty space. He looked down upon the earth, and saw you're your tired face. He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest. God's garden must be beautiful for the He only takes the best. He knew that you were weary, and He knew you were in pain. He knew that you would never be well on earth again. He saw the roads were getting rough, and the hills were hard to climb.*

*So He closed your weary eyelids,  
 and whispered  
 PEACE BE THINE.*

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*Homegoing*  
**CELEBRATION**  
*Honoring the Life of*

*Sunrise*  
 July 16, 1955

*Sunset*  
 May 24, 2023

*James*  
**RUFUS MELVIN**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2023 • 1:00 PM**

**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP  
 WORSHIP CENTER**

1014 Danbury Road • Fayetteville, NC 28311

*Pastor T. L. Davenport, Presiding*

# Order of Service

*Pastor T. L. Davenport, Officiating*

- Processional .....Clergy and Family
- Scripture Reading ..... Eugene McPaul, Jr.
- Hymn .....Rosemary Shephard
- Reading of obituary .....Read Silently
- Remarks .....Two Minutes Please
- Prayer of Comfort ..... Pastor T. L. Davenport
- Acknowledgments ..... Shandrika Williams
- Musical Selection
- Recessional
- Postlude .....Musical Selection

## INTERMENT

*Lafayette Memorial Park West  
6701 Raeford Road · Fayetteville, NC 28304*

### *Acknowledgements*

*With our warmest regards, the family of the late James Rufus Melvin, Wish to say thank you to you all for being here at our time of need. Perhaps you have sent flowers, cards, sent food, or just sat quietly in the room. Perhaps you were not there at all, but just thought about us on this day. Whatever you did, we thank you all for your prayers, presence and all you have done to console our hearts. We thank you so much whatever the part.*

THE MELVIN FAMILY

# James' Life...

**M**ay 24,2023 early morning hours **JAMES RUFUS MELVIN** accepted the Lords invitation to come home. He was born July 16, 1955 to the late Daniel and Mary Edna Melvin in Fayetteville, North Carolina. One of seven, preceding him in death Larry Purdie, Sherry and Herman Melvin.

Graduate of Douglas Byrd Senior High School. He worked years at Modern Moving and Storage as a packer and loader, as well as merchandiser for Budweiser.

**JAMES ( DICKIE) MELVIN** was full of life and never met a stranger. He was known to dance and cut a rug and say whatever is on his mind. He was blunt but always spoke the truth. He loved his grand kids so much even on his sick days he made it to all of their events. Marrying the love of his life at the age of eighteen they went on to experience 48 years and a half of marriage resulting in five kids. Two preceding in death Demetrius and Zavora Melvin. James (Tanisha) Melvin of Fayetteville, daughters Crystal and Catasia Melvin of Fayetteville; special son, Travis Autry of Fayetteville; seven grand daughters and four grandsons; sisters, Sarah McPhaul of Fayetteville, Dalphine McNair of Fayetteville; sister-in-law, Pearl Purdie and one brother, Micheal Melvin of Saint Pauls and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

## DAD

*As we gather this day, to say our good byes,  
We know you understand the tears in our eyes  
You were our rock, our strength  
Your love for us, there was no length  
We will miss your laughter, your  
jokes and your smile  
We're thankful we shared it,if only for a while.  
The pain will dim eventually,  
And in our hearts, you'll always be.  
You've left a legacy of love, caring, and giving  
We'll carry this on as long as we're living!  
Dad your passing left a space so wide,  
But we know you're waiting on the other side.*

*Love Your James, Crystal, Tasia  
& Your Grandkids*

## The Chain

*We little knew that morning  
That God was going to call your name  
In life we loved you dearly;  
In death we do the same  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
You did not go alone.  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.  
You left us peaceful memories,  
Your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you,  
You are always at our side.  
Our family chain is broken,  
And nothing seems the same,  
But as God calls us one by one,  
The chain will link again .*