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7-7-2004

**Ben Hankerson**

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## Active Pallbearers

Nathan Simpson  
Timothy Johnson  
Samuel Bradshaw  
Leon Blake

Ronald Hardrick  
Raymond Bradshaw  
Larry Cohen

## Floral Bearers

Second St. John Missionary Baptist Church

## Crossing The Bar

Sunset and evening star  
And one clear call for me  
And may there be no mourning at the bar  
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep  
Too full for sound and foam  
When that which drew from out  
the boundless deep turn again home.

Twilight and evening bell  
And after that the dark  
And may there be no sadness of farewell  
When I embark.

For though from out our bourne of time and place  
The flood may bear me far;  
I hope to see my pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.



-Alfred Tennyson

## Acknowledgements

To all who touched our hearts, lifted our spirits, offered prayer, uttered a kind word of encouragement, sent cards, made phone calls, participated in the worship, traveled across the miles and shared in any way, we thank you. To our church family and friends who shared our mutual woes, shed a sympathizing tear and made real the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love, we call you bless and highly favored in the Lord. And above all else to our God who has and is able to keep us from falling, we lift our hearts in total praise to you.

Repast immediately following the entombment at  
Second St. John Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

# A Celebration of the Life Of Bro. Ben Hankerson

Sunrise  
April 11, 1910

Sunset  
July 1, 2004



Wednesday, July 7, 2004

11.00 Anti-meridian

Second St. John Missionary Baptist Church

1323 Golden Street  
Savannah, Georgia

Bishop Vincent Drummer, Pastor  
Minister Donald Lowe, Presiding

Services Entrusted to:  
Speed and Adams Funeral Home  
224 Houston Street, Savannah, Georgia  
(912) 236-7881

## Reflections of Life

*To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven. -Ecclesiastes 3:1*

*A Time To Be Born.... Mr. Ben Hankerson was born on April 11, 1910 to the late Paul and Susie Hankerson in Jenkins County, Georgia. His nine siblings, Sam, Tom, B. L., Maybelle, Sara, Lillie, Rufus, David and Jessie, preceded him in death.*

*A Time To Learn.....He received his early education in Jenkins County.*

*A Time Of War....Realizing the love for his country, he joined the United States Army in 1943 and served in WWII. During his tour of duty he received the following honors: WWII Victory Medal, the Phillipine Liberation Ribbon and the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal with two bronze stars.*

*A Time To Build Up...He was employed at Hercules Chemical Plant of Savannah. He retired in 1975 after 31 years of faithful service.*

*A Time To Love....On December 17, 1969, he married his true love Sallie Bradshaw.*

*A Time To Serve....In 1986 he joined Second St. John Missionary Baptist Church where he was a faithful member. Mr. Ben, Daddy Ben, (as he was affectionately called) was a "Gentle Giant". He spoke few words and was always willing to do whatever he could to help someone out. The word "no" was foreign to his vocabulary.*

*A Time To Die...On Thursday, July 1, 2004, God in His infinite wisdom smiled on his humble servant and received him closer into his loving arms to suffer no more.*

*A Time To Mourn....He leaves to cherish his memories a loving and devoted wife, Sallie Bradshaw Hankerson; a devoted daughter, Mrs. Elaine (Ronald) Hardrick; an adopted son, Mr. Willie James Cone; two stepsons, Mr. Nathan J. (Stephanie) Simpson and Mr. Samuel L. (Donna) Simpson of Virginia Beach, VA; three godchildren, Mrs. Sabrina Owens Dicks, Mr. Leon Blake and Mrs. Clara "Nikki" Blake; 20 grandchildren, great grands, great-great-grandchild; a host of loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and those fortunate to call him friend.*

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,  
and I have kept the faith.... ~II Timothy 4:7*

## Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Parting Glance..... Soft Music

Hymn ..... Second St. John Choir

Invocation ..... Min. Mack Bradshaw

Scripture Introductions..... Minister Donald Lowe

Old Testament ..... Min. John Kelly, Jr.  
St. James Baptist Church

New Testament ..... Rev. Thomas Norman III  
Asbury United Methodist Church

Solo ..... Rev. Alphonso Piper  
Pastor, Goodwill & St. John Devine B.C.

Remarks:

As A Member..... Dea. Ernest Brisbane

As I Knew Him ..... Sis. Danzie Lewis

Tribute ..... Sis. Gwen Miller

Selection..... Second St. John Choir

Obituary Read Silently..... Soft Music

Acknowledgement/Resolution..... Sis. Ella Bell, Church Clerk

Solo ..... Bro. James Hall  
Townesley Chapel AME Church  
Accompanist, Sis. Zella Weaver

Eulogy..... Bishop Vincent R. Drummer  
Pastor, Second St. John Baptist Church

Recessional

Entombment  
Garden of Peace  
Magnolia Gardens Cemetery  
Savannah, Georgia