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Willow Hill Heritage & Renaissance Center

3-28-2022

Mr. Willie James Lavant Sr.

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Order of Service

Processional
Final Viewing
Selection
Invocation.....Pastor Harry Tremble
Miller Grove MBC, Statesboro

Scriptures
Old Testament.....Pastor Arthur Kelly
Thomas Grove MBC, Statesboro
New Testament.....Pastor Willie White
Springfield MBC, Springfield
Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor C.L. Anderson
Greater Zachariah MBC, Glennville

Selection
Reflections: (Please limit to "2 minutes")
Deacon Donnell Baker.....Chatham County
Layman's Ministry
Mrs. Gail T. Williams-Neal.....Friend
Sis. Mary Owens & Bro. John Robinson (Bobby).....
Members of Beautiful Zion
Ms. Melissa Lavant Aaron.....Family

Acknowledgements,
Resolutions, & Obituary.....Evangelist Michelle Smokes
Solo.....Ms. Te'Aisha Grant
The Eulogy.....Pastor Earnest Harris
Beautiful Zion MBC

Recessional

Interment
Military Honors
Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery
819 U.S. Highway 301
Glennville, GA



A Time for Everything
Ecc. 3:1

*There is an appointed time for everything.
And there is a time for every matter under
heaven...*

Pallbearers

Nephews

Honorary Pallbearers

Deacons Who have Served with Our Beloved

Floral Attendants

Nieces & Friends

With Profound Appreciation

*The family of Our Beloved, Mr. Willie J. Lavant, Sr, extends our
sincere gratitude and appreciation for your prayers, love, support,
visits, cards, and many acts of kindness during the illness and passing
of our loved one. It is our prayer that GOD will richly bless and keep
each of you in HIS loving and tender care.*
~ The Family



Invitation

*Following the Interment, a repass will be provided by Beautiful Zion Missionary
Baptist Church in the fellowship hall to share in a time of encouragement with the
family.*

Craig R. Tremble
FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

A Family Serving Families

Rev. Craig R. Tremble, Owner/Mortician | Yolanda A. Tremble, Owner

www.craigrtremblefuneralhome.com | ctremble@frontiernet.net



Statesboro Chapel
238 West Main St | Statesboro, GA
912-764-2100 | 912-764-2380 FAX

Celebrating the Life of



**Mr. Willie James
Lavant, Sr.**

September 17, 1944—March 17, 2022

Gathering of Family & Friends

Monday, March 28, 2022—12:00 Noon
Beautiful Zion Baptist Church
895 Beautiful; Zion church Road
Pembroke, GA

Pastor Harry Tremble, Presiding
Pastor Earnest Harris, Eulogist

Memories...

Not How Did He Die, But How Did He Live?

*Not how did he die, but how did he live?
Not what did he gain, but what did he give?
These are units to measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of his birth.
Nor what was his church, nor what was his creed?
But had he befriended those really in need?
Was he ever ready with word of good cheer,
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?
Not what did the sketch in the newspaper say,
But how many were sorry when he passed away?*
author unknown

A Life Well-Lived...



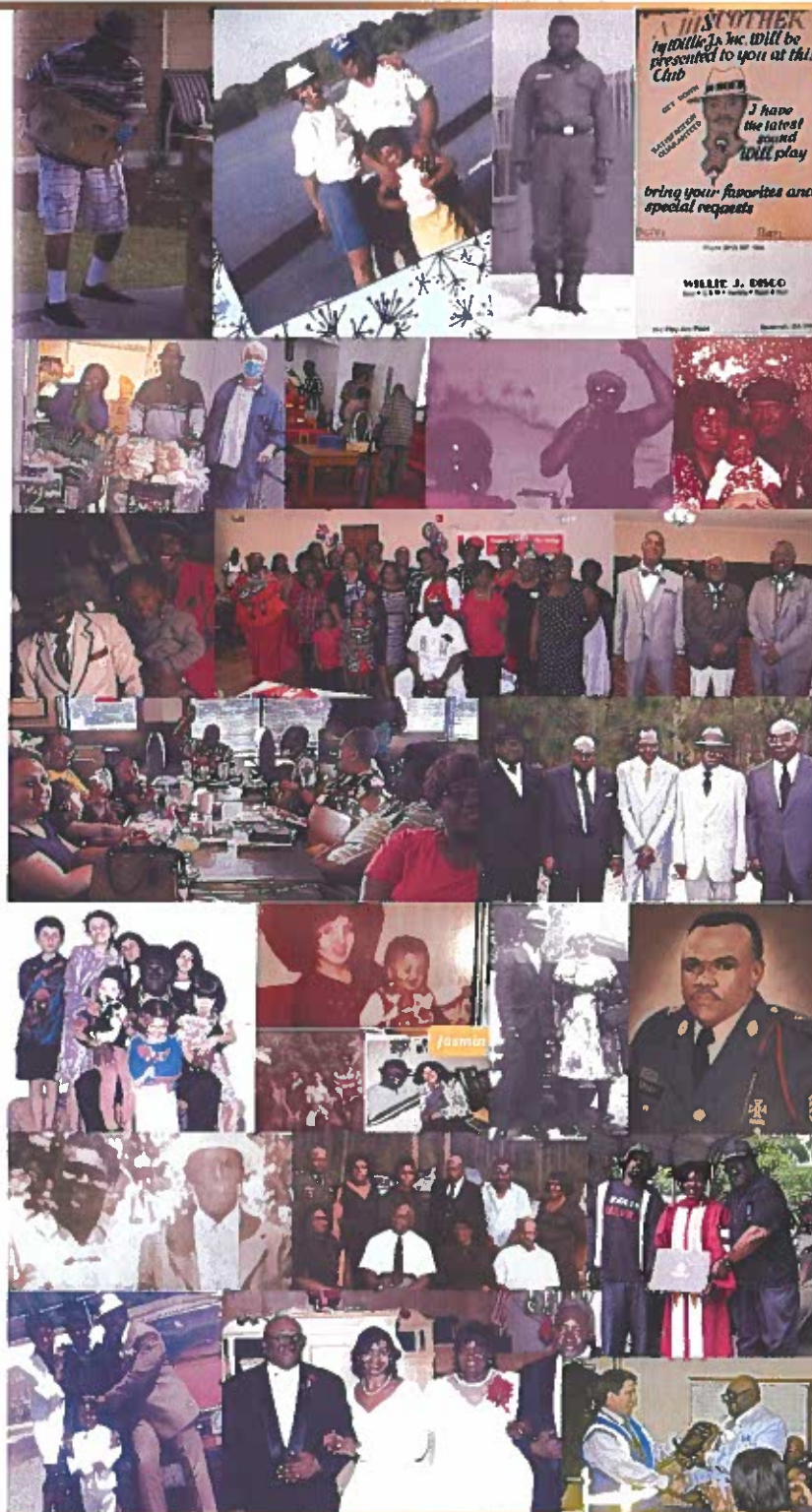
"Willie J"



Retired Army-(SFC)
Sergeant First Class



Beautiful Zion MBC Deacon Board
Chairman ~ "Deac"



My Journey



Willie James Lavant, Sr entered earth on September 17, 1944 into the arms of the late Ferge & Edna Mae Lavant in Pembroke Georgia. After a brief illness, but hard fight, he departed earth Thursday night, March 17, 2022. He was the 10th child of eleven and the youngest male child born of his beloved parents. In May 1962, he graduated from Pembroke High School & began working at a local full-service gas station. Early in life, his parents taught him the importance of having good work ethics and being responsible. These attributes were carried forth and fine-tuned during his time of military service. At the beginning of his 22-years of service in the United States Army, he was married to his high school sweetheart, Lumisher Andrews for several years. From that union, they were blessed with his eldest daughter, Revardale.

While protecting our country during the Vietnam War along with tours of duty in Korea, Germany & other areas, he established his own business in music as a "DJ"-- A DISCOTHEK by Willie J. Inc. He made many friends and enjoyed years of displaying his unique light show while "spinning" music. Also, during his time in Germany, he was married to Waltraud Meyer for several years and was blessed with his second daughter, Jasmin. He returned to the United States to complete his military service and met Reader Mae Wright who blessed him with his son, JR. After his honorable discharge from the US Army, he received several certifications from area technical colleges. Additionally, he worked for several years with Pepsi Cola Company, the US Postal Service, and completed his work career by retiring from the Georgia Ports Authority.

For his next assignment, Willie J. followed in the footsteps of his older brothers by being ordained as Deacon at the church his parents helped to build and establish, Beautiful Zion Missionary Baptist Church (BZBC) in Pembroke GA. Because of his faithfulness in serving others, he became the Chairman of the Deacon Board. Affectionally referred to as "Deac" or "Deacon Willie J.", he devoted his life to taking care of not only the members of BZBC, but the upkeep of the facility as well. He was recognized and respected by many churches as the representative for Beautiful Zion. Because of his calling to be a blessing to others, he joined the Savannah Chatham County Layman's Ministry (CCLM), an evangelistic/outreach ministry. Before COVID, he served as President and because of social limitations caused by the virus, he discovered his new assignment while serving with his daughter in distributing food. With an additional circle of friends, he began picking up and delivering food weekly from Food Distribution Centers to family, friends, church members, neighbors, etc. His home became a grocery store and he gladly shared items with anyone who entered. His leadership and commitment to serving others will be fondly remembered.

Willie J. will be greatly missed, but we thank GOD and give HIM the praise for time with our Beloved. Cherished memories will remain in the hearts of his daughters, Evangelist Dr. Revardale Lavant Middleton of Pooler, GA, Jasmin Lavant of Germany and his son, Willie J. Lavant, Jr. of Savannah, GA, 10 grandchildren in Germany, Sisters, Betty Givens of Dover, DE and Linda Bush of Bronx, NY along with a host of wonderful nieces, nephews, other relatives, and "special" friends. He is preceded in death by his parents and eight siblings.