



Floral Bearers
Friends of the Family

Pall Bearers
Class of 1969

- Acknowledgements -
The family of
CLARENCE RAY HODGE
acknowledges with grateful appreciation every act of kindness that was shown to us during our time of bereavement. We would like to take the time to say Thank you for being such wonderful friends. May God richly bless each of you and keep you forever in His grace and mercy.
- THE HODGE FAMILY -

Professional Services Entrusted to:


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CELEBRATION OF
Life

October 5, 1950
November 26, 2022

**Clarence
RAY HODGE**

Saturday, December 3, 2022
- 1:00PM -
First Baptist Church
Lucama, NC
Rev. Jeffrey Simms, Eulogist

Pastor Aaron McNair, II, Presider

Processional.....Ministers & Family

Musical Selection.....First Baptist Lucama Choir

- Scripture Readings -

Old Testament.....Rev. Renee Strayhorn

New Testament.....Rev. Angela Cherry

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Sherman Blandon

Musical Selection.....First Baptist Lucama Choir

Remarks & Tributes (2 minutes please)
Church
Springfield Class of 1969
Family

Musical Selection.....First Baptist Lucama Choir

Acknowledgements/Obituary.....Sis. Paulette Sutton

Solo.....Lady Alicia Blandon

Eulogy.....Rev. Jeffrey Simms

Funeral Director's Brief

Recessional

- INTERMENT -
Rest Haven Cemetery
1717 Bishop L.N. Forbes St.
Wilson, NC

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me at that day and not to me only, but unto all of them that also love His appearing". 2 Timothy 4:7-8

Clarence Ray Hodge

was born on October 5, 1950 in Wilson County, North Carolina to Clarence Hodge and Mildred Diggs Hodge. He peacefully left us to go and be with Jesus on Saturday, November 26, 2022 at the Durham Veterans Hospital. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his three siblings; Kenneth, Amy, and Lola. Clarence Ray liked to be called "CR"; however his childhood nickname that most people knew him by was "Boot". Boot never married, although he came close to it. He never had children of his own. However, his nieces and nephews held a huge place in his heart. He affectionately called each of their names twice or gave them a special nickname. CR loved his family and enjoyed the special times shared with each one.

Reared in Wilson County, CR received his formative education from the Wilson County Public School System. After graduating from Springfield High School in 1969, he entered the workforce for a short while and was later drafted into the United States Army. He served his country well with honor, dignity and pride as he served in the Vietnam War and other military duties. At the end of his tour of duty, he received an Honorable Discharge and was awarded a National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, a Bronze Star, Vietnam Campaign Medal and two Overseas Service Bars. Later in life he moved to the Washington, DC, Maryland area and was employed with The Washington Times for more than 25 years. He connected with and made many lifelong friendships in that area. Most did not know, but CR loved to write song lyrics, poems, and short messages. He wrote several articles while employed with The Washington Times. One of his first poems was published by The Poet's Guild in the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

Gifted and very talented, CR was a great singer. He was a member of the singing group, "Tailor Made" with which he traveled to different parts of the country appearing in stage performances. Desiring to be closer to his family, he left the city life and moved back to North Carolina. Realizing the need for Christ in his life, he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior. He joined First Baptist Lucama and never looked back. He made sure that he let us know that he was saved!

Loving and lasting memories are forever cherished by his two sisters, Vera Caldwell and her husband Henry of Bailey, NC and Linda Ward and her husband George of Wilson, NC; two brothers, Charles Hodge and his wife Sue of Lucama, NC and Curtis Artis and wife Barbara of Wilson, NC; one aunt, Arbor Fox of Greenville, NC; a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family, and friends.



A Message to You

On this journey of mine, I have experienced the happiness and joy of this world and yet I didn't feel fulfilled inside of my mind, my heart, and my soul, not until I allowed Jesus Christ to come into my life. Then and only then, the true light began to cause the darkness in my life to evaporate, and the things of this world become second and GOD became first. Out of The Eyes of my Heart, I can see clearly now, my mind is more focused on His words and now I understand the Work I have to do in His Eyes and that I need to do to become worthy of His grace.

C.R. HODGE

I'm walking in a new direction now, in faith, love, and hopefulness that will help me in my journey toward the pearly gates of HEAVEN. Maybe your journey needs a new direction and maybe we can meet each other on that GLORIOUS day at the GATES of Heaven. REPENTANCE OF SINS IS THE KEY. Do not allow the devil to keep you from the GLORY of GODS LOVE. With your free will it's your choice and yours alone. Allow your soul to move towards the threshold of ETERNAL LIFE.

With every minute of every day love your family, love your friends, and love the ones who don't love you back, but most of all Love GOD!

C.R. HODGE