



Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr.

May 15, 1947 - September 7, 2024

Donnie Bradford, Sr. who entered eternal rest September 7, 2024, was born May 15, 1947, in Humboldt, TN to the late Rev. Ben Bradford and the late Lillie M. Patterson Bradford.

He accepted Christ at an early age and was a lifelong member of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church (Humboldt, TN). He served as a Deacon, Sunday School Teacher, and worked with many auxiliaries.

He attended Phillips School and graduated from Stigall High School (Humboldt, TN) in 1964. Donnie and Rose met in 1960 to a bond that lasted until his transition. After completing high school, he enlisted into the United States Air Force in 1965 and served during the Vietnam War. After an honorable discharge in 1968 from the Air Force, Donnie went to get his associates degree from Jackson State Community College.

For over 40 years, he was employed at Eaton Axle (Dana) Corporation. While at Dana, he was instrumental with his fellow coworkers to start the Union for the Humboldt, TN location. Later in his life, Donnie graduated from American Baptist College (Jackson, TN location).

He was united in holy matrimony to Rose Simmons Bradford on September 19, 1970. God blessed this union with two sons, Donnie M. Bradford and

David J. Bradford. He was the father to his daughter Donneka Johnson.

If you needed to find Donnie, look no further than Walmart, riding with his twin brother, appointments at the VA in Memphis, or on the lawn mower. He loved family reunions where he was often at the center of the group laughing, cutting up and telling history with his close-knit family. In his community, Donnie always had the spirit of giving and would lend a helping hand without being asked. He was a pillar of support for many and a cornerstone of the family and community.

Donnie's beloved grandchildren were one of his precious gems. DJ, Malcom, Myles, Maya, and Lauryn are the reasons Donnie was able to make memories that will last forever.

To his children, Donnie was not one to lecture, he led by life lessons. He gave kindness to others and stood in the gap for those who needed his love and support. His devotion was shown in his marriage.

He was preceded in death by his father, Rev. Ben Bradford, his mother Lillie M. Bradford; one brother, Johnnie Bradford; four sisters, Lillian Bradford, Bennie May Russell, Minnie L. Stewart, and Elsie Tyler.

Those left to cherish his memories are his loving wife, Rose Bradford; two sons, Donnie M. Bradford, David J. (Marqueshia) Bradford; one daughter, Donneka (Chris) Johnson; grandchildren, Donnie M. (DJ) Bradford, II, Malcolm David Bradford, Myles David Bradford, Maya Bradford, and Lauryn Bradford; three sisters, Willie Pearl Bradford, Barbara (Clisby) Smith, Doris M. Tender, all of Indianapolis, Indiana; two brothers, David (Ann) Bradford his twin, Gregory (Sue) Bradford both of Humboldt, TN; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Cemetery Details

Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads

593 Wildersville Road
Parkers Crossroad , TN 38388

Previous Events

Family Hour

SEP 20. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Oak Grove M. B. Church
579 Humboldt Gibson Wells Rd.
Humboldt, TN 38343

Celebration of Life

SEP 21. 12:00 PM (CT)

Morning Star Baptist Church
612 N. 12th Avenue
Humboldt, TN 38343

Interment

SEP 23. 10:30 AM (CT)

Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads
593 Wildersville Road
Parkers Crossroad , TN 38388

Tribute Wall

PL

“ My heart and prayers goes out to all the Bradford's. Don you will truly be missed and in our hearts forever.
Pat Lyons

Patricia Lyons - September 21, 2024 at 07:44 PM

TF

“ The McConnell Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..



The McConnell Family - September 20, 2024 at 12:55 PM

TL

“ Sending Condolences from Doris and Tammy Linningham. The last time we were at home we were heading out and stopped by the church and there was Don and Dave taking care of Oak Grove church grounds. Sending prayers to the family.

tammy linningham - September 20, 2024 at 03:37 AM

DB

“ D/E Albert D. Baker & 1st Lady Baker purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..



D/E Albert D. Baker & 1st Lady Baker - September 19, 2024 at 11:20 PM

KW

“ *Khaleel W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..*

Khaleel W. - September 19, 2024 at 06:46 PM

KB

“ *Kassam B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..*

Kassam B. - September 19, 2024 at 01:41 PM

JS

“ *JAMES G SIMMONS lit a candle in memory of Donnie Bradford*



JAMES G SIMMONS - September 18, 2024 at 10:36 PM

JC

“ *Jones Companies / Boys & Girls club planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..*

Jones Companies / Boys & Girls club - September 18, 2024 at 01:59 PM

JC

“ Jones Companies / Boys & Girls club purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..



Jones Companies / Boys & Girls club - September 18, 2024 at 01:59 PM

DP

“ Deepest Sympathy to the Bradford Family.



Debbie Paige - September 18, 2024 at 01:25 PM

JP

“ Our Deepest Sympathy! As the days continue to pass, we hope you find comfort and support in the people that surround you and the wonderful memories you carry in your mind and in your heart.
James & Joyce Pirtle

Joyce Pirtle - September 17, 2024 at 02:01 PM

JP

“ Joyce Pirtle lit a candle in memory of Donnie Bradford



Joyce Pirtle - September 17, 2024 at 01:56 PM

BF

“ Bill Moody and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..

Bill Moody and family - September 16, 2024 at 06:36 PM

BF

“ Bill Moody and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr..



Bill Moody and family - September 16, 2024 at 06:36 PM

JR

“ My deepest condolences go out to the Bradford family for the loss of this remarkable man, Mr. Donnie Bradford Sr., who has found peace in the embrace of the Lord and has rejoined loved ones who have passed on before.

He will be dearly missed, and his memory will continue in our hearts. My thoughts and prayers are with my cousin David as he navigates this difficult time to lead and support his mother, his family, and Uncle David, who has been with his brother since the womb. I want to pray for wisdom, strength, and understanding as he takes on this role. God bless and Godspeed, Uncle Donnie.

Love from the Rose Family, Gwen, Jasmine, and Jimmy.

JAMES ROSE - September 16, 2024 at 12:49 PM

KW

My condolences to the Bradford family. I pray that his life and legacy continues to inspire others.

*-Blessings
Khaleel*

Khaleel White - September 16, 2024 at 06:45 PM

DE

We are praying for Donnie and his family!

Dr. Janice Epperson - September 16, 2024 at 08:03 PM

MG

“ *To the family of Mr. Donnie Bradford Pastor and Sister Stewart you have our deepest sympathy as you mourn the loss of your uncle. Prayers for your family during this difficult time.
Mr. Pietro Garrett Sr. and Dr. Cynthia Garrett*

Mr. Pietro Garrett - September 15, 2024 at 08:33 PM

CM

“ *Prayers in the Mighty Name of Jesus for the Bradford Family. He will surely be missed. God Bless all of you. James and Sandy Milan*

Cassandra Milan - September 14, 2024 at 10:44 AM

SB

“ *Stevie Bradford lit a candle in memory of Donnie Bradford*



Stevie Bradford - September 14, 2024 at 03:45 AM

FC

“ *Sincerest prayers and condolences for the Bradford family. I pray God's continued blessings be upon you during this difficult season of your life.*

Min. Flora Claybrook

Flora A Claybrook - September 13, 2024 at 06:57 PM

MM

My condolences and prayers to the family. May he continue to comfort you now and forever more.

Morris Merriweather - September 16, 2024 at 07:19 AM

FA

“ *My deepest sympathy for your loss.*

"Many Prayers"

May the peace of our lord rest upon you and your family during this challenging time.

The family of Elizabeth and Jack Reed.



Freddie M Akinpelu - September 12, 2024 at 11:52 PM

MP

Sympathy and condolences to the Bradford and Simmons Families Praying for comfort and strength as you all goes through this difficult time.

MR & MRS DEFREMON PURYEAR - September 20, 2024 at 02:30 PM

DB

“ Sad not saying farewell but rest on and know that you led and set the greatest example of being an husband, father, grandfather, sibling, friend, and A Man!!! This is a picture we found of my parents and myself at the airport in Memphis back in the days!!!!



Donnie M. Bradford - September 12, 2024 at 02:48 PM

JP

“ David and Donnie were good friends with my father and they use to come over to visit our family quite often. When you saw one you saw the other ALWAYS. They were two peas in a pod and connected at the hip.
Donnie will surely be missed. Praying for the family

Julie Glenn Mann Powell - September 12, 2024 at 08:02 AM

SA

“ Praying for the family



Sue Williams Albea - September 11, 2024 at 03:57 PM

KW

“ My deep condolences to his wife Rose, David and Donnie Bradford. My prayers 🙏 are with them and others family members.

Karen Wilkes - September 10, 2024 at 05:24 PM

LK

“ Condolences and prayers to the family ❤️👨👩👧👦
🙏😭💔



Lucy Nolan Kimble - September 10, 2024 at 09:07 AM

VM

“ I send my prayers and condolences to you all. Praying God will
continue to give you all the strength to go through this time of grief
🙏

Valerie Mack - September 09, 2024 at 06:22 PM

JS

“ Man Mr. Bradford not only smart he can really sing. I often tickle
when I saw him and his brother Dave they are twins for real. Man
Mr. Donnie to will be missed you've set an example for so many
people. I will never ever forget you sir. It will be hard not seeing you
and Dave riding and laughing together.

john sanders - September 09, 2024 at 06:19 PM

MW

“ Sending condolences to the entire Bradford
family in their loss! Rest in eternal peace ! 🌹
🌹🌸



Mary Wynne - September 09, 2024 at 11:43 AM

MS

Sending condolences and prayers to Rose and the entire Bradford family, may God strengthen you all.

Maxine Shivers - September 13, 2024 at 12:31 PM

EJ

My prayers and thoughts are with the Bradford family in the loss of there love one. I pray that God will continue to give you strength in days to come. I remember him his wife Rose and his brother when they attend American Baptist Seminary in Jackson, Tennessee.

Erma J Johnson - September 16, 2024 at 04:59 PM