



## Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.

February 14, 1940 - August 13, 2015

Mr. Lafayette McKinnie, Sr, or "Mac" as he was so affectionately called by many, was born in Somerville, TN, on February 14, 1940 to the late Frank McKinnie and Silvia Lee Ferguson-McKinnie.

After the passing of his mother at a young age, Lafayette was reared in the household of his beloved aunt, Mrs. Cora Mae Ferguson-Spencer and uncle, Gus "Goat" Spencer. He received his public education in Hardeman County and Graduated from Allen White High School in 1958. As a youth Mac played Basketball and ran track.

After High School Lafayette attended Tennessee State University (formally Tennessee A&I State University) and became active in several organizations including Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. While enrolled at Tennessee State University Lafayette was drafted into the Armed Services.

Mr. McKinnie was a proud Vietnam War Veteran and received an Honorable Discharge from the United States Army.

After discharge Lafayette returned to Tennessee and attended Lane College in Jackson, TN. During his Lanite years Lafayette became a charter member of the Delta Epsilon Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc; received several special recognition; and met his College Sweetheart, Ms. Josephine

Short. Lafayette graduated Lane College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1968.

Lafayette was united in Holy Matrimony to Josephine Short on February 2, 1968, and to this union four children were born.

Mr. McKinnie served as Director of JTPA/WIA/Southwest Human Resource Agency for over 25 years where he was blessed to provide thousands of people with employment opportunities and job training skills. Because of his devotion to helping others, "Lafayette McKinnie Day" was established in his honor by the Mayor of Jackson, TN.

Lafayette McKinnie made it no secret that he loved God. Mays Hill Baptist Church in Hickory Valley, TN gave him a wonderful foundation in the ways of the Lord. He joined the Macedonia Baptist Church Family in Jackson, TN where he was a faithful member. He held various roles such as: Deacon, Male Chorus Member, Sunday School Superintendent, and Vacation Bible School Co-Director to name a few. He and his wife, Mrs. McKinnie enjoyed visiting the sick and shut in often--taking them needed items.

He was preceded in death by his brothers Larman McKinnie and James Frank McKinnie.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of forty-seven years; Josephine Short-McKinnie; four children: Denise McKinnie of Nashville, TN, Candace McKinnie (Weylin) Brown of Antioch, TN, Lafayette McKinnie, Jr of Jackson, TN and DeAngela McKinnie of Nashville, TN. They also have two wonderful grandchildren who called him "Big Daddy": Christian McKinnie of Jackson, TN and Keaira Brown of Antioch, TN; his devoted brother Oscar Frank (Myra) McKinnie of Nashville, TN, who remained faithful until his passing; and a host of relatives, friends, co-workers, church members, and community members.

To know him was to love him. His faith in God carried him throughout his life.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olivet Cemetery

321 E. Forest Ave  
Jackson, TN 38301

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.  
807 N. Hays Avenue  
Jackson, TN 38301  
(731) 427-7411  
info@stephenson-shaw.com  
<https://www.stephenson-shaw.com>

## Service

AUG 22. 1:00 PM (CT)

Macedonia Baptist Church  
106 Glass Street  
Jackson, TN 38301

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:37 PM



“ *My name is Mary Wynne. I worked with Mac as we called him in Jackson when he was the director of JTPA. He was indeed a wise and caring man. I recall him being very intelligent and kind. It has been years since I "ve seen him, but I could not let this moment pass without acknowledging him. Yes, he was a very caring man .I pray that his family finds comfort in knowing that he touched a lot of lives through his kindness. May he rest peacefully in God's care.*



**Mary Wynne** - August 23, 2015 at 09:42 PM



“ *AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



**AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN** - August 22, 2015 at 02:43 PM



“ *Judy And Roy Pierce lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



**Judy and Roy Pierce** - August 22, 2015 at 11:41 AM

AB

“ AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.



AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN - August 21, 2015 at 11:14 PM



“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr. .



August 21, 2015 at 07:57 PM

AB

“ AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.



AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN - August 21, 2015 at 05:49 PM

AB

“ MAC" WAS MY TRAINER AND BOSS AT THE LOWELL-THMAS BUILDING EARLY 80'S AND ALSO MY FRIEND AND MENTOR" GOD REST HIS PRECIOUS SOUL "<3 PRAYERS AN. LOVE TO HIS FAMILY" AS I KNOW HIS LEGACY OF LOVE AND COMPASSION LIVE ON,,,,, <3



AMANDA BEARE-MARTIN - August 21, 2015 at 04:59 PM

JC

“ I became acquainted with Lafayette McKinnie Sr. at Lane College when he met my first grade friend Josephine. They started a wonderful friendship that exists even now. Because his wife "Jo" and I were already friends, "McKinnie" became my friend also. The three of us have remained friends for 45 years. During those years The McKinnie Family, along with my deceased daughter (Tina), my grandson Peyton Aristotle and self formed a strong bond that I am so thankful for. I send you guys my prayers and my love.

*Joyce Smith Chatman-Jackson, Tennessee*

---

joyce smith chatman - August 21, 2015 at 04:46 PM

BJ

“ In memory of a great boss and friend.



---

Becca Jones - August 21, 2015 at 01:11 PM

DR

“ Thanks, Mac. Your devotion and efforts have made Jackson a better place.

---

Dave Ralston - August 20, 2015 at 11:29 AM

BM

“ Brenda Magers lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.



---

Brenda Magers - August 19, 2015 at 11:04 PM



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



---

August 19, 2015 at 10:55 AM



“ *My deepest and sincere sympathy to the family of Lafayette McKinnie (Mac). He was a great man who truly cared about everyone he came in contact with. He was my boss for many years and I will forever be grateful to him for his leadership but most of all his kindness. Mac devoted his life to helping others. God Bless. Love, Connie Wright, Camden, TN*

---

**Connie Wright** - August 16, 2015 at 01:42 PM

TW

“ I was born and raised in Memphis (TN). My parents Earl and Maudell Wooden very often motored to Bolivar, Hickory Valley, Toone, and Grand Junction to visit churches, friends and family. Cousin Cora Mae Ferguson who raised Lafayette and my mom were cousins and very close friends. Therefore, we always paid a visit to her home on Lafayette Street in Bolivar, and she would spend 2 weeks each summer at our Memphis home.

*I was maybe 6 years old when I first met Lafayette. He was home from college on a brief stay at Cousin Cora Mae's home. He was the most handsome young man I had ever seen...more debonair than any actor, celebrity, or entertainer on TV or in the movies. I recall seeing Lafayette only on 2 other future visits to the area with my parents.*

*At our 2007 Ferguson Family Reunion in East Point (GA), I had the pleasure of speaking with Lafayette once again and meeting his wife Josephine and their daughter. During our 2009 Ferguson Family Reunion at Chickasaw State Park (TN), Lafayette unfortunately took ill and was not able to attend.*

*His widow, daughters, and other surviving family members are in my prayers. I too grieve your loss. Remember that God won't put no more on his children than they can bear. Lafayette's gentle spirit, kindness, beautiful smile and memories will live on forever. May God protect and strengthen each of us as we bereave my cousin's passing!*

*Sincerely,*

*Mrs. Earleen Bean (aka "Twigg")  
Concord, CA*

---

Twigg - August 16, 2015 at 12:53 AM

TF

“ Your Family are in out prayers and with many thoughtful memories of wonderful person, a Friend and a very helpful person in many ways. Very lasting memories of your loved one. God Bless and keep you under His care. Lovingly, A Neighbor, The Bond Family

---

**The Bond Family** - August 15, 2015 at 11:18 PM

RA

“ McKinnie Family. 'Mac' was a friend and WIA Associate for many years and he will be missed by all who knew him. My sympathies to you all and God Bless You!! Ron Acree

---

**Ron Acree** - August 14, 2015 at 12:05 PM

HB

“ OUR PRAYERS OF COMFORT ARE WITH JOE AND THE FAMILY. KNOW THAT LAFAYETTE IS WITH THE LORD AND PEACE WILL BE STILL.WE BEEN BROTHERS FOR ALONG TIME. HE WILL BE MISS. TO BE ABSENT FROM THE BODY IS TO PRESENT WITH THS LORD. REST IN PEACE LAFAYETTE. MCKINNIE FAMILY,GOD CAN AND WILL PROVIDE A BRIGHTER DAY AHEAD.

**HARVEY AND SHARON BUCHANAN**

---

**harvey buchanan** - August 14, 2015 at 11:22 AM

JM

“ Mac was one of the good guys! I loved working with him over many years in the Tennessee workforce system. Never saw him without a smile, and he always had a kind word. RIP Mac, and prayers for comfort to all of you. Our loss is Heaven's gain!

---

**Jan McKeel** - August 14, 2015 at 09:55 AM

SH

“ *Sarita Hafford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



---

**Sarita Hafford** - August 13, 2015 at 08:48 PM

LB

“ *I am so sorry for your loss! Praying for your family. Mac was the best boss I ever had and a good friend!!*

---

**Lisa Bradford** - August 13, 2015 at 08:22 PM

LB

“ *Lisa Bradford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



---

**Lisa Bradford** - August 13, 2015 at 08:19 PM

VH

“ *with deepest sympathy if the loss of your love one*



---

**Velma Holt** - August 13, 2015 at 03:07 PM

JR

“ Jennifer Rivers-Parker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.



---

**Jennifer Rivers-Parker** - August 13, 2015 at 02:23 PM

VH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family of Mr. McKinnie (Mac) He will always be remembered for his kind Heart and ability in helping others



---

**Velma Holt** - August 13, 2015 at 01:07 PM

BW

“ My prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Mr. Lafayette McKinnie Sr.  
Mr. McKinnie was one of the most caring and compassionate person for all of mankind that I had ever met. He was also one of the "BEST" boss I ever had. He will be sadly miss by all that ever knew him.  
R.I.P. Mac  
Bettina Webb, Lexington, TN

---

**Bettina Webb** - August 13, 2015 at 11:54 AM

BR

“ *Betsy Riley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



---

**Betsy Riley** - August 13, 2015 at 11:06 AM

MW

“ *Lafayette was a wonderful dear workmate and he was also my cousin, we are really gonna miss you rest in peace and may the family have my deepest condolences and know he was well known and liked by all until we see him again in god due time take comfort in knowing you have our deepest sympathy mckinnie, Williams family*

---

**mary williams** - August 13, 2015 at 11:04 AM

MS

“ *Merita Stone lit a candle in memory of Mr. Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie Sr.*



---

**Merita Stone** - August 13, 2015 at 09:51 AM

OP

“ *The Parks and Wilburn family send their condolences to the Mckinnie Family. Mack was a great friend to my brother, Ernest Wilburn. They shared many fond memories together in this life. Now they can share them with the Lord. Mack was a great person to be around. He exemplified the characteristics of a true Christian and friend. I enjoyed working with him on the LWIA Board.*

---

**Ophelia Parks** - August 13, 2015 at 09:11 AM

MS

“ *Lafayette (Mac),  
Was the kindest and most respected person and boss anyone could  
have possibly asked for. Mac you will truly be missed.*

---

**Merita Stone** - August 13, 2015 at 08:56 AM

MM

*It was 30 years ago, a young girl of 17 just out of high school and  
starting her first job with Work Initiatives and had the pleasure of  
working for Barry Hale and Lafayette "Mac" McKinnie. I couldn't have  
had a more fair and understanding leader as Mac. I will miss him  
dearly. My prayers to his wife Josephine and family. Mia Myles*

---

**Mia Myles** - August 16, 2015 at 11:07 AM

BJ

*I was blessed to be Mac's secretary for 13 years. I can honestly say he  
was one of the best bosses I ever had. He was the same every day,  
always had a smile on his face and a kind word for everybody. Mac  
was not only my boss but my friend. He was a devoted family man and  
a Godly man. He touched so many lives and was an asset to our  
community. Mac was respected and appreciated by his staff. Although  
no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that you  
are very close in every thought and prayer.  
Matthew 5:4. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be  
comforted.*

*Becca Jones - August 19, 2015*

---

**Becca Jones** - August 19, 2015 at 08:43 PM

BJ

*I was blessed to be Mac's secretary for 13 years. He was one of the best bosses I ever had. He always had a smile on his face and a kind word for everybody. He was not only my boss but my friend. He was a devoted family man and a Godly man.*

*Mac was respected and appreciated by his staff. He touched many lives and was an asset to the community. Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that all of you are very close in every thought and prayer. Matthew 5:4. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

---

**Becca Jones** - August 19, 2015 at 09:08 PM

BM

*I was privileged to know Mr. McKinnie (Mac) for over 37 years. He was my boss for many of those years. Mac was a caring person who treated his employees with the highest respect. He was the same every day. I remember he came to the funeral home when my dad and mother passed away. That was the kind of person he was. I appreciated that kindness so much. He will be missed. R.I.P "Mac". Thinking of you Mrs. Josephine.*

*Brenda Rushing Magers- Decatur County*

---

**Brenda Magers** - August 19, 2015 at 11:02 PM