



Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey

November 12, 1928 - February 3, 2013

On Sunday, February 3, 2013, Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey completed his life journey and transitioned from earth to eternal rest. He was born in Bells, Tennessee on November 12, 1928 through the marital union of Jodie Cathey and Bessie Mae Hess Cathey. He was preceded in death by his parents, biological brothers Calvin Roger Cathey, Billy Ruffin Cathey, Willie Ross Cathey, and lifelong brother and friend Alton W. Jarmon.

He was educated in the Crockett County Schools system and was a 1948 graduate of Central High School. A proud Lane College graduate, he received his B.S. degree in 1954 with a concentration in Math and Chemistry. Throughout his life Mr. Cathey exemplified the character of a man whose purpose and intent was to serve others.

He served his family as a devoted and doting husband, father and grandfather. On Nov. 1, 1947 he married the love of his life, Vermon Huddleston Cathey and they enjoyed 65 years of marriage together. The Lord blessed them with four children and there was never anything too hard or complicated for him to do to meet his family's needs and his goal to finance his children's college education. While working as a Teacher, Shoe Salesman, Custodian, Cotton Picker, Mill Worker, Cook, Hotel Manager, Factory Worker, and Highway Construction Worker, he demonstrated by example strong work ethics which helped him achieve his goals.

He served his country honorably from 1950 -1952 as an enlisted soldier in the U.S. Army during the Korean War Conflict. He was assigned to Gen. George Patton's "Hell on Wheels" field artillery unit, stationed in Germany, and honorably discharged at the rank of Corporal. He served his community through his various work assignments and affiliations. He touched countless numbers of lives throughout his 34- year elementary school and Math teaching career. He taught at Poplar Forrest Elementary, Mason Grove Elementary, Central High, Alamo, TN, West High, and South Side Jr. and Sr. High schools. He also taught a number of years in the Lane College Upward Bound College Preparatory program. His spirit of encouraging and inspiring his students to do and be their best was the foundation of his teaching career.

For almost 40 years his customer service skills as a Shoe Sales Associate at J.C. Penney exemplified his passion for satisfying and serving others. He was inducted in 1950 into the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, Kappa Sigma Chapter at Lane College. A proud "Omega Man", the fraternity's cardinal principles of manhood, uplift, scholarship, and perseverance reflected his own ideals about the characteristics of true manhood and service.

He served his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ throughout his journey as a faithful servant in the church. A lifelong Methodist, he accepted Christ at an early age at Fairview C.M.E. Church, Bells, Tennessee where he served as a youth Sunday school teacher and choir member. After moving to Jackson, Tennessee in 1953 he joined Lane Tabernacle C.M.E. Church where he became an active member and church leader. This close -knit church family supported him and his family throughout his Christian walk and ultimate health decline. He served on the Trustee Board, Steward Board, and was the publisher of the church bulletins for many years until his health declined. His greatest love of singing was established through his membership in the Lane Tabernacle Male Chorus. A founding member, he continued to sing for 58

years until his health declined and faithfully supported the Male Chorus who continue to honor and glorify God through their songs of praise.

At the close of his journey, he was always positive, always encouraging, and ever mindful that he had lived a blessed life. "There is no doubt in my mind that I've been blessed: God has been good to me.!"

He leaves to cherish his blessed legacy a loving and devoted wife, Vermon Huddleston Cathey, four children, Marvin Dennis Cathey, Sr. of Nashville, TN., Sandra L. Brady (Alfred, Sr.) of Nashville, TN, Vermon Renee Sharpe of Memphis, TN, Cheryl C. Cathey of Memphis, TN; three grandchildren, Marvin Dennis Cathey, Jr. of Nashville, TN., Alfred L. Brady, Jr. (Kearea) of Nashville, TN., and Alan Brady of Nashville, TN.; two great-grandchildren, Marvae Cathey of Nashville, TN. and Jada Cathey of Seattle, WA.; one brother, Rev. Craig Cathey (Ora) of Humboldt, TN; three sisters, Debbie Cathey Jones of Denmark, TN., Terry Cathey Black(Robert) of Bells, TN., and Sheron Cathey Robertson (Odell) of Bells, TN.; one brother-in-law, Charlie Lee Huddleston of Cleveland, OH; his sons in the faith who supported him during his illness, Raymond Cunningham, Jr., Bobby Cunningham, Melvin Ewell, Gregory Jarmon and Craig Davis, and a host of loving cousins, church family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Elmwood Cemetery

Tinker Hill Rd
Jackson, TN

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Lane Tabernacle C.M.E. Church
112 Conger Street
Jackson, TN 38301

Service

FEB 9. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Lane Tabernacle C.M.E. Church
112 Conger Street
Jackson, TN 38301

Tribute Wall

MF

“ *Mary Frye lit a candle in memory of Marvin Cathey*



Mary Frye - October 17, 2024 at 05:15 PM



“ *Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey*

January 28, 2023 at 12:37 PM

MF

Cousin you truly will be missed 🙏❤️

Mary Frye - October 17, 2024 at 05:17 PM

RH


“ *I enjoyed Mr. Cathey as a teacher at South Side High School (1970), may he rest in peace from his labors. Blessings to his family! Ron F. Hale*

Ron Hale - February 16, 2013 at 02:03 PM

SP

“ Mr Cathey will be missed. He was a very nice and caring person. I worked with him at JCP in the shoe dept. He always took care of me and I asked how my family was doing. 'Customers Loved him and we did to. He went that extra mile and more. When he left he was missed but when I heard him when he came in to buy something I ran over to speak and get a hug. The Lord has received his angel and he is smiling down on us. My prayer be with his wife and family cause he really loved you all. Love Sheree Pirtle!

sheree pirtle - February 09, 2013 at 04:22 AM

 Susan Haney-Reagan

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Cathey. He was one of the favorite teachers at SSHS. I have never heard an unkind word about him.
After I graduated I would make a point of going to the shoe section at Penney's to say "Hi" to him. He was a truly nice man. R.I.P. Mr. Cathey.

Susan Haney-Reagan - February 08, 2013 at 03:33 PM

SA

“ Thinking of you, Sandra, and your family during these trying times. After reading the bio of your father, I see how much you're like him in so many ways. He seemed to inspire young people throughout life and always with a smile. My deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family.

Susan Alsup

susan alsup - February 08, 2013 at 02:09 PM

WL

“ Thoughts and prays to Mr. Cathey's family during this time. Mr. Cathey was a very nice man who was my Algebra teacher at South Side High School. After he retired from teaching, I would see him at JC Penneys and he always had a smile on his face and a warm greeting for one of his former students. RIP Mr. Cathey.



Wanda K. Lee - February 08, 2013 at 11:27 AM



“ Ethel Ellis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey



Ethel Ellis - February 08, 2013 at 01:56 AM



Our sympathy and prayers are with the Cathey's and Brady's Family. Mr. Marvin Cathey was a friendly, kind and thoughtful person. The most important thing, he was a christian. He will be dearly miss. Absent from the body means present with the Lord. Heaven has gain another Angel. Love Always, Norman and Ethel Ellis

Ethel Ellis - February 08, 2013 at 02:00 AM

RN

“ Terry and Sheron, I was so sorry to hearing of the passing of your brother. Terry, I do remember your brother. He has been to my church in Lexington many times singing with the Lane Tabernacle Church. I will keep you and your family in my prayers. Let me know if you need anything

Regetta Nelson - February 07, 2013 at 01:45 PM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey.*



February 07, 2013 at 10:24 AM



“ *Thinking of you and praying that God's love comfort you during this time of bereavement.*



JAS - February 06, 2013 at 11:54 AM



“ *Rita Collins Mchugh lit a candle in memory of Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey*



Rita Collins Mchugh - February 06, 2013 at 11:23 AM



Mr. Cathey was a GREAT Teacher.RIP

Rita Collins Mchugh - February 06, 2013 at 11:26 AM

CH

“ *Curtland Huddleston lit a candle in memory of Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey*



Curtland Huddleston - February 05, 2013 at 09:40 PM

BH

“ *Brenda Haliburton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Marvin Joe Cathey*



Brenda Haliburton - February 05, 2013 at 06:17 PM