

*In Loving Memory
of
Hezekiah
Jacobs*

August 17, 2019

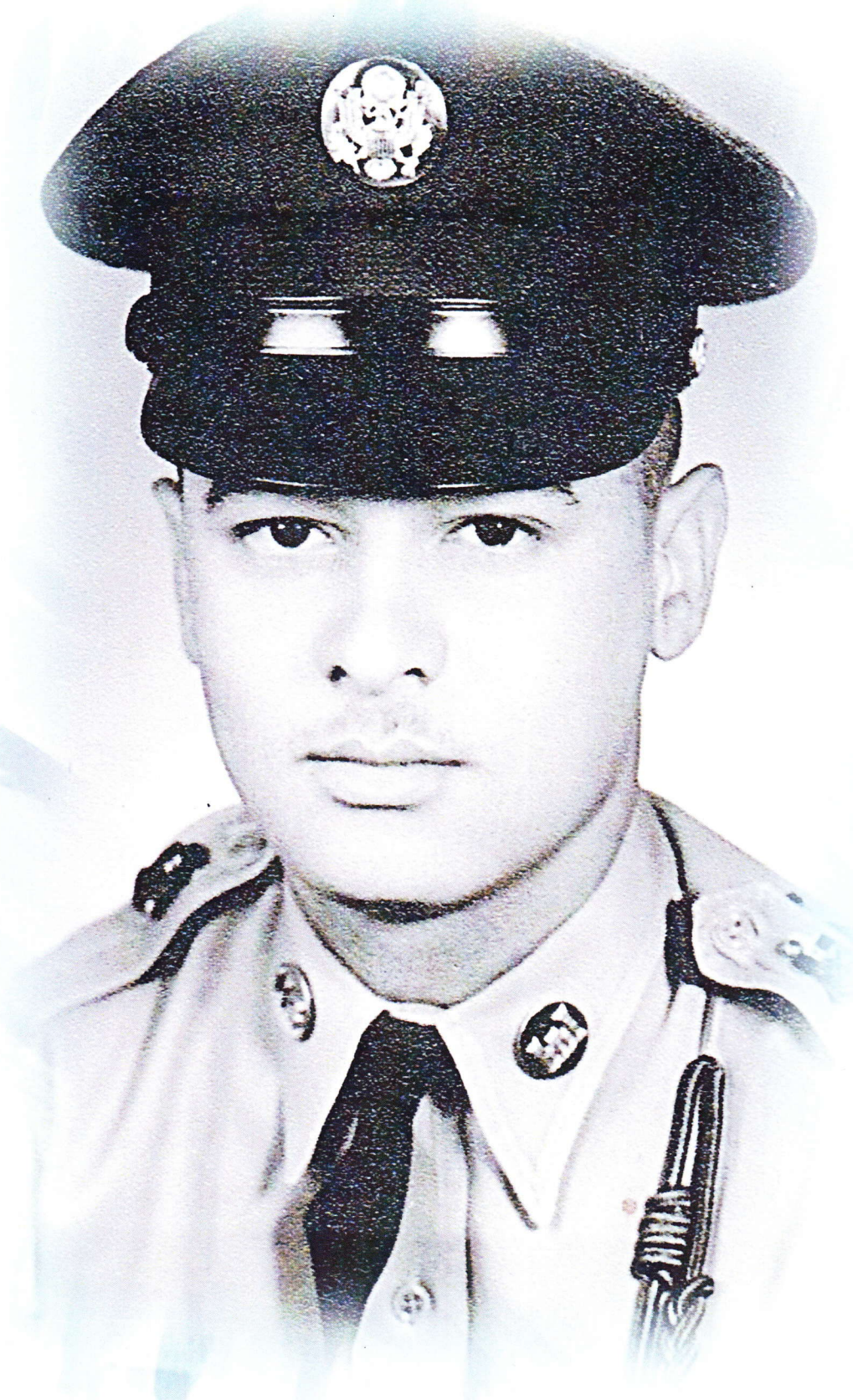
Service: 2:00 p.m.

New Hope Baptist Church
4134 Piney Woods Road
Watha, NC



Officiant:

Rev. Elbert Fowler, Pastor
New Hope Baptist Church



US ARMY, 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION

OBITUARY

"People always say the grass is greener on the 'other side.' But if you water your grass and take care of it, yours will be green, too."

~~ Jake

HEZEKIAH JACOBS was born March 6, 1938 in Watha, North Carolina, in Pender County, as the fifth child of eight to the union of Willie Henry Jacobs and Mamie Herring Jacobs. Family called him "Hi-Man" and his friends, far and wide, lovingly called him "Jake." He was a caring and protective brother to all of his siblings and never failed to shower them with love. Hezekiah loved visiting with family and wanted to learn as much about family history as he could. He maintained his love and connection of family throughout his life, and regularly communicated with many members of the family.

Hezekiah accepted Christ at an early age and attended New Hope Baptist Church of Willard, NC, where his family also attended, and where he was also baptized. A faithful, friendly, and polite young man, Hezekiah loved the Lord and maintained his personal relationship with Christ throughout his life, and regularly shared his faith with family and friends alike.

Hezekiah graduated in 1956 from C. F. Pope High School in Pender County, where he excelled in all classes. He drove himself to produce perfect papers and assignments, and rarely, if ever, used an eraser. Students and faculty alike loved Hezekiah, who thought of him as a friendly, thoughtful student. Hezekiah's dedication to his family and their farm meant that he was not able to enjoy many extracurricular activities, as he went directly after school to his home or that of his grandparent's, to help out in the fields or elsewhere on their properties. It was here that he developed not only his dedication to family but his incredible work ethic. Shortly after graduation, Hezekiah was drafted into service with the United States Army, where he served faithfully for seven years before an honorable discharge and several years in the military reserves. While serving, he made many friends and continued to use what he learned at home to excel in the military.

At the young age of 15 and while in a local drug store with his brother, Sam, Hezekiah first spotted a young beauty, Mae Gloria Coston. He had the feeling that she was familiar to him, and learned later that she had family in Pender County who she visited from time to time. A couple of years after their initial sparks, he came looking for her with the intention to court her, because he knew he had met the love of his life. They maintained their long distance courtship while he served in the armed forces and she studied in college. They continued to write letters all the while during his tour of duty, when he would teach her a few words of German, and she would dream of their future life together.

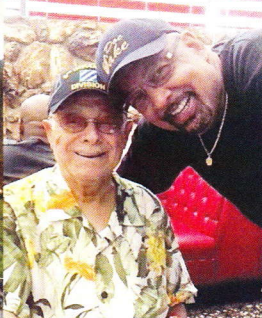
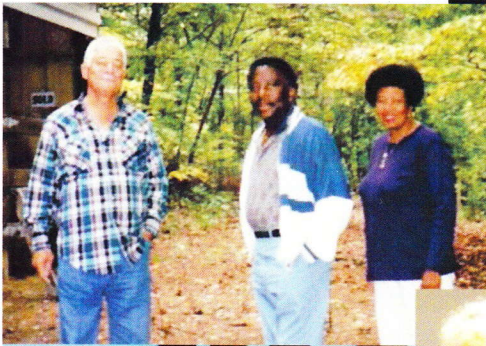
In 1959, Hezekiah made his way to Los Angeles, California, and continued his love letters to Gloria. He began working full time with the City of Los Angeles, and took another position with White Front in Los Angeles, so that he could earn and save extra money. While employed at White Front, he befriended the likes of Sam Cooke, Ray Charles, Nancy Wilson, and Nat King Cole. It was also at White Front where he made lifelong friendships with Willie Dunmore, as well as Don Broom and Roderick Carter (who both preceded Hezekiah in death). Occasionally, he returned home to visit family, and spend time with his beloved, Gloria. On one such visit, he surprised her and proposed with a ring. While Gloria accepted his proposal, she kept the news quiet so that she could complete her degree. Once she graduated in 1962, Gloria traveled west to Long Beach, CA, to stay with her sister and brother-in-law, Marie and Malcolm Treadwell. Hezekiah was already living in Compton, CA with his sister and brother-in-law, Lethia and Henry Towns and several months later, they were married on February 23, 1963 in Los Angeles, CA.

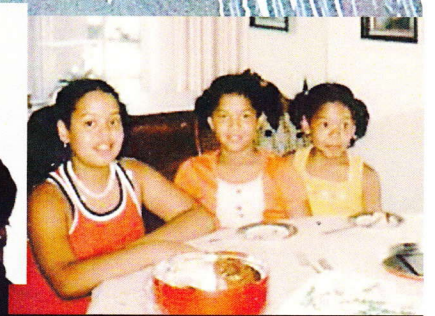
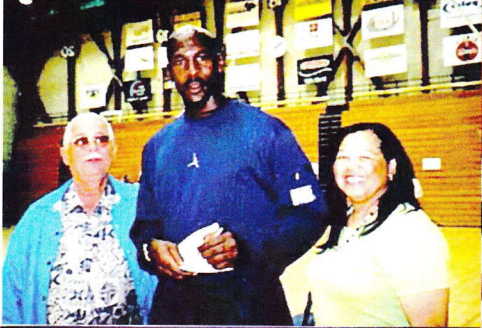
Soon after marriage, Hezekiah and Gloria were blessed with three daughters: Lita, Lorie, and Libby. A protective, dedicated and responsible father, he adored his wife and children. When it was one of their birthdays, everyone had a birthday! Everyone received gifts, and Hezekiah made this possible by maintaining both his full time and part time jobs for more than 27 years. Hezekiah was hired by the City of Los Angeles Police Department at Parker Center, before promoting to the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department. He eventually promoted to the position of Wharfinger. After 39 years of dedicated service, Hezekiah retired from the Harbor Department. During his career, Hezekiah received numerous resolutions, certificates of appreciation, and other accolades for meritorious service.

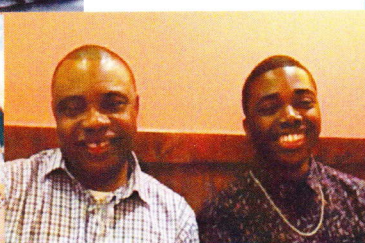
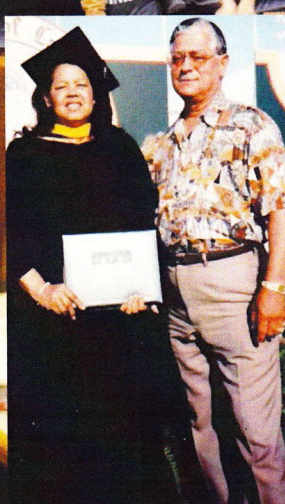
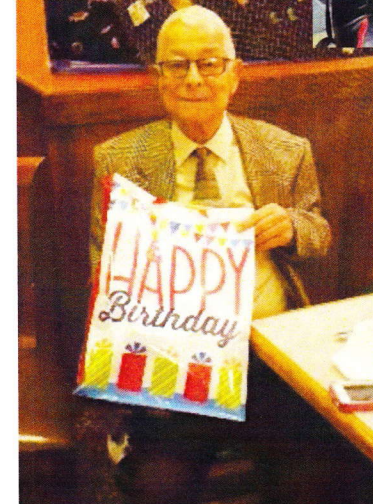
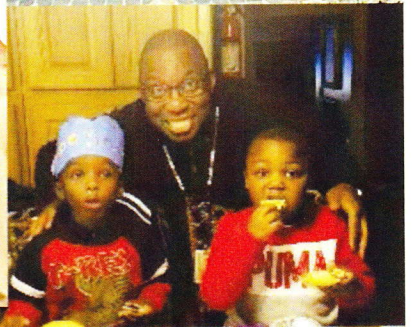
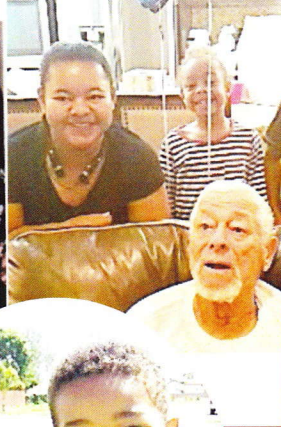
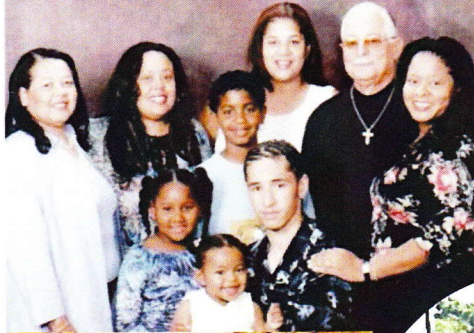
Hezekiah and Gloria talked about retirement and her dreams of living in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. In 1992, Hezekiah gave Gloria the desire of her heart and purchased her dream home in Lenoir, NC. There they made many life long friends and enjoyed inviting them and family to Sunday suppers and barbeques around the pool. Hezekiah enjoyed riding his tractor around their property. He tremendously enjoyed cooking for family and friends. Anyone fortunate enough to have sampled his barbecued ribs was in for a treat. Collards, fried okra, and chitterlings were his specialties. Hezekiah was a member in good standing of the Lenoir Kiwanis, Caldwell County Leaders for Change, and community based organization, Just People, and was dedicated to making the world a better place for all. He was also an active and dedicated member of Lenoir Community Church, where he participated in the church choir and several church plays. While he considered himself a lifelong member of New Hope Baptist Church, Hezekiah also regularly attended Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church of Los Angeles, CA during visits to the West Coast. Hezekiah loved to share the Gospel with friends and neighbors through personal testimony, and would pray for family and friends.

Hezekiah loved traveling and he and Gloria visited places such as Alaska, Bermuda and a much-anticipated trip to Hawaii. A favorite vacation was Lake Tahoe, where he took the trip with his wife, all three daughters, and firstborn grandson, Johnathan. Of all travel, he held the fondest memories of traveling across the country by car with his family. He was devoted to his wife of more than 50 years, doted on grandchildren, and was ever-present and supportive of his daughters. He liked a good joke, loved a good meal, enjoyed sharing good times with family and friends, and escaped through his beloved westerns featuring Randolph Scott, Clint Eastwood, and his fellow 3rd Infantry Division soldier, Audie Murphy. Due to his love of westerns, he became an avid collector of rare guns.

Embracing him at Heaven's Gate are: his loving and devoted wife of more than 50 years, Mae Gloria; his parents, Willie Henry and Mamie; siblings Lethia Towns (Henry), of Burgaw, NC; Daphine Goodwyn (James), of Chesapeake, VA, Oliver Jacobs, of Chesapeake, VA; brothers-in-law Arnold Coston, of Moreno Valley, CA and Malcolm Treadwell, of Long Beach, CA; sisters-in-law Lillian Murray of Lexington Park, MD, and Helen Coston Murray, of Wallace, NC. He leaves to cherish his memory: his daughters Lita Jacobs Madden (Vernard) of Lake Elsinore, CA, Lorie Jacobs Diggs of Lake Elsinore, CA; and Libby Jacobs-Hutton, of San Pedro, CA; grandchildren Johnathan Jacobs, Jeremy Diggs, Jennifer Diggs, Dominique Jacobs, Jade Madden, Samira Madden, Vernetta Madden and Danielle Wooten; great grandchildren Jeremiah, Sariah, Brandin, Bryan, Sanaa, and Velma; brothers Ronald Jacobs (Marlene) of New Bern, NC; Willie Samuel Jacobs (Annie), of Wilmington, NC; sisters Annie Jacobs Newell (Edward), of Southfield, MI, Shirley Jacobs, of West Bloomfield, MI; brothers-in-law Kenneth R. Coston, of Wallace, NC, William E. Coston, of Rocky Point, NC, and Edward E. Coston, of Temple Hill, NC; sisters-in-law Marie C. Treadwell, of Long Beach, CA, Jessie C. Reaves (Morris), of Lenoir, NC, Sharlise Coston (wife of Arnold), of Moreno Valley, CA, Edna C. Byrd (Dr. Frank Byrd), of Durham, NC and Ida Jacobs (wife of Oliver), of Chesapeake, VA; aunt Lillie Coleman of Chesapeake, VA; and a multitude of relatives, extended family, church family, co-workers, fellow servicemen, and dear friends. If you ever met Jake, you immediately became family. So, we will miss him, one and all.









You've been the greatest Daddy, Granddaddy, and Great-Granddaddy ever!

*All our love,
Your Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
Lita, Lorie, Libby and your Son-in-Love, Vernard
Johnathan, Jeremy, Jennifer, Dominique,
Jeremiah, and Sariah
Danielle, Vernetta, Jade, Samira, Sanaa, Bryan, Brandin, and Velma*

