

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

*Donald Ray Battle*

Sunrise  
December 28, 1948

Sunset  
October 31, 2024



**Tuesday, November 12, 2024 - 12:00 Noon**

**First African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church**

326 Ellison Street, Paterson, New Jersey

*Rev. Dr. Douglas L. Maven, Pastor*

*Mr. Dale "Skip" VanRensalier, Organist*

# Obituary

Donald Ray Battle was born one of eight children to the late George E. Battle and Mary Irene Calhoun Battle in Edgecombe County, North Carolina on December 28, 1948.

Donald attended elementary school in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, he later persevered through challenges and obtained his GED. Stricken with elation, our mother added him to the wall with all her children holding their diplomas.

Donald was a jack of all trades when it came to jobs, the one that he held dear was his employment with the Salutations Army. He was employed there for many years until he had to retire due to a foot injury which prohibited him from continuing his duties.

Donald was a devoted member of the First African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Paterson, New Jersey. His love for his Pastor, his church family, his family, and God was always his brightest feature. He was a dedicated trustee for many years and received an award for Trustee of the Year. He was also a Sexton for the church until his health caused him to slow down. He enjoyed doing whatever task was needed to help his church, deeming him the title Mr. "Fix it".

He was preceded in death by his siblings; Jacqueline Dianne Battle, Gwendolyn B. Hunter, Julia A. Massenburg, and Garland D. Battle.

During the early morning of October 31, 2024, Donald was called to rest by our Lord at Saint Joseph Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey.

Those left to celebrate and uphold his memory are his sister; Patricia Kirksey, two brothers; Bishop George E. Battle Jr., his wife; Iris of Davidson, NC, Richard K. Battle, his wife; Brenda of Tarboro, NC, two siblings from another union: sister, Michelle B. Clark, and her husband Stephen of Philadelphia, PA; brother Kirk Battle of Philadelphia, PA, one godson; Gary Carlisle, Orange, New Jersey. He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. A special first cousin, Hayes Battle, was there during his battle with illness.

Sleep on Donald, we love you, but God loves you best.

# Order of Worship

Invocation ..... Minister

Hymn #286.....“My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less”

Scripture Reading  
Old Testament ..... Psalm 23:1-6  
New Testament ..... 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Prayer of Comfort ..... Minister

Musical Selection

Reflections:  
From the Family.....Mr. Hayes Battle, Jr.  
From the Church.....The Trustees

Acknowledgements & Reading of the Obituary

Musical Selection

The Eulogy ..... Rev. Dr. D. L. Maven

The Committal

The Benediction

*Final Disposition*  
Cedar Lawn Crematory  
200 McLean Blvd.  
Paterson, NJ 07504

# *I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day.  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it up with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much.  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!

-author unknown

## *Acknowledgment*

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement.

May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

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