They Say There Is A Reason

They say there is a reason.
They say time will heal.
But neither time nor reason
Will change the way I feel.

For no one knows my heartache
That lies beneath my smiles.
Lord knows how many times
I've broken down and cried.

It broke my heart to lose you,
But you didn't go alone.
A part of us went with you
The day God called you home.

All we have are memories
And your pictures in a frame.
But please don't worry.
Cause in our hearts you will remain.

Our family chain is broken now
And nothing seems the same.
But as God calls us one by one
Our chain will link again.

Until we meet again,
Your loving daughter Yvonne Drakeford

Pallbearers

Friends of the Family

Flower Bearers

Friends of the Family

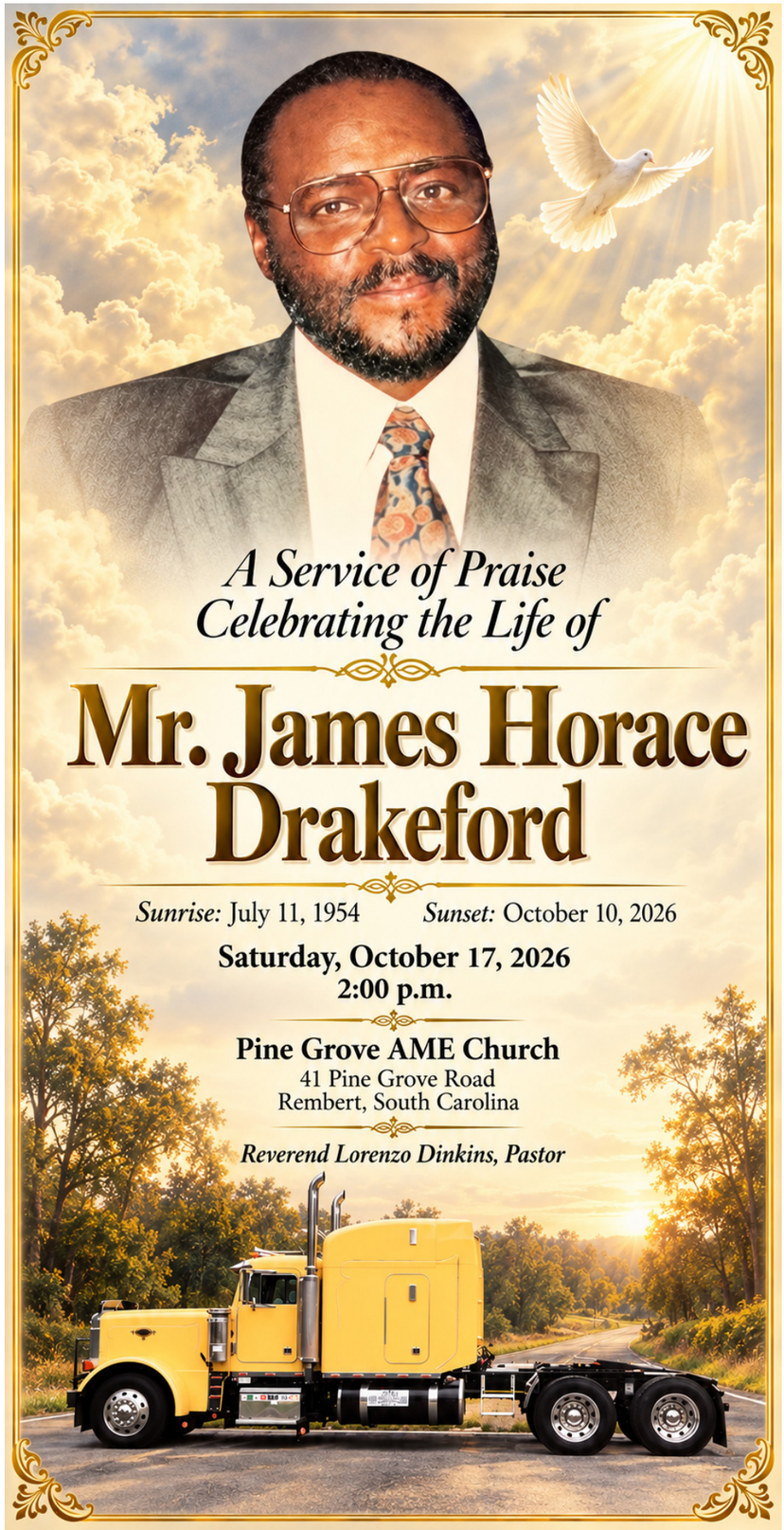
Acknowledgement

We thank you for your love and care,
The comfort that you chose to share,
The prayers, the calls, the gentle hand
That helped us rise and helped us stand.
Without the family that you've been.
We thank you now, and thank you again.

"Honoring Memories, Celebrating Life!"

COLLINS
Since 1914

Collins Funeral Home, Inc.
714 West DeKalb Street
Camden, South Carolina 29020
803-432-3636
www.georgeecollinsfh.com



A Service of Praise
Celebrating the Life of

Mr. James Horace Drakeford

Sunrise: July 11, 1954 *Sunset:* October 10, 2026

Saturday, October 17, 2026
2:00 p.m.

Pine Grove AME Church
41 Pine Grove Road
Rembert, South Carolina

Reverend Lorenzo Dinkins, Pastor

A Life Well Lived

MR. JAMES HORACE DRAKEFORD, the son of the late Eugene Drakeford, Sr. and Bessie Drakeford, was born in Westville, South Carolina. On Saturday, October 10, 2026, James peacefully entered into eternal rest at Lexington Medical Center in West Columbia, South Carolina.

James was a proud graduate of Baron DeKalb High School in Westville, South Carolina. His Christian foundation was established at Macedonia Baptist Church in Camden, South Carolina, where he received his early Christian education.

Throughout his life, James maintained a personal relationship with God and found strength and comfort in His Word. During his years as a truck driver, he faithfully carried his Bible with him on the road, making time to read, reflect, and grow in his walk with the Lord. Even while at home, James continued to nurture his faith by watching church services online.

In recent years, James lovingly supported his wife, Rev. Vivian S. Drakeford, in her ministry. He faithfully assisted in distributing weekly Bible Study lessons throughout the community, helping to share God's Word with others. One of the most meaningful moments in his spiritual journey was when he rededicated his life to the Lord in the comfort of his own home. His faith was a personal and important part of his life's journey.

James was a hardworking and dedicated man who took great pride in providing for his family. He established an admirable career in manufacturing, with his last position in that industry employed by E. I. DuPont in Lugoff, South Carolina. When the company experienced a major workforce reduction, James did not allow this setback to discourage him. Instead, he embraced the opportunity to become an entrepreneur and established his own trucking business as an owner-operator.

For 12 years, James successfully operated his trucking business, demonstrating determination, independence, and a strong work ethic. He later transitioned into a career as a company driver with Walmart Transportation, where he continued his dedication to his profession until his retirement in 2017 giving him a total of over 35 years in the trucking industry.

James will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his strong work ethic, his perseverance, and his commitment to his faith. His life's journey reflected a man who worked diligently, embraced opportunities, and continued to grow spiritually.

In addition to his parents, James was preceded in death by his brother, Eugene Drakeford, Jr.

Those left to cherish his precious memories include his loving and devoted wife of 48 years, Rev. Vivian S. Drakeford of Lugoff, South Carolina; his daughter, Yvonne Drakeford; granddaughter, Ahvionne Thompson; and great-granddaughter, Bles'syn Brown, all of Lancaster, South Carolina.

He also leaves to cherish his memory, his brothers, Grover (Evangelist Sue) Drakeford of Lancaster, South Carolina and George (Barbara) Drakeford of Spartanburg, South Carolina; his sisters, Josephine Davis of Hackensack, New Jersey, Delphine Drakeford of Westville, South Carolina, and Elizabeth Drakeford of Columbia, South Carolina.

His brothers-in-law include James (Louise) Stuckey and Fred Stuckey of Rembert, South Carolina; Larry (Doris) Stuckey of Camden, South Carolina and David (Bonnie) Stuckey of Lugoff, South Carolina.

His sisters-in-law include Gloria (Andrew) Moses of Bishopville, South Carolina; Wanda (Luther) Carter; Ida (the Honorable Judge James Davis, Jr.) of Camden, South Carolina; and Pandora Allen of Columbia, South Carolina; a bonus son, Norman Grant of Lugoff, South Carolina, who he helped to raise after the death of both his parents; and a bonus daughter, TerriJuna Graham of Florence, South Carolina, who helped support the family during the illness of Mr. Drakeford.

James also leaves a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, and dear friends who will forever cherish the memories shared with him.

Though his earthly journey has ended, the love he shared, the faith he embraced, and the memories he created will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."
– 2 Timothy 4:7 (KJV)











Order of Service

Reverend Kenny Carter, Presiding
Pastor, Springhill Fellowship Church

GATHERING.....Soft Music

PROCESSIONAL ..... Clergy & Family

OPENING HYMN .....Reverend James Sumpter
"By and By"

PRAYER.....Reverend Kenny Carter

SCRIPTURE READING
OLD TESTAMENT ..... Deacon Larry Stuckey
NEW TESTAMENT .....Reverend Kenny Carter

SOLO.....Reverend James Sumpter

REMARKS..... *Limit 3 minutes, please*
Reverend John Lee, *Childhood Friend & Classmate*
Mr. David Stuckey, *Brother-in-law*
Reverend Vivian Drakeford, *Wife*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... Ms. Sanya Moses, *Niece*

SELECTION .....Reverend James Sumpter

WORDS OF
COMFORT .....Reverend Kenny Carter

CLOSING PRAYER

RECESSIONAL

REPAST
Pine Grove AME Church
Immediately following the funeral service

INTERMENT
Springhill United Methodist Church Cemetery
216 Shiver Pond Road
Rembert, South Carolina 29128

Committal, Closing Prayer & Benediction