

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

As the family of **Mr. Michael T. Law** we are deeply grateful and humbly appreciative of the outpouring of love and support expresses by so many of YOU, our family and friends. We graciously acknowledge your calls, texts, cards, floral arrangements, offers of service and other expressions of love. It is our sincere prayer that God will bless each of you in a very special way. We ask that you keep us in your prayers as we endeavor to accept God's will.

-The Family-

PALLBEARERS

Wilson Class of 1976

FLORAL BEARERS

Wilson Class of 1976

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc

AFTERGLOW

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one. I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done. I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways, Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun; Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.



Smith Funeral Home of Florence
307 S. Johns St., Florence, SC 29506
smithsfuneral@bellsouth.net
843-662-7192



Keepsake Booklet Designed By
TREVON BRIDGES, "THE MORTUARY MOGUL"
TheMortuaryMogul.Info@Gmail.com

DECEMBER 30
1958

APRIL 18
2025

REMEMBERING
MICHAEL
Law



ORDER OF SERVICE

Saturday, May 3, 2025 Starts | 1:00PM
Trinity Baptist Church
124 W. Darlington Street, Florence, SC 29506

Rev. Dr. Norman Gamble, Pastor
New Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church
& Pee Dee Baptist Association Moderator
Worship Leader

Prelude

Mr. Ahmad Jackson-Organist of Trinity Baptist Church
Mr. Gregory Nesmith, Organist
Smith Funeral Home of Florence

Selection

Mrs. Pauline Law Faison

Scriptural Readings

Old Testament | Psalm 23
Reverend Bennie King, Pastor
Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church

New Testament | John 14:1-6
Reverend Eugene Thomas, Pastor
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church

Epistle Gospel Lesson

2 Timothy 4:6-8
Reverend Merritt Graves, Presiding Elder
Sumter District AME Church

Prayer Of Comfort
Rev. Dr. Marion H. Newton, Pastor
Jehovah Missionary Baptist

The Lord's Prayer

Mrs. Wygelia Palmer

Reflections (2 Minutes Please)

Dr. Allie E. Brooks Former Principal of Wilson High School
and Florence School District One Superintendent
Mr. Larry Jackson, Wilson High School Class of 1976, Friend and
Former Florence School District One Superintendent
Dr. George Bradley, Former President of Paine College and Teammate
Raymond Small, Benedict College Classmate 1980

Selection

"Goodness Of God" | Mrs. Gracie Myers

Reflections (2 Minutes Please)

Jason Martin
Reggie Morris, Director of Team Why Not
Trashon Dennis, California Representative
Tony Robinson, Former Co-worker
Felicia Hall Allen, Family Friend
Arena James, Cousin

Tribute To Brother

Reverend Dr. Terry B. Law, Sr., Pastor
Siloam Missionary Baptist Church

Words Of Comfort

Rev. Dr. Calvin Robinson, Pastor
Trinity Missionary Baptist Church

Selection

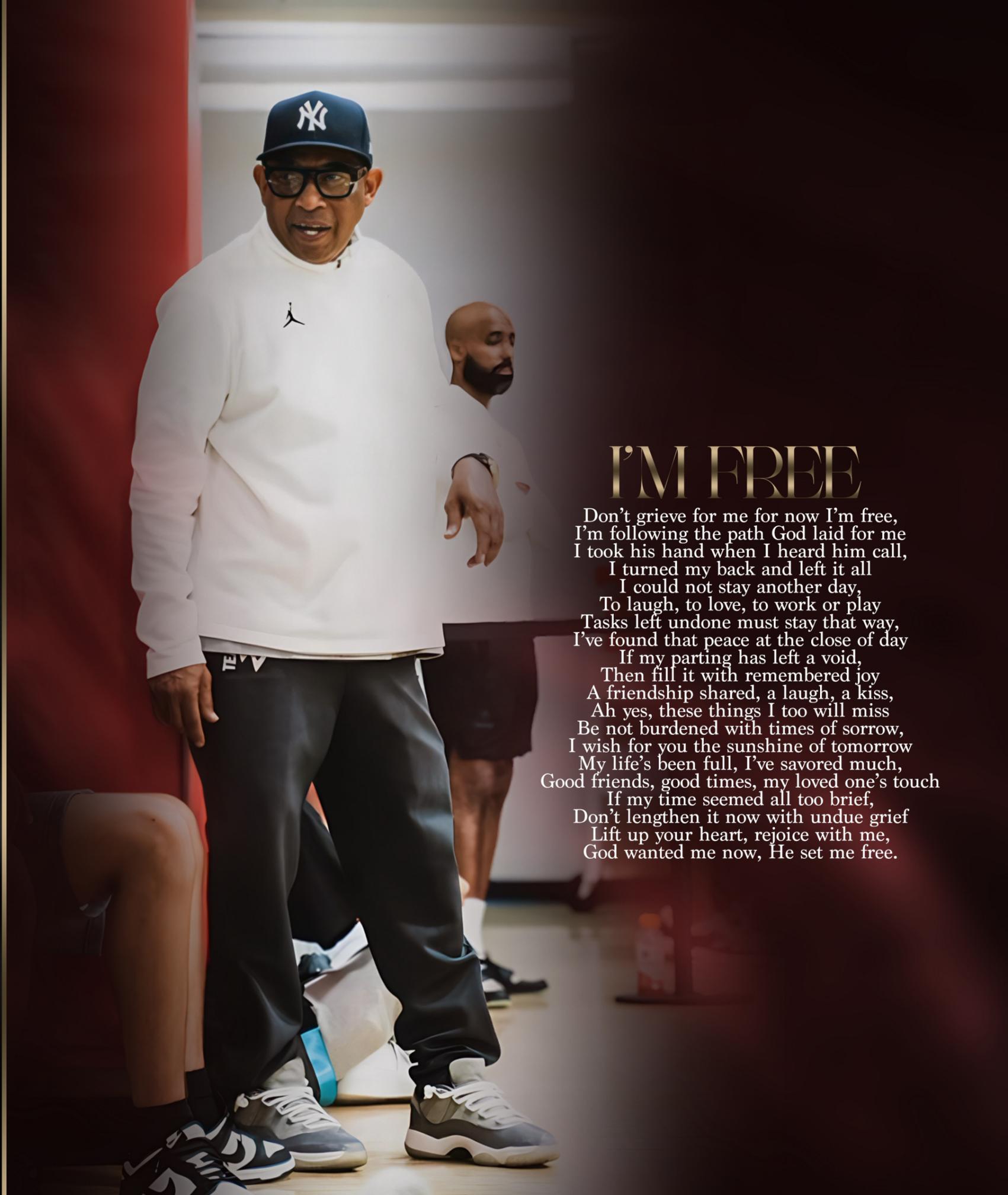
Mr. Jarvis Jett

Smith Funeral Home Tribute

Funeral Home Directors and Staff

Recessional

Friends of Michael T. Law



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've found that peace at the close of day
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, my loved one's touch
If my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

REMEMBERING MICHAEL *Law*

Michael Law was the cherished eldest son of the late Joseph Law, Jr. and Lena Mae Smalls Law. He was born on December 30, 1958, in Florence, South Carolina, a blessing to his family and community from the very start. Michael's life serves as a reminder that "Life is but a vapor." He transitioned from labor to reward on April 18, 2025, surrounded by family and friends.

Michael's early years were spent in the public schools of Florence School District 1, where he graduated proudly from Wilson High School in 1976. He lettered in three sports in high school: baseball, football, and basketball. His faith and character were nurtured at Trinity Baptist Church under the guidance of Pastor William P. Diggs, where the seeds of his lifelong commitment to service and leadership were first planted.

Following high school, Michael's journey took him to Benedict College, where he shined both in the classroom and on the athletic fields. A gifted athlete, it was basketball that truly captured his heart. As a passionate leader and playmaker, Michael helped steer Benedict College to its first-ever appearance in the NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Tournament. A four-year starting point guard for the Tigers, he led the team in assists and was always ready to deliver when it mattered most. His relentless spirit and talent earned him MVP honors for the 1976-77 season, as well as All-Conference and All-District accolades. During the 1979-80 season, he helped lead the team to a remarkable 20-4 record and a No. 8 national ranking in the Sheridan Poll of Black Colleges. In 2013, his enduring impact on the program was honored with his induction into the Benedict College Hall of Fame—a testament to a legacy built on heart, hustle, and unbreakable will. In 2024, he was also inducted into the Wilson High School Hall of Fame.

Michael became a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, in the Fall of 1978 embracing the fraternity's values of achievement in every field of human endeavor. His brotherhood with Kappa remained a lifelong source of pride, leadership, and community service throughout his life. During his time at Benedict College, he also participated in the Therapeutic Recreation Club.

Michael's love for the game carried him across the world, playing professional basketball in Italy, Spain, and the Philippines. After several successful seasons overseas, he returned home, bringing with him a wealth of experience and a renewed passion for mentoring the next generation. He coached with Hoop Masters, helping them reach unprecedented heights, and later transitioned into the business world as a consultant with Stock Cross Financial Services. Yet his love for basketball never waned, Michael returned to the sport full-time, consulting for Rivals Sports Group, representing numerous NBA players, and serving as a top scout for Overtime Elite (OTE), an innovative league providing rising basketball stars with a professional pathway beyond the traditional college route.

Beyond his professional achievements, Michael's true calling was youth development and mentorship, a passion that extended far beyond the basketball court. His heart was devoted to the youth he mentored, the lives he changed, and the dreams he helped shape. As Owner and Executive Director of Cal Supreme Basketball, a legendary AAU program based in Los

(HIS LIFE STORY CONTINUED)

Angeles and a nationally recognized Nike EYBL franchise, Michael created a platform where countless young athletes could rise. Later, as Co-Director of Team WhyNot, a renowned Nike EYBL team, he continued to build champions, guiding the team to national prominence with highlights including a 17U Peach Jam Runner-up finish (2018 and 2019), a 16U Peach Jam Championship (2021), and a 15U Peach Jam Championship (2024).

Michael was more than just a coach; he was the heart and soul of these programs, a true gatekeeper of grassroots basketball across Southern California and the West Coast. Dedicated, humble, and always working quietly behind the scenes, he transformed countless lives without ever seeking recognition or asking for anything in return. In the basketball world, Michael was affectionately known as "Unc," a beloved figure whose influence extended far beyond the court. His joyful spirit, infectious smile, and signature sayings—"You the best, baby!," "Nobody better, baby!," and "What's up, Nef!"—lit up every gym, every gathering, and every life he touched. He lifted up others by believing in them.

Through Michael's tireless work, thousands of young men and women earned college scholarships, changed the course of their futures, and, for many, reached professional careers in the NBA and beyond. His legacy is etched into the fabric of grassroots basketball in Cali and woven into the lives he empowered.

Michael's heart for service went beyond basketball. Through his nonprofit, Neutral Grounds, he brought hope to young people in gang-affected neighborhoods of Los Angeles, offering critical resources like job interview training, GED preparation, computer literacy, and moral and spiritual guidance. He believed in second chances, in brighter futures, and in the boundless potential of every young person.

Michael Law leaves behind a profound legacy of excellence, generosity, and love. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Lena Mae Law, and his beloved grandparents, aunts, and uncles. His spirit lives on through his devoted siblings, Rev. Dr. Terry B. Law, Sr., (Phyllis), of Florence, South Carolina, and Jollette Law of Columbia, South Carolina, along with a host of loving nieces, nephews, great-nieces, cousins, dear friends, and countless colleagues and mentees across the world.

Michael Law's life was a life of purpose, of passion, and of unconditional love. His light will never dim, and his legacy will forever inspire all who were blessed to know him.

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

