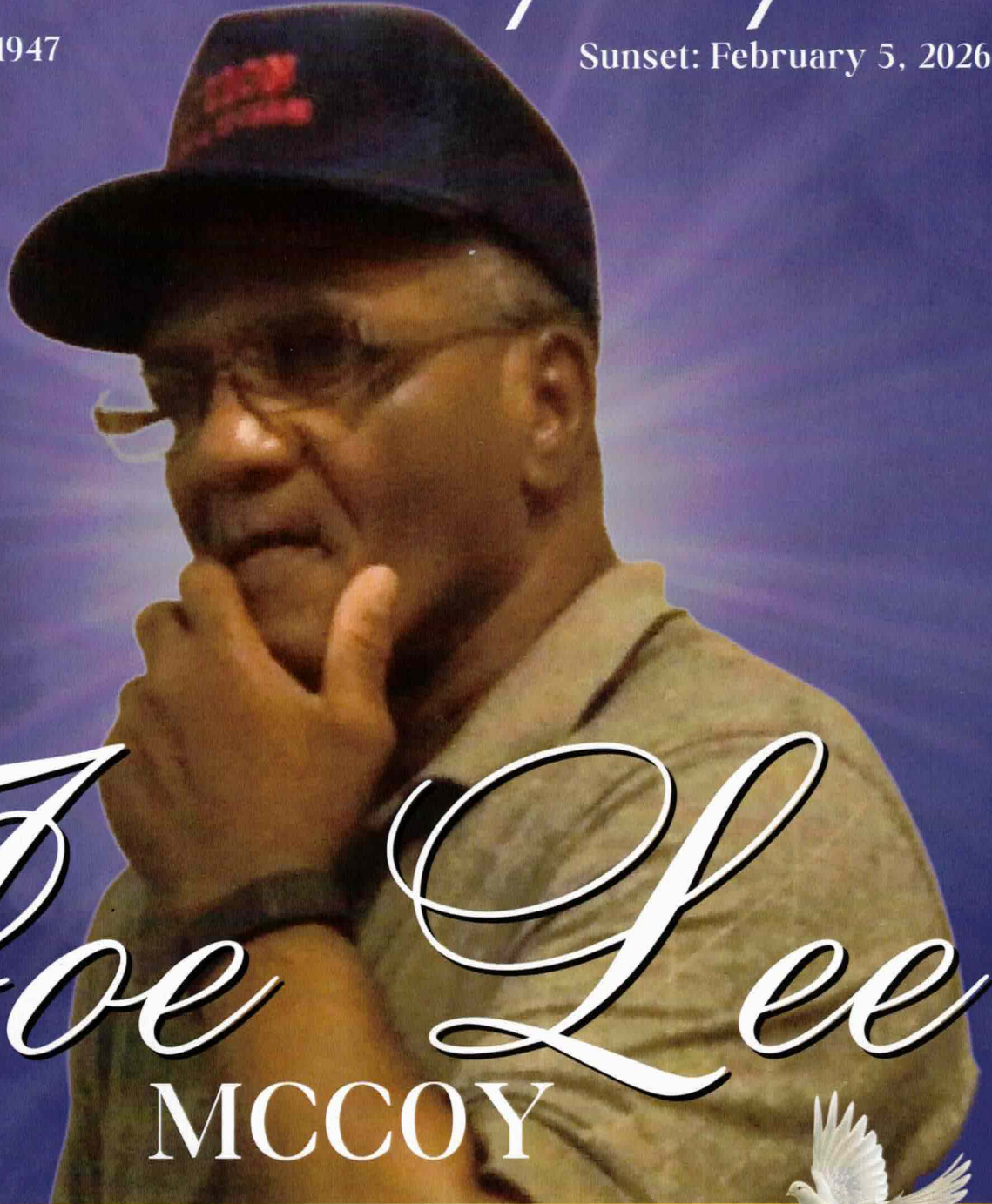


# *Celebration of Life*

Sunrise: July 3, 1947

Sunset: February 5, 2026



*Joe Lee*  
MCCOY

Brown Ridge Missionary Baptist Church

9487 Highway 39 South  
De Kalb, MS 39328

Pastor Marcus Denson, Officiating

Saturday, February 14, 2026 | 11:00 A.M.



# *The Life and Legacy of Joe Lee*

On February 5, 2026, Joe Lee McCoy peacefully transitioned from this life into eternity. Born July 3, 1947, in Kemper County, MS, Joe Lee was the ninth child of the late James “Red” McCoy, Sr. and Nealie Jane Gale McCoy. He was a valued presence—steadfast, wise, and deeply loved by all who knew him.

In addition to his parents, Joe Lee was preceded in death by his devoted wife of 44 years, Dorothy Jackson McCoy; three sisters, Eliza Ann McCoy, Belle Jean McCoy, and Magnolia McCoy; two brothers, Willie Amos McCoy and Frederick Rush McCoy; and two sons, Jerry K. Jackson and Julian S. McCoy.

From an early age, Joe Lee’s parents instilled in him a deep and abiding faith. Without hesitation, he committed his life to Christ and accepted Him as his Savior at Brown Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, where he later served faithfully as an usher for several years. His devotion extended beyond words. Using his God-given talents, Joe Lee contributed to the church through meaningful construction, improvements, and renovations that strengthened the physical foundation of the house of God.

Joe Lee was a devoted husband, father, brother, and grandfather. He exemplified love and compassion throughout his life and was known as a protector-steady, firm, and dependable. His educational journey began in Kemper County, Mississippi, where he matriculated through Whisenton High School in De Kalb. An avid student of mathematics, Joe Lee later applied these skills as a master craftsman. He built homes, cabinetry, and structures of lasting quality and also served Kemper County as a laborer, helping maintain its infrastructure with pride and diligence.

In September 1968, Joe Lee united in holy matrimony with Dorothy Jackson, beginning a partnership rooted in love, faith, and perseverance.

Together, they reared their family and built a life centered on service and commitment. Joe Lee was the proud grandfather of four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, each of whom brought him immense joy. In his leisure time, Joe Lee enjoyed playing baseball, continuing well into adulthood and was admired for his agility and competitive spirit. Later, he became an esteemed coach for a local recreational softball team. A lifelong sports enthusiast, he was known for making predictions, keeping scores, and engaging passionately in every season.

Joe Lee was a wise man and a gifted storyteller, whose words carried both conviction and purpose. Through the stories of his hardships and his joys, he sought to guide those who came after him toward lives marked by peace and prosperity.

His wisdom was further reflected in his service to the Kemper County School Board, where he faithfully served two terms during the 1990s. There, he championed access, equity, and restorative justice, holding an unwavering belief that every child could succeed when given the right supports. Firm yet fair, forthright yet faithful, Joe Lee stood as a true voice for the voiceless.

To celebrate his life and legacy and cherish his memories, Joe Lee leaves two amazing children: a son, Joseph T. McCoy (Maronica) of Killeen, TX, and a daughter, Karen D. McCoy-Burton of DeKalb, MS; (four brilliant grandchildren: Makala L. McCoy of Dallas, TX; Zabia L. Bohannon (Jake) of DeKalb, MS; Malliyah T. Campbell of Meridian, MS; and M. Jacob Burton of DeKalb, MS) two beloved great-grandchildren, Kyndel A. and Chelsi M. Bohannon; eight siblings: Pearlie M. Welch, James McCoy, Jr., Anna L. McCoy, Bertha R. McCoy, Gussie Boyd, and Bobby H. McCoy, all of De Kalb, MS, and Dorothy McCoy and Grady McCoy (Gloria) of Lauderdale County, MS; a special niece, Delores Riddle of Meridian, MS; four sisters-in-law: Callie Moore, Evangeline Hardaway, Cynthia Magee (James), and Ava Jackson; and two brothers-in-law: Terry Jackson (Helen) and Lucious Jackson (Daphne).

He also leaves a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends to share fond memories of his life.

# *Order of Service*

Mistress of Order: Dr. Jennifer Magee Riley

Processional.....Clergy & Family

Musical Selection

Scripture Readings:  
Pastor Marcus Denson

Prayer

As We Knew Him..... Pastor Cynthia Magee  
Reflections..... Family & Friends

Musical Selection..... Justin McCoy

Acknowledgements..... Jennifer Magee Riley  
Obituary Read Silently  
(Soft Music)

Tribute..... Karen D. McCoy-Burton  
Musical Selection..... Justin McCoy  
Eulogy..... Pastor Marcus Denson

Recessional

Funeral Directors in Charge

# *Miss Me But Let Me Go*

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.

Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little, but not for long.

And not with your head bowed low. Remember the  
love that we once shared,  
Miss me, but let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take,  
And each must go alone.

It's all a part of the Masters plan,  
A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick of heart go to the  
friends we know,  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds, Miss  
me, but let me go.

Until We Meet Again

Joe Lee (my Dad),

I'm going to miss you - your voice, your smile, the way your presence made everything feel steady. But more than missing you, I'm grateful you're free.

Free from struggle.

Free to rest after fighting so hard for so long.

You loved me gently and believed in me fiercely, and I will carry that love with me always. Even now, I can still hear you, your voice reminding me to live right, to stand tall, to stay "clean as a whistle".

Though my heart will always feel your absence, it is comforted by the peace you now have. You fought with courage. You lived with dignity. And you loved in a way that never leaves. Rest easy, sir. I will miss you, but I am thankful you are free.

**-Karen (Caldonia)**

Granddad,

You moved through life with a quiet strength, a steady presence that shaped everyone you touched. Your firm wisdom and unwavering love became a legacy that will never fade. In your silence, we heard your guidance; and though you are gone, you will be forever in our hearts.

Love always,

**Makala**

Grandpa,

You were truly one of a kind. You always had advice to give, jokes to tell, and wisdom to share. You never missed a chance to tell us how proud you were and to encourage us to accomplish our dreams. You were a wonderful grandfather, and I am forever grateful for the role you played in my life. Your love, stories, and laughter will be cherished forever.

Love,

**"Ms. Zabia"**

*Vertical handwritten text in gold ink on the right edge of the page.*

My grandpa was one of the kindest people I knew. Anytime I needed him, he was always there for me, no questions asked. Some of my favorite memories with him are the simple ones sitting together watching TV and spending time peeling beans side by side. Those moments may seem small, but they meant everything to me. He made me feel loved, supported, and safe, and I will always carry those memories with me.

**-Malliyah (“Doll Baby”)**

There are people that leave a lasting imprint, and my grandfather was one of them. No matter how tired he was, he always made time to play baseball with me in the yard. He even let me have one of his trophies the first time I ever beat him. I will carry those memories and his love with me for the rest of my life.

**-Jake**

Joe Lee,  
We bonded over the mutual fondness of the one arm bandit. Time may pass and fade away, but memories of you will always stay. You will be missed.

**-Maronica**

# *Active Pallbearers*

Nephews

# *Flower Bearers*

Nieces

# *Acknowledgements*

The family of Joe Lee McCoy extends our deepest and most heartfelt appreciation for the many expressions of love, sympathy, and remembrance shared with us over the past several days. Each prayer, call, visit, message, and act of kindness has strengthened and sustained us more than words can fully express.

We are profoundly comforted by the outpouring of love that has surrounded our family during this time. Your support has been a source of peace in our sorrow and light in our moments of heaviness.

May God richly bless each of you, reward your kindness, and keep you safely cradled in His loving arms.

# *Final Resting Place*

Rush Cemetery

# *Professional Services Entrusted To:*

Beck Funeral Home, Inc.

13554 Hwy. 16 W

De Kalb, MS 39328