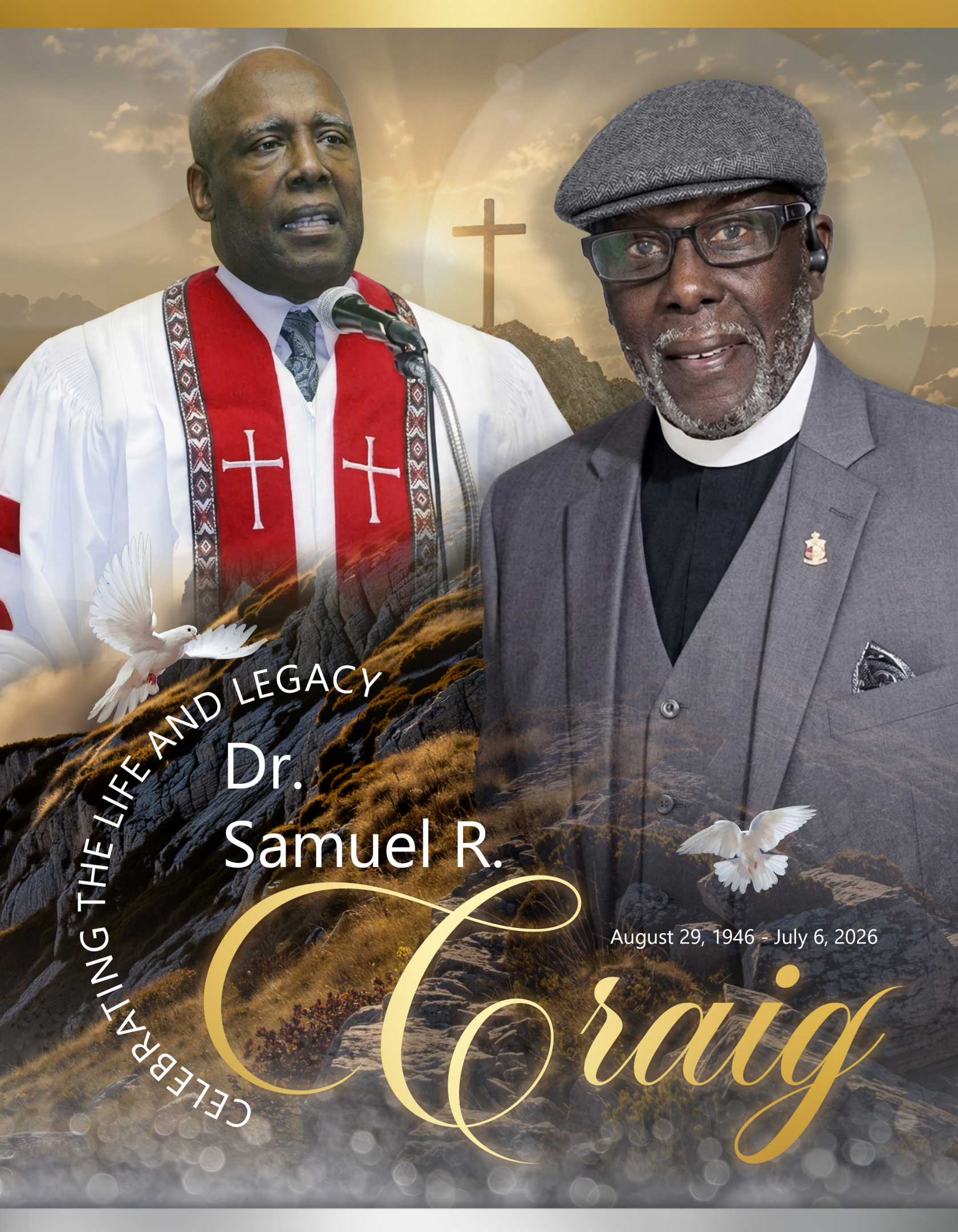




CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY

Dr.
Samuel R.

Craig

August 29, 1946 - July 6, 2026

Dr. Samuel R. CRAIG

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

Ecclesiastes 3:1

A Time to be Born...

Samuel R. Craig was the second child born to the late Samuel M. Craig and Louise Salone Craig in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is survived by one sister, Joyce Camille Robinson. His sister, Janice, and brothers Richard and Reginald, and daughter Alandra, preceded him in death.

A Time to Embrace...

Samuel's formal education began at Douglass High School in Oklahoma City, graduating in 1964. He continued at Langston University, only to be interrupted by the country's conflict in Southeast Asia (Vietnam) and was assigned to the Strategic Air Command of the United States Air Force.

A Time to Love...

Samuel (affectionately called DC) was happily married to Pastor Emeritus Perline Boyattia-Craig whom he referred to as the Queen of Muskogee.

A Time to Plant...

After being discharged, Samuel completed his studies at Oral Roberts University and American Christian College and Seminary (ACCS), completing his M. DIV and Doctorate Degree in Biblical Studies and Application. Dr. Craig also taught Seminary classes at ACCS, worked for the State of Oklahoma, Langston University and he is also retired from the Veterans Administration. He is a Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., NAACP, and the Disabled American Veterans.

Dr. Craig was also actively involved in various civil rights movements under the leadership of Clara Luper in the fifties and sixties beginning at the age of 11 at the first sit-in demonstrations in the country at Katz Drug Oklahoma City. At the age of 17, on August 28, 1963, he participated in the March on Washington, as well as other social and cultural events that changed the course of our country.

He was selected as a chaplain in the aftermath of bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and the historic 1997 tornados that ravaged south Oklahoma City. He was also a Chaplain for Hospice of SW Oklahoma in Lawton.

As an Elder ordained in 1986, he has described these past events as adding to a deeper understanding of serving God and his ministry roll as an AME pastor at Grant Chapel in Lawton, Oklahoma and other AME churches throughout Oklahoma, including his last Pastorate at Flipper Chapel AME in Taft, where he retired as the Pastor Emeritus in 2017. His Chaplaincy inspired him to become a published author, of the "Last Mile of the Way" sharing some of his encounters with patients and family members facing life-ending situations in Hospice Care.

As a young man, Samuel was a part of a musical group that opened for several singing groups like the Delfonics and was hand-picked by the late Barry White to be one of his back-up singers. Sam served two terms as the first African American president of the American Federation of Government Employees Local 2562 VA Hospital in Oklahoma City. He served as a committee member of the Prison Board, Taft, OK, a member of the Red Cross and was deployed during the horrific wildfires in California. Sam was a member of the Street Advisory Committee, and also served on the Muskogee Facilities and Park and Recreation Boards and was a CASA volunteer for a short time.

A Time to Die...

After a lengthy illness, Sam departed this earthly life on July 6, 2026. He is survived by his wife, Perline Boyattia-Craig; his children, Dr. Corey N. Craig, New York City, and Jasmine Craig, El Reno OK; his sister, Joyce Robinson, OKC; grandchildren, Shontiana and Demetrius Craig; nieces, nephews, cousins; his stepson, R.E. "Sonny" Boyattia, II; and his chosen grands, Serenity Burkhalter, Christopher Pace, and Vi"Ryah Johnson; his sisters and brothers-in-law, Thelma Parks, Sylene Wilkes, Gary & Lesley Conard-Partland, OR and Jessica Conard-Seattle WA.

Order OF SERVICE

Saturday, The Eighteenth Day of July | Two Thousand, Twenty-Six - 10:00 am

Avery Chapel AME Church

1425 Kelham Avenue - Oklahoma City, OK

Pastor Rufus D. Howard - The Most Gracious Host Pastor

Pastor Kevin Clayton - Presiding Elder of the AME Eastern District, Officiant

Reverend Travis Doolin - Greater St. John AME - Tulsa, OK, Eulogist

Musical Prelude

Mr. Galian Murphy-Musician

The Seating of the Family

The Prayer of Assurance

Dr. Marcellus Fields

Presiding Elder of the AME Western District

Comfort From the Scriptures

Old Testament

Pastor Leonard Shepard

Flipper AME, Taft OK

New Testament

Dr. Eric Gill

Antioch Baptist Church, Tulsa, OK

Tribute in Song

Mr. Galian Murphy-Musician

Resolutions and Acknowledgment

Belinda Martin

Tribute Expressions

Marilyn Luper Hildreth | Sit-inner

Dr. Gwendolyn Fuller-Mukes | Sit-inner

Larry Jeffries | Sit-inner & Classmate

Video Tribute

Tribute in Song

Mr. Galian Murphy-Musician

The Eulogy

Reverend Travis Doolin

Greater St. John AME - Tulsa, OK

"See You Later"

Keith D. Biglow Funeral Directors, Inc.

KAY

"Where HE WILL REST" FT. SILL NATIONAL CEMETERY
Elgin, Oklahoma
Monday, July 20, 2026 | 1:00 pm

CASKET BEARERS Billy Tubbs Jr., Kenny Tubbs, Rico Tubbs, Marcus Tubbs, Austin Tubbs, and Zack Tubbs

HONORARY BEARERS Douglas High School Class of 64

HONORARY FLORAL BEARERS Sit-inners and Douglas High School Class of 64

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We thank Avery Chapel, Reverend Kevin Clark, Allen Chapel, Reverend Rufus D. Howard, other pastors, local assemblies, community leaders and friends for your involvement. Thank you for your kind compassionate acts of love during this time.



U.S. AIR FORCE



Pertine, I fell in love with the Queen of Muskogee when I first saw you in 2014. I waited and watched you for five years before approaching you in June of 2019. You are a fantastic Woman of God. I didn't know how to love until I met you. You were the love of my life. Thank you for saying, "yes" to my love and taking great care of me. I lived longer because of you. Sonny, you are a great son. Take care of your mom.



*"I've fought a good fight.
I have finished my course.
I have kept the faith..."*

Comfort, Care and Understanding
"Concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not..."

549 South 6th Muskogee, OK 74401 | (918) 687-5510
1601 Northwood Drive Okmulgee, OK 74447 | (918) 756-2233
1414 North Norfolk Tulsa, OK 74106 | (918) 592-2233
www.biglowfunerals.com

