

*Should You Go First
By Albert Rowswell*

Should you go first and I remain to walk the road alone
I'll live in memory's garden
dear with happy days we've
known In the spring I'll wait
for roses red when fades te
lilacs blue And in early fall
when brown leaves call I'll
catch a lime of you
Should you go first and I remain
for battles to be fought
each thing you've touched
along the way will be a hallowed
spot I'll hear our voice
I'll see your smile though
blindly I may rope The
memory of your helping
hand will buoy me on with
hope Beyond the sunset oh
blissful morning when with
our Savior heaven is begun
Earth's toiling ended oh glorious
dawning beyond the sunset
when day is done.
Should you go first and I remain
to finish with the scroll
No less than shadows shall ever
creep in to make this life seem
droll. We've known so much
of happiness we've had
our cup of joy And memory is
one gift of God that death cannot
destroy I want to know
each step you take that I may
walk the same For someday
down that lonely road you'll
hear me call your name Should
you go first and I remain one
thing I'll always do Forever
treasure the memories we've
made, just me and you!
YOUR LOVING WIFE

Joann



*Our Father's Garden
Unknown*

Our farther kept a garden.
A garden of the heart;
He planted all the good
things,
That gave our lives their
start.
He turned us to the sun-
shine,
And encouraged us to
dream;
Fostering and nurturing
The seeds of self-esteem
And when the winds ad rain
came,
He protected us enough;
But not too much because
he knew
We would stand up strong
and tough.
His constant good example,
Always taught us right from
wrong;
Markers for our pathway
that will last a lifetime long,
We are his legacy,
Because his love lives on in
us
So we will his memory!
Thank you Dad we love you

His constant good example,
Always taught us right from
wrong;



*Pallbearers
Sons*

*Flower Attendants
Granddaughters*

John 16:22

Loss is inevitable, and grieving a loved one is normal but remember that God is here with you when you're feeling deep in sadness. "Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy."

Acknowledgement

The Polite Family acknowledges with deep gratitude, your kindness and comforting expressions of sympathy extended to us during our hours of bereavement.

May God continue to bless you.

Repast

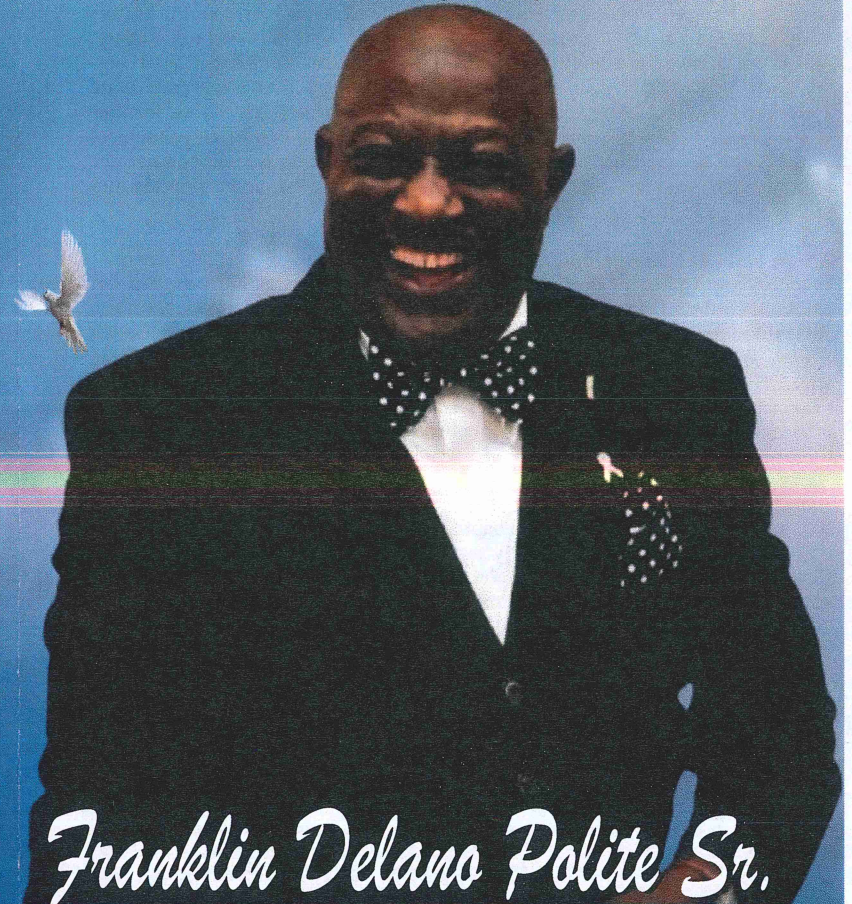
The Herald Center
1204 N. Columbia Avenue
Rincon, GA 31326

Services entrusted to:



510 Stephenson Avenue
Savannah, Georgia 31405
thebestfuneralhome@gmail.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Franklin Delano Polite Sr.

Sunrise
October 23, 1945

Sunset
April 09, 2026

Saturday, April 25, 2026
St. Mark Baptist Church
122 2nd Street
Clyo, GA 31303

Celebrating the Life of Franklin Delano Polite, Sr.

Franklin Delano Polite, Sr., affectionately known by many as “BOY” or “Uncle Boy,” passed away peacefully on **April 9, 2026**, at the age of 80. A resident of Savannah, Georgia, Franklin was a man of immense character, wisdom, and a personality that filled every room he entered.

A Life of Service and Dedication

Born on October 23, 1945, to **Beauny Johnson-Polite** and **Joseph Polite Sr.**, Franklin’s journey was marked by a commitment to education and his country. After graduating from **Springfield Central High School**, he attended **Fort Valley State University** before earning his **B.S. in Biology** from **Savannah State University**. He also honorably served in the **United States Air Force** for four years. Franklin spent his professional career as one of the first black conductors in the South for the **CSX Railroad Company** and served as a representative for his fellow employees. Even after retirement, his passion for mentorship led him to work as a substitute teacher for the **Chatham County School System**.

Community Leadership and Advocacy

Franklin was a pillar of the Savannah community, serving as the **President of the Hudson Hill Community**. During his presidency, he was a tireless advocate for safety, successfully requesting that the city install **sidewalks on Tuten Street** so that children would no longer have to wait for the school bus in the street. His heart for service extended to the elderly as well; he supervised a program that provided **free yard work for senior citizens**. Additionally, he shared his leadership skills as the **President of the Barons of Savannah** for a number of years.

Faith and Fellowship

A man of deep faith, Franklin was baptized at **Saint Mark Baptist Church** in Clyo, GA, where he served faithfully as a **Deacon**. He was a dedicated **Mason**, a proud member of the **Historical Society in Savannah**, and the cherished **family historian** and spearhead for the **Johnson-Polite Family Union**.

Passions and Legacy

Franklin was known as an **impeccable dresser** with a **large personality** who “never met a stranger”. His life was full of diverse joys. He served as the **bass leader** for the **Four Wonders** gospel group in Effingham County. He was an avid traveler, a master at the **barbeque grill**, and found peace while **deep-sea fishing**.

Mentorship: He was a source of great advice and wisdom for everyone his life touched.

Family

Franklin leaves behind a rich legacy of love. He is survived by his **loving wife, Joann Johnson-Polite**.

His Children: Juanita Williams (Rufus-Tommy), Willie Hall, Pamela Dickerson (Terrence), Kimberly Polite-Heyward (Ronald), Michelle Williams (James), Franklin Delano Polite Jr. (Charlene), Dr. William Johnson (Tiffany), Renty Johnson, Master Sergeant Zacharous Polite (Sayuri), and Joseph Polite.

His Siblings: He is survived by his **twin sister, Frances Polite Hamlin (William)** of Charlotte, North Carolina; as well as **Hattie Williams (Russell)** of Charlotte, North Carolina; **Gussie Augustus**, and **James Bacon**.

Franklin was deeply loved by **31 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren**, as well as a multitude of **nieces, nephews, and cousins**. He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings: Janie Ruth Jefferson, Joseph Polite Jr., and Ellen Elizabeth Polite-Hunter.

*Children are a heritage from
the Lord. Blessed is the man
who fills his quiver with them.*



Order of Service

Presiding: Rev. Herbert Hall

Processional/ Soft Music

Invocation– Rev. Dr. Richard Hall

Scriptures Reading

Old Testament- Rev. Dr. Michael C. Smith

New Testament- Rev. Deatia McFarlin

Selection by

First Mount Bethel Missionary
Baptist Church Choir

Reflections (2 Minutes)

As a Classmate– Ms. Lucy Powell

As a Coworker and Friend– Mr. Sterling Thomas

As a Uncle– Mrs. Wanda Goldwire

As a Granddad– Mrs. Tranea King– Newton

Tribute of Our Dad

Obituary

Read Silently

Acknowledgements & Resolutions

Selection

First Mount Bethel Missionary
Baptist Church Choir - God Is My Everything

Eulogy- Rev. James Williams

Last Glance

Passing of Flowers– Granddaughters
Recessional

Service of Interment
Porter Cemetery – Clyo, Georgia]