

Floral Bearers and Casket Bearers

James F. Byrnes class of 1974

Safely Home

by Author Unknown

I am home in heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright.
There is a perfect joy and beauty
in this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
safely home in heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trode the valley of the shade?
Oh, but Jesus' love illuminated
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
in the way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on
could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
for I love you dearly still.
Try to look beyond death's shadows;
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,
so you must not idly stand.
Do it now, while life remaineth;
you shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting;
Oh, the joy to see you come!

Acknowledgement

The family of the late Jerry Earl Rice, Sr., wishes to extend our sincere appreciation for your encouraging words, telephone calls, text messages and prayers during our time of bereavement. May the Lord continue to shower His blessing on all of us during these uncertain times.

The Rice Family



SULLIVAN BROS.
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Sullivan Bros. Mortuary Inc.
Cremation Centers of South Carolina
927 E. Poinsett St. Ext
Greer, South Carolina 29651
864-877-2581 ~ www.sullivanbrosmortuary.com

A Celebration of Life

For

Mr. Jerry Earl Rice, Sr.



Sunday, January 22, 2023

2:00PM

James F. Byrnes High School Gymnasium

Duncan, South Carolina

Rev. Allen Rector, Eulogist

Order of Service

Presiding.....Rev. Keith “Smooth” Miller

Solo.....Mr. Mark Cleveland

The Scripture Reading

Old Testament.....Rev. Allen Elder

New Testament.....Rev. Dale Meadows

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Everette Young

Remarks.....Stevey Glenn
Two Minute Limit Kathy Rivers
Ruby Durham
Ricky Rice

Solo.....
...Toni Feaster

Comforting Words.....Rev. Allen Rector

Recessional.....The Rice Family and Friends

Prayer/Committal/ Benediction

New Trinity Baptist Church Cemetery
Lyman, South Carolina



Life Profile

Mr. Jerry E. Rice, Sr., 66, husband of Dorothy Hardy-Rice, son of Lillie Ruth Rice and Howard (Rejetta) Ballenger, entered into eternal rest on January 17, 2023.

He was a member of New Trinity Baptist Church and a 1974 graduate of James F. Byrnes High School. He received an Associate of Arts degree from Spartanburg Methodist College and a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and Political Science from the University of South Carolina Upstate. He was retired from the South Carolina Department of Corrections and from the Boy’s Home of the South. He was the Poll Manager for the Greer precinct of Spartanburg County Board of Elections for nearly 40 years.

A lifelong champion of Spartanburg County School District 5, Mr. Rice returned to work post retirement as a Teacher’s Assistant, Bus Driver and Career Specialist at James F. Byrnes High School and was a member of the board of the James F. Byrnes High School Block B Athletic Alumni Association. He was a lifelong baseball and basketball coach in District 5 and his love for children fueled a relentless desire to mentor, support and cheer on as many as he was physically able to. He organized camps, volunteered and was specifically conscious of being present in the community he loved, for those who had a need, no matter how big or small. His gregariousness made him a go to in Wellford, Lyman and Duncan, where he was known to “pop up” on doorsteps to encourage and support those in his orbit, often with a trademark joke, nickname or his infectious smile.

In addition to his wife and parents; he is survived by his sons, Jerry E. Rice, Jr. of Seattle, Washington and Johnathan Dean (Dr. Amber) Rice of Cascade, Colorado; daughter, Nia Hardy of Spartanburg, SC; sisters, Ivy (Ray) Dillard, Carolyn Brown, Debra Ann Gray and Stephanie Pearson; brothers, Larry Rice, Ricky Rice and Kenneth Rice; grandchildren, Kellen Benjamin Rice, Kennedy Rice, Alicia Rice, London Rice and Aspen Rice; adopted granddaughters, Shacarra Moss, Alex “Mookie” Moss, Khamora Woodruff and Audrey Moss.

He was preceded in death by his son Stephen Christopher “Chris” Rice.