

# Reflections of His Life

Mr. Pearl Faison Fryar was born on December 4, 1939, in Clinton, North Carolina, to the late Rufus and Gertrude Fryar. Raised in a sharecropping family, he graduated from Hargrove High School in 1958 and attended North Carolina College in Durham before enlisting in the U.S. Army. After serving honorably during the Korean War, Pearl returned home to marry his high school sweetheart, Metra Rayner, and the couple moved to Queens, New York. There, he began a dedicated career with the National Can Company. In 1975, Pearl relocated with the company to Bishopville, South Carolina—a move driven by his devoted care for his mother during her failing health. He continued his work as a factory engineer at the local Coca-Cola facility until his retirement in 2006, leaving behind a legacy of hard work, service, and deep family commitment. Beyond his professional life, Pearl was a visionary artist whose living legacy, the Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden, remains a testament to his steadfast belief in positive thinking, hard work, and perseverance.

What began as a personal passion grew into a world-renowned destination, drawing visitors from across the globe to experience a landscape that is at once beautiful, whimsical, and deeply inspiring. With over our hundred individual plants integrated with his signature “junk art” sculptures, Pearl’s abstract and free-form aesthetic redefined the art of topiary. His garden was more than a display of skill; it was a platform to spread his message of “love, peace, and goodwill.” To ensure this spirit of hope lived on, he partnered with the Garden Conservancy in 2007, and in 2008, he established a scholarship specifically to support students with lower grades, proving his lifelong commitment to uplifting others and seeing potential where others might not.

Those left to cherish his loving memory include his devoted wife of over sixty years, Kello SeMetra “Met” Fryar of Bishopville; his son, Patrick Fryar of Durham, North Carolina; and his surviving siblings, Norwood Fryar of Goldsboro, North Carolina, and Ada Randolph of Texas. Pearl also leaves behind his Brothers-in Law Donald Raynor (Edna) Walter Raynor (Janice) and Darius Raynor (Erma) Sisters-in Law Dorothy Raynor, Katie Raynor Retha Raynor and Shiloh Caudle, a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family members, all of whom were touched by his extraordinary spirit and enduring message of hope. Also, a longtime friend and confidante, Ms. Bettye Scott.

# Order of Service

Presiding  
Reverend Jerome McCray

Processional  
Soft Music Played  
“It’s A Highway To Heaven”

Opening Hymn  
“Hold To God’s Unchanging Hand”

Prayer  
Reverend Emanuel Davis

Selection  
Reverend Emanuel Davis

Old Testament  
Reverend Jerome McCray

New Testament  
Reverend Jerome McCray

Reflections (Three Minutes Please)  
Church, Brother Andre’ Peterson  
Community, Deacon Ennis Bryant, Sr.  
Mrs. Jerry Law

Family  
Mrs. Shironda Brown  
Pearl Fryar Foundation, Ms. Linda Fuller  
Presentation  
Mr. David “Keel” Addison.. Lee County Council  
Luke Gddings  
City of Bishopville Mayor

Acknowledgments  
Ms. Suzette K. Robinson

Solo  
Mrs. Vanessa Raynor-Moone

Words of Comfort  
Reverend Traves Reames

Final Farewell  
J. P. Holley Funeral Home Staff

Recessional  
Melody of Music Playing

Interment  
Florence National Cemetery  
803 East National Cemetery Road  
Florence, South Carolina 29506

# 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.



*Memories*

*Pallbearers*  
Family & Friends

*Honorary Pallbearers*

Veterans

*Floral Bearers*

Family & Friends

*Expression of Gratitude*

Metra and Patrick appreciate your sincere kindness and prayers during Pearl's illness and bereavement. A special thank you to Ms. Bettye Scott and Ms. Suzette K. Robinson for your special care during our time of need. In lieu of flowers the family is requesting donations be made to The Pearl Fryar Topiary Garden – P. O. Box 91122 – Raleigh, North Carolina 27675 website: [pearlfryargarden.org](http://pearlfryargarden.org)

In memory of Mr. Pearl F. Fryar

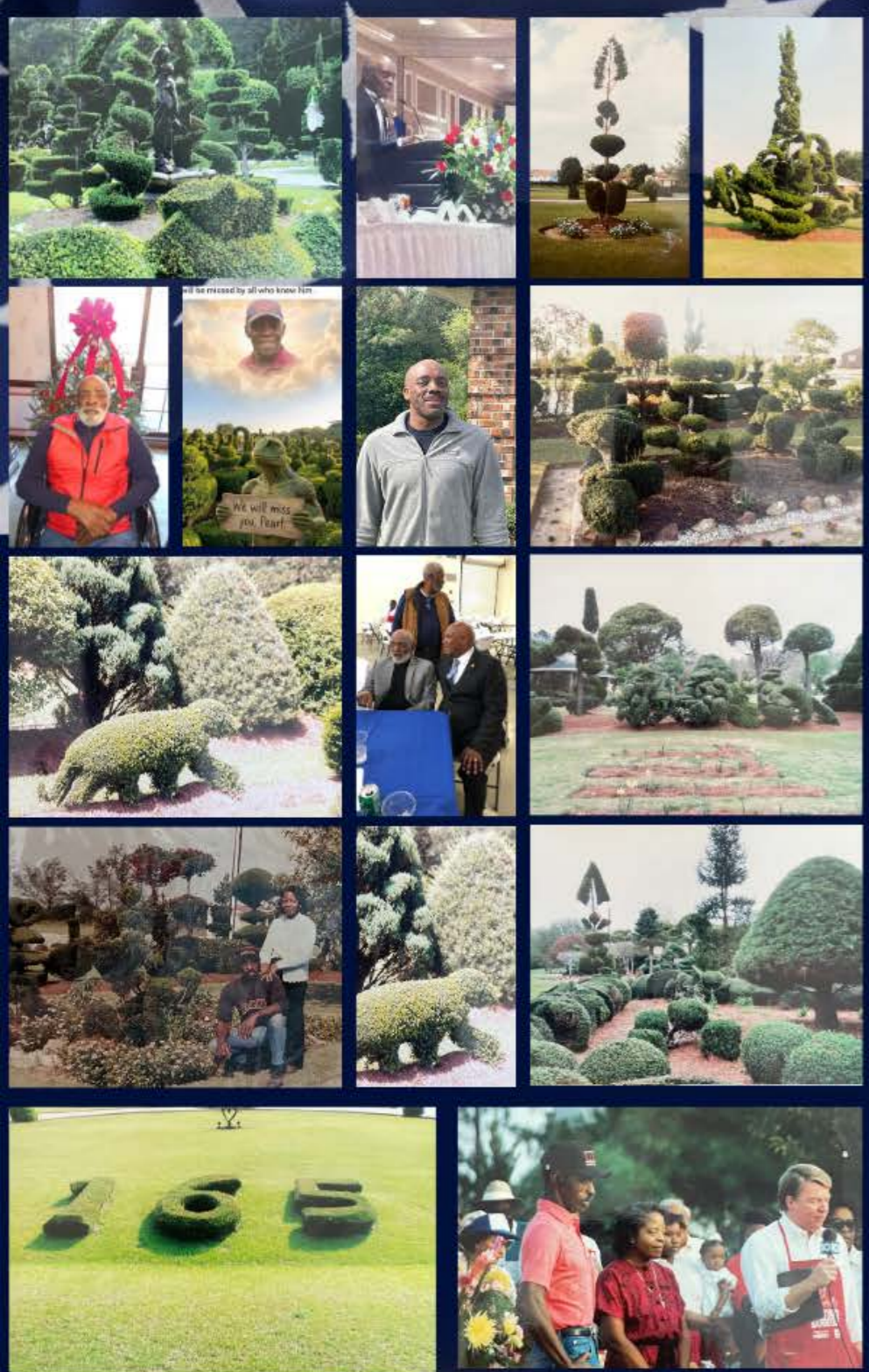
CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE FOR

*Pearl F.*  
**FRYAR**

December 4, 1939 - April 4, 2026

Saturday, April 11, 2026  
12:00 PM

Lee Central High School  
1800 Wisacky Highway, Bishopville, South Carolina 29010  
Reverend Traves Reames, Officiating



*Last Forever!*



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

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COLUMBIASE CHAPEL 832 GARNERS FERRY RD COLUMBIA, SC 29209 803-695-9686  
ST. MATTHEWS CHAPEL 102 CHURCH STREET ST. MATTHEWS, SC 29815 803-874-3317  
BISHOPVILLE CHAPEL 104 E. CHURCH STREET BISHOPVILLE, SC 29010 803-484-7245

*Jonathan D. Holley*

PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR

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