

Life is But A Stopping Place

Life is but a stopping place,

A pause in what's to be,

A resting place along the road,

to sweet eternity.

We all have different journeys,

Different paths along the way,

We all were meant to learn some things,

but never meant to stay...

Our destination is a place,

Far greater than we know.

For some the journey's quicker,

For some the journey's slow.

And when the journey finally ends,

We'll claim a great reward,

And find an everlasting peace,

Together with the Lord.



David dedicated many years of faithful and meaningful service to his community through his employment with the Lee County Disabilities and Special Needs Board and the Lee County School District. He worked diligently and compassionately in roles that allowed him to support, guide, and care for others. His work reflected not only his strong work ethic but also his deep commitment to serving people within his community. Throughout his career, David held positions of leadership and responsibility. He served as the Transportation Director and Administrator at the Lee County Disabilities and Special Needs Board. His leadership in this role demonstrated his ability to manage operations while maintaining a caring and respectful approach toward those he served. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, David also served as a Supervisor of Custodial Services, where he oversaw staff and ensured that facilities were properly maintained and cared for. He took pride in his work and in supporting the teams he supervised, always striving to create a positive and productive environment.

David was deeply engaged in serving and uplifting his community, and he actively participated in a number of community and school-based organizations. He believed strongly in mentoring, educating, and guiding others, especially young people who could benefit from positive leadership and encouragement. Among his many contributions, David served as an advisor for the "Call Me Mister Program" at Lee Central High School. In this role, he helped mentor and support young men who aspired to become educators and community leaders. He was passionate about encouraging students to pursue education, leadership, and personal growth, and he took pride in helping guide them along their journeys.

David also served as a Civil Air Patrol instructor, where he helped teach discipline, leadership, and responsibility to youth participants. In addition, he was a certified CPR training instructor and a defensive driving instructor, dedicating his time to teaching life-saving skills and promoting safety within the community. His desire to educate and empower others was evident through these roles, as he consistently shared knowledge that could positively impact lives.

A man of many talents and accomplishments, David was also a licensed insurance salesman, demonstrating his ability to work across different professional fields while continuing to serve others. Among his many achievements, he made history in Lee County, South Carolina, by becoming the first and only African American to earn the distinction of Certified Employment Support Professional. This accomplishment reflected both his dedication to his profession and his commitment to advocating for opportunities and support for individuals with disabilities.

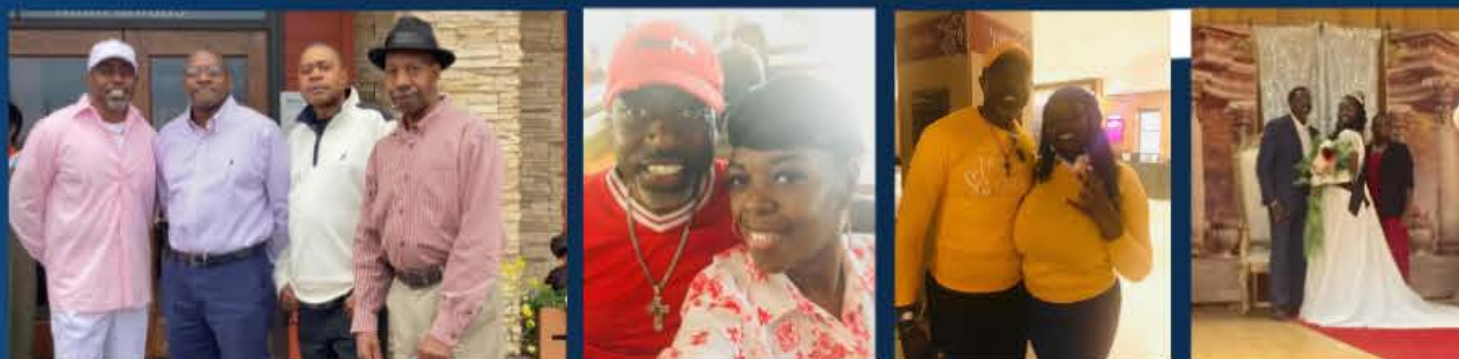
After 24 years of dedicated service, David retired on February 6, 2026. His retirement marked the conclusion of a long and impactful career spent giving back to his community. Through his years of service, David earned the respect and appreciation of colleagues, staff, and community members who witnessed firsthand his dedication, leadership, and unwavering faithfulness to helping others.

David leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife, Chandra Ruth, of the home; his children, Courtney (Matt) Pace of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, David Ruth, Jr., Payton Ruth, and Tanner Ruth; and his precious grandson, Jabari C. Pace. He is also survived by seven brothers: Wilton Ruth, Jr. of Bishopville, South Carolina, Wilson (Mabel) Ruth of Savannah, Georgia, Willie Ruth of Bishopville, South Carolina, Edgar Ruth of Charlotte, North Carolina, Bobby Ruth of Bishopville, South Carolina, Sammie Ruth of Bishopville, South Carolina, and Larry (Glenda) Ruth of Timmonsville, South Carolina; three sisters, Mary (Freddie) Austin, Betty Ruth, and Angela Ruth, all of Bishopville, South Carolina. He is further survived by two brothers-in-law, Shephard (Frances) Washington, Jr. of Bishopville, South Carolina, and Matthew Washington of Winston-Salem, North Carolina; four sisters-in-law, Veronica (Gary) Dees of Statesville, North Carolina, Audrey Washington of Bishopville, South Carolina, Sarah Washington of Sumter, South Carolina, and Joyce Stuckey of Elliott, South Carolina. David was also blessed with five godchildren: Vontrell Washington, Willie Stuckey, Kennedi Dees, Nikeyce Porter, and Ja'Riha Albert. He is also remembered and cherished by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and friends who loved him dearly.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Elizabeth Ruth, and a precious baby girl, Nyeshia Ruth. David's life was marked by unwavering faith and compassion as he touched countless lives and left an enduring legacy of inspiration, service, and love.

Family Memories

Family Memories



Palbearers
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Floral Bearers
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

I Leave For You

I LEAVE FOR YOU THIS RECIPE
THE INSTRUCTIONS ARE QUITE CLEAR
IT'S WONDERFUL FOR YOUR PALATE
EVEN MUSIC TO YOUR EARS
DON'T PUT IT OFF FOR TOMORROW
PREPARE IT RIGHT AWAY YOU ALREADY HAVE THE INGREDIENTS
JUST COOK THEM UP TODAY
TAKE ONE FULL CUP OF THOUGHTFULNESS
A PINCH OF SLOW IT DOWN SIX TABLESPOONS OF CARING ENOUGH LOVE TO
SPREAD AROUND
TAKE SOME TIME TO MIX WITH HIM
LET HIS WORDS BLEND THROUGH
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR DISH
GOD MADE A BRAND NEW YOU!
NOW GO OUT AND MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!

Expression of Gratitude

WE THE FAMILY OF DAVID L. RUTH SR, GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE WITH DEEPEST APPRECIATION YOUR EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND THE MANY ACTS OF KINDNESS AND THOUGHTFULNESS SHOWN TO US DURING OUR TIME OF BEREAVEMENT. MAY GOD BLESS EACH OF YOU.

THE FAMILY.



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

COLUMBIA NE CHAPEL
9010 Fierov Rd
Columbia, SC 29208
803-764-0888

COLUMBIA SE CHAPEL
8132 Garners Ferry Rd
Columbia, SC 29209
803-695-1666

ST. MATTHEWS CHAPEL
102 Church Street
St. Matthews, SC 29135
803-874-3317

BISHOPVILLE CHAPEL
114 E Church St
Bishopville, SC 29010
803-484-7245

Johnathan P. Holley PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR

WWW.JPHOLLEY.COM

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE, LABOR AND LEGACY OF

Sunrise November 24, 1968

Sunset March 5, 2026



DAVID L.
Ruth Sr.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 | 12:00 PM

NEW ZION AME CHURCH

78 ELLIOTT HWY, BISHOPVILLE, SC 29010
REVEREND DR. HAROLD CONYERS, PASTOR

Reflections of His Life

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day... 2 Timothy 4:6-8.

Mr. David Laverne Ruth, Sr. was born on November 24, 1968, to the late Wilton Ruth, Sr., and the late Maebelle Wilson Ruth. In the early morning hours of March 5, 2026, God deemed that His devoted and faithful servant's work on earth was complete, and he peacefully departed this life.

David matriculated through the Lee County School District, where he received his formal education and developed many of the values and interests that would shape his life. He proudly graduated from Bishopville High School in 1987. During his years in the Lee County school system, David was exposed to a variety of experiences that helped nurture his character and passions. He was a member of the marching band and drama club. It was within this educational environment that he first discovered his appreciation for community involvement, music, and the performing arts. After completing his high school education, David continued his pursuit of knowledge by furthering his education at Stratford Institute, where he earned an Associate's degree. His devotion to continuing his education reflected his determination to grow both personally and professionally. David believed in the importance of learning and self-improvement, and he worked diligently to achieve his academic goals.

Serving in the church was a defining and consistent part of David's life from an early age. He accepted Christ and gave his life to God at a young age, becoming a devoted member of New Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church. Within the church community, David found not only spiritual guidance but also a strong sense of purpose, fellowship, and belonging. David embraced the values of faith, humility, and service that were instilled in him through the teachings of the church. He understood that being a member of the body of Christ meant more than simply attending services; it meant actively serving others and living out his faith each day. Whether through worship, fellowship, or acts of kindness, David carried a servant's heart and a deep love for his church family. As he grew into adulthood, David continued to remain active and faithful in his church. He faithfully served as a percussionist, using his musical talent to enhance worship and praise. Music was one of the many gifts David shared with his church family, and he took great joy in contributing to the spirit of worship through his playing and sometimes singing. He was a proud member of the Sons of Allen, a former Junior Steward, and actively contributed to the Christian Education Department, helping to educate and inspire church members of all ages in the teachings of Christ through his narrations and orations. David was recognized as a gifted speaker and scholar, serving as a Black History orator. Through this role, he shared knowledge, celebrated heritage, and inspired others to understand and honor the contributions of African Americans throughout history. His dedication to both service and education reflected his unwavering commitment to faith, community, and the empowerment of others.

David was united in holy matrimony to the former Chandra Washington, daughter of the late Shephard Washington, Sr., and the late Mary Washington. Their loving union began on July 23, 2004, as they joined together in marriage. Together, they built a life grounded in love, faith, and a deep commitment to family.

David was a devoted husband and a proud father who cherished the time he spent with his children. He took great pride in his family and found joy in supporting, guiding, and celebrating the lives and accomplishments of his children.

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Hymn# 393

"Precious Lord Take My Hand"

Hymn of PRAISE

Hymn# 513

"Time is Filled with Swift Transitions"

Prayer of Comfort

Pastor Devon Long

Old Testament

Psalm 24

Rev. James R. Gee

New Testament

John 14:1-6

Rev. Johnnie L. Rouse

SOLO

Sis. Shonda English

Reflections

Class of 1987 Bishopville High School

Sister Cassandra and Bro. Ron Wilson

Sister Julia Young (Church)

Sister Antionette Rogers (Community)

Brother Edgar Ruth (Family)

Chermaine Lyde

Acknowledgements/Resolution

Sister Stephanie D. Brooks

Solo

Sister Pearlie Weaver

Words of Comfort

Reverend Dr. Harold E. Conyers

Recessional

Melody of Songs

Committal, Benediction and Interment

New Zion Memorial Garden

789 Cooper's Mill Road, Bishopville, South Carolina 29010

