

Celebration of Life

Master Sargeant Thomas M. Breckenridge, USAF (Ret.)



Sunday, October 5, 2025 - 12 o'clock noon
Ash Street Missionary Baptist Church
201 West Ash Street, Dermott, AR 71638

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: —Philippians 1:6

Thomas M. Breckenridge

Sunrise: July 15, 1969

Sunset: September 25, 2025



ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional	Clergy and Family
Musical selection	Choir
Old Testament	Minister Charles Graham
New Testament	Rev. Justin Barnes
Prayer of Comfort	Pulpit
Solo	Mrs. Shirlene Jackson
Reflections : Friend/Classmate	Vincent Jones
Family Member	
As a Father	Jalen Breckenridge
Obituary Reading – (Read silently with soft music or aloud)	
Acknowledgments & Resolutions	Rosemary Jackson
Musical Selection	Choir
Eulogy – Pastor/Officiant	Pastor R.C. Barnes
Recessional	



The LORD is my *Shepherd;*
I shall not want.

He maketh me to
lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters,

He restoreth my
soul.

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake. Yea though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death.

I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies

Thou anointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over

Surely goodness & mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house
of the LORD *forever.*

- Psalm 23

OBITUARY

Master Sergeant Thomas M. Breckenridge, USAF (Ret.)

Thomas McKinley Breckenridge was born on July 15, 1969, in Fort Lee, Virginia, to John and Junelle Breckenridge Sr. At an early age, Thomas accepted Christ as his personal Lord and Savior and was baptized at Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Willie Lee Plummer.

Thomas attended Dermott High School in Dermott, Arkansas, where he graduated with the Class of 1987. Shortly after, he joined the United States Air Force, proudly serving his country for 23 years before retiring in 2011.

Following his retirement, Thomas made his home in Memphis, Tennessee. He continued his education at the University of Memphis, pursuing a degree in business.

Thomas had a wide array of passions. He was a devoted fan of the Los Angeles Lakers, USC Trojans, Las Vegas Raiders, Chicago Bears, University of Memphis Tigers, and Memphis Grizzlies. Known for his love of reading, Thomas began reading at just two years old and remained an avid reader throughout his life, with a particular admiration for the works of Walter Mosley. He also enjoyed learning about military and world history, playing golf, racing, trying new foods, and celebrating holidays by popping fireworks with his nieces and nephews.

Family and friends knew Thomas as someone with a big heart, wisdom, and a ready smile. To his beloved nieces and nephews, he was affectionately known as “**Uncle Cheese**,” a nickname born from the wide grin he carried into every room. His son, Jalen, remembers him as a proud Kobe Bryant fan, a thoughtful mentor, and a trusted confidant who offered alternative perspectives and valuable life lessons. Among his guiding words were: “*All you have to do is do it*” and “*Plan your work, work your plan.*” These lessons will continue to live on in the lives of those he loved.

On September 25, 2025, Thomas was called to his heavenly home.

He was preceded in death by his brother, John “Rickey” Breckenridge Jr.; his sister, Junelle “Poochie” Sanders; and his grandparents, Robert and Pellie Breckenridge, Frankie Mae Abrams-Howard, and Rosie Lee Lewis.

Thomas leaves to cherish his memory: his son, Jalen Breckenridge of St. Paul, MN; his grandson, Jahari Breckenridge; his parents, John and Junelle Breckenridge of Dermott, AR; siblings Rose Small of Dumas, AR, Anita Breckenridge of Charlottesville, VA, Valarie Jackson-Hardee of Elgin, SC, Janet Breckenridge of Dermott, AR, Anthony Breckenridge of Temple, TX, Charlotte Breckenridge of Dermott, AR, and Grace Love Hill of Bryant, AR; aunts and uncles James (Gwen) Stephenson, Dorothy Degefferd, Cornelius Degefferd, and Matthew (Renee) Abrams; along with 11 nephews, 8 nieces, a host of great-nieces and nephews, extended family, and many dear friends who will forever treasure his memory. Thomas will be remembered for his service, his smile, his wisdom, quirky sense of humor, and the love he poured into his family and community. His legacy of faith, knowledge, and joy will live on in all who were blessed to know him.

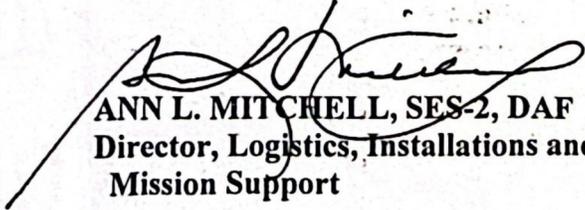


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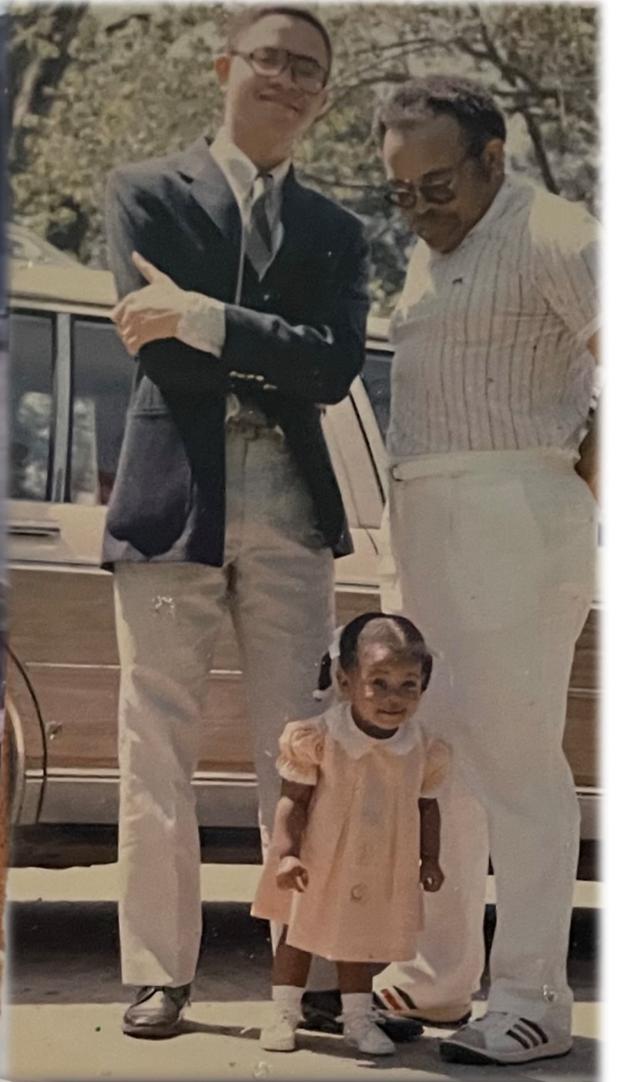
Dear Master Sergeant Breckenridge

You have my deepest thanks for your outstanding service to our nation. Your contributions to the United States Air Force and Global Strike Command have made a significant impact to our units and the defense of our great country. Without the sacrifices you have made during your 23 year career, we could not have met the challenges we have faced as an Air Force and nation.

Be proud of the important role you have played in the accomplishment of our mission and the lasting impact your service will have to ensure our military continues to dominate air, space and cyberspace in the future. I wish you the best in future success and happiness as you begin a new chapter of your life. Once again, congratulations on your retirement.


ANN L. MITCHELL, SES-2, DAF
Director, Logistics, Installations and
Mission Support







Active Pallbearers

Jalen Breckenridge
Alex Kilgore
Phillip Kilgore
Isiah Miller
Marcus Plummer
Aaron Sanders
Darryle Small

Honorary Pallbearers

Anthony Breckenridge
Cameron Breckenridge
Jared Breckenridge
Landon Breckenridge
Cornelius Kilgore Jr.
Clifford Small Jr.
Darren Small
James Stephenson
Dermott High School Class of 1987

Services Entrusted to:

Dillard Funeral Home, LLC

111 N Freeman Street Dermott, AR 71638

Interment

Davis Cemetery – Dermott, AR 71638

Repast

Honey Bea's - 494 W Gaines St Dermott, AR 71638

Acknowledgements

The family of Thomas McKinley Breckenridge wishes to express our heartfelt thanks for your prayers, support, and love during this time of loss. We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of kindness shown to us and pray God's blessings upon each of you.

—The Breckenridge Family