



# CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



*"T-Man"*  
**Thomas McGruder, Sr.**

*Alpha:* November 14, 1937      *Omega:* October 4, 2024

Saturday, October 12, 2024 | 2:30 p.m.

DR. L.T. MILLER – H.A. SCOTT, SR.

COMMUNITY CENTER

930 Lamar Avenue – Yazoo City, MS 39194

Rev. Kenneth McGruder, Sr., Officiating

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Thomas "T Man" McGruder, Sr. would like to express our deepest appreciation for the condolences, words of encouragement, phone calls, and visits since the passing of our loved one. Your responses have been a source of strength during this difficult time, and we are forever grateful. May God continue to bless and keep each and every one of you.

## ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

David Green | Carlos Hall

Gary McGruder | Gregory McGruder

Michael McGruder | Timothy Moreland

## HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Charlie Hall | Alfonzo McGruder

Thomas McGruder, Jr. | Kendrick McWilliams

Jerry McWilliams | Arthur Patterson

## FLOWER BEARERS

Family and Friends

## INTERMENT

Glenwood Cemetery

395 Mike Espy Drive

Yazoo City, MS

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO



**SCOTT MEMORIAL**  
 FUNERAL HOME

*"A Higher Standard of Professional Service"*

1401 E. Broadway Street

Yazoo City, MS 39194

662.746.0046

## LIFE'S REFLECTIONS

### Thomas "T-Man" McGruder, Sr.

*And the king said unto his servants, know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel? ~ 2 Samuel 3:38*

Giant is not too large of an illustration to describe the life and legacy of Thomas McGruder, Sr. Thomas McGruder, Sr. is celebrated and remembered as a prince of a man who demonstrated great love for his family; showed himself friendly, always willing to extend a favor or helping hand, and shared wisdom to all who asked. He left marks on the lives of those he touched.

Thomas McGruder, Sr., affectionately known as T-Man, was born to the Union of Emdell and Houston McGruder, Sr. in Holly Bluff, Mississippi. He was the fourth of thirteen children. He attended the Yazoo Training School. Thomas Sr. had an abiding hope in God and acknowledged that it was God's Grace and Mercy that sustained him throughout his life.

Thomas, Sr. was witty, industrious, and mechanically minded. He was a fixit/repairman of perfection. He demonstrated the capacity to take scrap and throw-a-way materials and repurpose them into usable products. Thomas, Sr. worked in the farming economy for many years. He was noted for his skillfulness in machinery repair.

Thomas, Sr. was born November 14, 1937. His life spanned the dark days of Jim Crow Mississippi. As with many of his generation, he developed the cunning ability to navigate the challenges of the time to provide for his family without compromising his integrity and dignity.

Thomas has moved from his "old house" to his new home, where there is no more pain and sorrow. He is now rejoicing with those that preceded him in death: his parents, wives Ruth Jackson McGruder and Christiana Johnson McGruder; children Janet L. McGruder, Jacqueline McGruder-Green, David Miles McGruder and Marvoin Fitzgerald Hall; siblings(brothers): Hezekiah, Houston, Jr., Jessie James, Malachi, Nathaniel and Ike; sisters: Hazel Bell Anderson, Catherine Singleton and Patricia McGruder-Thompson. Through it all, Thomas, Sr. remained a tower of strength for his family. Although not the oldest of his siblings, Thomas Sr. was looked upon as a patriarch of the family.

Some may value one's legacy in houses and land. Thomas Sr.'s legacy is not to be measured on the tangible effects alone but also on the principles he instilled in family members, the power of his influence, and his life's positive impact on others.

There are many who will find joy in cherished memories of Thomas McGruder, Sr. T-Man. Mentioned here are sons: Thomas McGruder, Jr. (Shirley) of Jackson, MS and Arthur Patterson of Yazoo City, MS; daughters: Sara Ann McGruder of Dallas, TX; Vickie Hall of Yazoo City, MS, and Jacqueline Hall of Yazoo City, MS; extremely special to his heart granddaughter: Kristy McGruder of Yazoo City, MS; siblings: Alfonzo McGruder of Chicago, IL, Jo Juanita McWilliams of Carol Steam, IL, and Annie Francis McGruder of Detroit, MI, and Johnnie B. Thompkins of Cincinnati, OH; and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Program Guide – Jo Juanita McWilliams

Processional.....Minister & Family

Prayer .....Superintendent John H. Scott

Scriptural Readings..... Old & New Testaments

Old Testament | Leandrew Mayberry

New Testament | Gretta Winters

Musical Selection.....Family & Friends Choir

Obituary..... Read Silently

Remembering T-Man.....Family & Friends

Dear Friend | Earl Miller

Niece | Deedra Davis

Nurse | Tammy Hudson

Resolutions & Acknowledgements.....

Musical Selection.....Frank Shelby, Jr.

Eulogy.....Rev. Kenneh McGruder, Sr.

Scott Memorial Funeral Directors in Charge

Recessional ..... Pastor & Family

## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD I SHALL NOT BE IN WANT.

HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES  
HE LEADS ME BESIDE QUIET WATERS

## HE RESTORES MY SOUL.

HE GUIDES ME IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS  
FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE.

## EVEN THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH

I WILL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR YOU ARE WITH ME  
YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF, THEY COMFORT ME.

YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME  
IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES.

YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL; MY CUP OVERFLOWS.

SURELY GOODNESS AND LOVE WILL FOLLOW ME  
ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE, AND I WILL DWELL

IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

PSALM 23

## TRIBUTES

### A Broken Chain

*We didn't know that morning God was going to call your name.*

*In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone.*

*Because part of us went with you the day God called you home.*

*You left us with wonderful memories, your love is still our guide,*

*Although we can't see you, you are always by our sides.*

*Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same,*

*But as God calls us home one by one, the chain will link again.*

### Love Always, Your Children

#### LETTERS TO MY

Grandpa

IN HEAVEN

*They say there is a reason*

*They say time will heal;*

*Neither time or reason*

*Will change the way I feel.*

*Gone are the days we used to share,*

*But in my heart you are always there.*

*The gates of memories will never close;*

*I miss you more than anybody knows...*

*Love and miss you everyday.*

*Till we meet again.*

ALWAYS & FOREVER

**Danielle and Karleigh**

**Granddaughter and Great Granddaughter**

#### Our Grandfather

*They say there is a reason, they say time will heal,*

*neither time nor reason will change the way I feel.*

*Gone are the days we used to share,*

*but in my heart you always there.*

*The gates of memories will never close.*

*I miss you more than anybody knows.*

*Love and miss you every day. Till we meet again.*

**Always and Forever ~ Your Grands**

#### To Our Brother

*In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone,*

*for part of us went with you the day God called you home.*

*You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our heart,*

*and though we can't see you, you are always at our side.*

*Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same,*

*we just know that we will miss you and love always.*

**Love Your Siblings**