

# The Obituary

**Mr. Bennie Leon Watson, the son of the late Deacon Charlie Watson and Pastor Julia Watson, was born on June 16, 1949, in Selma, North Carolina. He took his Heavenly flight at Johnston Memorial Hospital on Monday, January 13, 2025.**

**Bennie was educated in the Johnston County School System, where he graduated from Richard B. Harrison's "Class of 1969". There, he was well-liked by everyone.**

**After graduation, Bennie began working at Sylvania in 1969, where he worked for over 13 years. In 1984 he started working at IBM until he retired. Bennie was never one to sit still, he began driving for Williams Transportation and continued there until his health started to decline.**

**Bennie accepted Christ at an early age at Williams Chapel Holiness Church in Middlesex, NC. He also attended Bethel AME Church in Selma, NC, and later joined St. Jude Holiness Church, Wilson, NC under the leadership of Bishop Luther Barbour. He served faithfully under Bishop Barbour and under his current pastor, Pastor Andrew Barbour. Bennie served as a deacon for many years. Bennie's favorite song was Total Praise.**

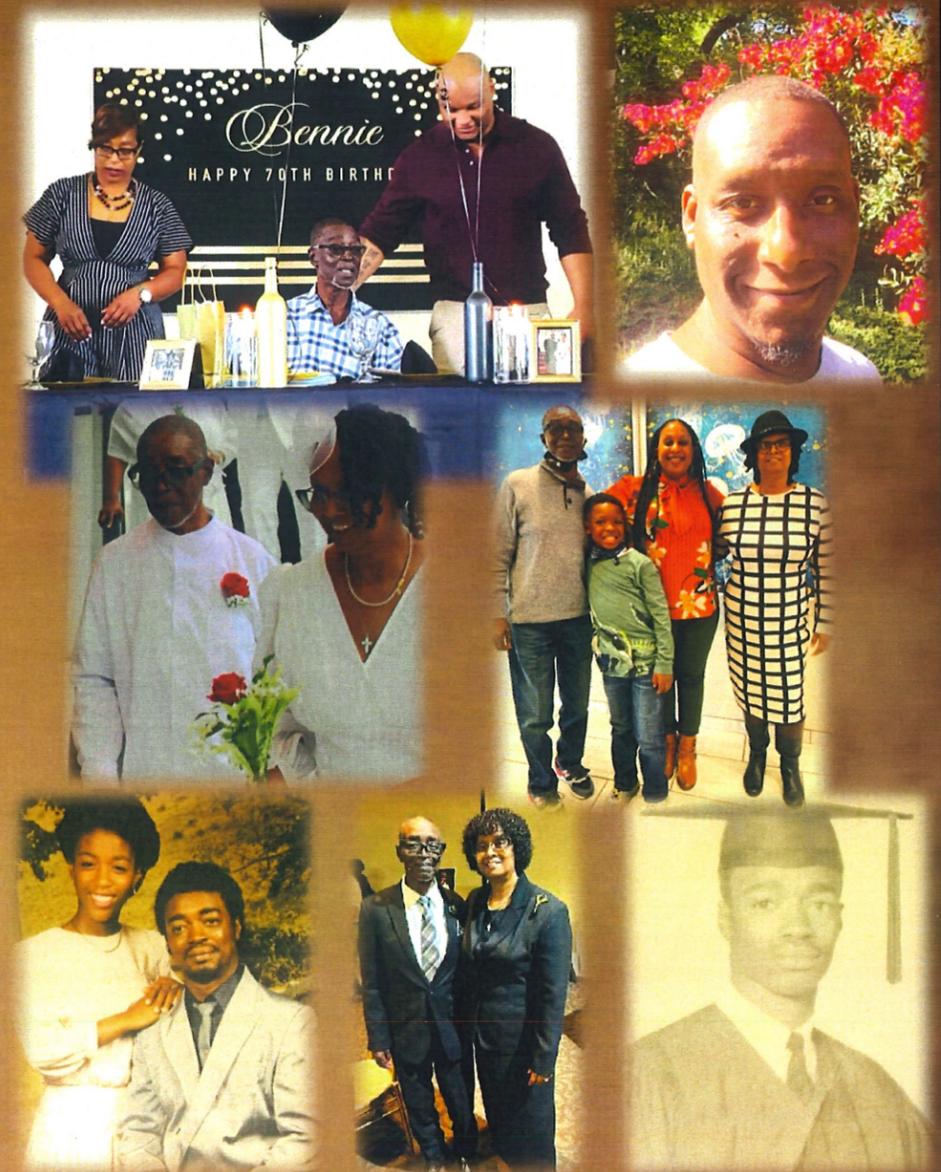
**On March 28, 1996, Bennie married Emma Williams and her two sons, Vance and Raniel Williams. He was a loving husband to Emma and a devoted father to his children, Chiyanna, Vance and Raniel.**

**Bennie was a lifelong fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers, passionately cheering for his favorite team through every season. His love for the game was only surpassed by his love for his family and faith.**

**Bennie was predeceased by his parents, Deacon Charlie and Pastor Julia Watson; brother, Charles Watson; and son, Raniel Williams.**

**He leaves to cherish his memories his loving wife, Emma Jean Watson of the home; daughter, Chiyanna Young of Kernersville, NC; and son, Vance Williams of Seagrove, NC; a bonus daughter, Natalie Bryant and grandson, Tristian Locus of Smithfield, NC; two sisters, Betty Watson and Bonnie Wiley (Bishop William) both of Middlesex, NC; one brother, Bishop Bobby Watson (Rosalind) of Selma, NC; three brothers-in-law, Bennie Barbour of Smithfield, NC, Deacon Bobby Barbour (Sue) of Kenly, NC and Pastor Andrew Barbour (Christine) of Smithfield, NC; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends, including his St. Jude church family.**

**Bennie's departure leaves an unfillable void in our lives, yet we all find comfort in the memories and everlasting love we shared.**



## In Loving Memory Daddy From Your Daughter

You taught me how to stand tall, to face life's storms with grace,  
In every lesson, love poured out, reflected in your face.  
I'll miss our quiet moments, the wisdom in your voice,  
Your steady hand, your gentle heart, that made my soul rejoice.  
Though you've taken your last journey, beyond where eyes can see,  
Your spirit walks beside me still, in every memory.  
Rest now in peace, dear Father, your love will never fade,  
Forever in my heart you'll be, the home where dreams are made.

# The Order of Service

Presider ~ Pastor Wyatt Ragland  
Mt. Zion Church of Deliverance, Smithfield, NC

Processional  
Clergy & Family

Opening Selection.....The Ensemble

Holy Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Pastor Nathaniel Spells

New Testament.....Pastor Annette Jones

Prayer of Consolation.....Bishop Quinton Branson, Jr.

Selection.....The Ensemble

### Special Remarks

\*Pastor Andrew Barbour (Pastor, Brother-in-law)

#### \*Family

Bishop Bobby Watson (Brother)

Mr. Obie Lee Watson (Cousin)

#### \*Church

Deacon Tevin Vines

#### \*Friends

Elder Roy Campbell

Mr. Tony L. Newsome

\*Richard B. Harrison ~ Class of 1969

Mrs. Margaret Lucas

Solo.....Sister Brittani Barbour (Niece)

Acknowledgements/Obituary.....Mother Jamie Howard

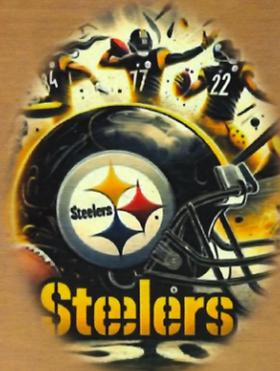
Selection.....The Ensemble

Eulogy.....Overseer John Hart, Jr.

Apostolic Holiness Churches of America, Inc.

Sanders Funeral Home

Recessional



Pall Bearers

Friends & Family

Floral Attendants

Friends & Family

Interment

Selma Memorial Garden



### Acknowledgements

The family of **Bennie Leon Watson** would like to thank everyone for all acts of kindness and love shown during this difficult time. Your prayers and presence have been great sources of support for our family. Your thoughtfulness and concern will remain in our hearts forever.

Professional Services Entrusted to:

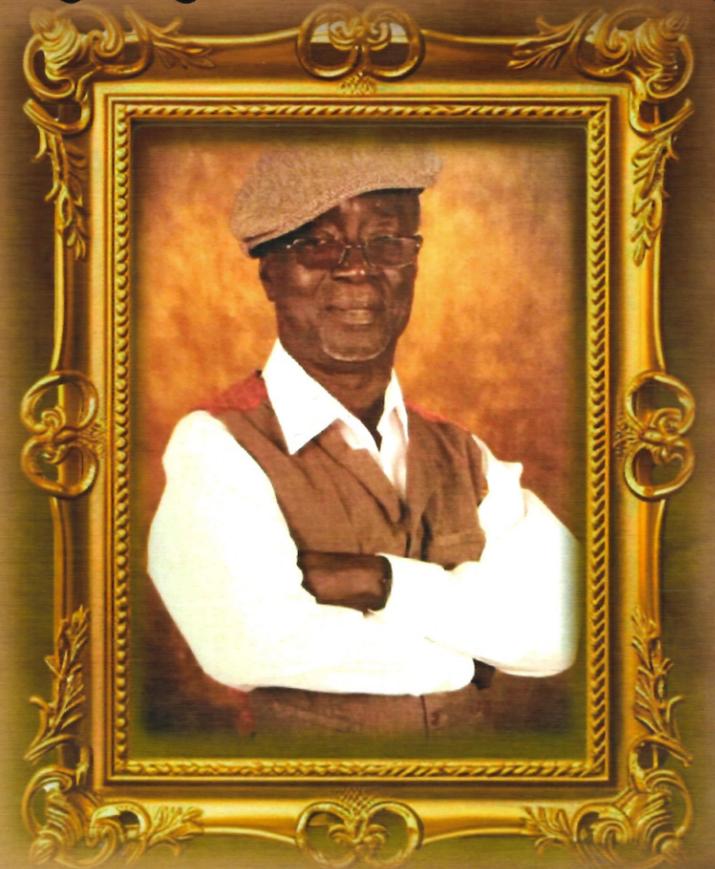
**Sanders Funeral Home**



806 E Market Street  
Smithfield, North Carolina 27577  
919-934-8416



# Homegoing Service Celebrating



# Bennie Leon Watson

Sunrise  
June 16, 1949

Sunset  
January 13, 2025

Friday ~ January 17, 2025  
11:00 A.M.

Selma Baptist Church  
1500 N Webb Street  
Selma, North Carolina

Overseer John Hart, Jr., Eulogist

