

1943

SFC NORRIS HOLLEY

2026

Mobile Calibrators Keep Things Going

By BILL CRAIG
Hanau Bureau Chief

PFEIFFERKEN, Germany (SAS) — USAREUR's "most mobile men" travel from the desert sands in Africa to the snowy peaks of the Alps using jetliners, oxcarts or camels.

The camels fit the nomadic nature of the highly trained calibration technicians "who spend much of their time on the road testing, measuring and setting standards on equipment for U.S. Forces in Europe, NATO and other friendly nations.

"Many people don't understand or appreciate the need for calibration, but in today's high-tech and complex systems, calibration is a must," commented Maj. Gen. Harold R. Gibson, Jr., CG of the Army Materiel Comd Europe.

MATCOM has the responsibility for the mobile calibration teams who ensure the highest degree of accuracy and dependability of systems and equipment.

"Through calibration, we are assured of achieving the highest degree of equipment accuracy and dependability possible," Gibson told a recent theater-wide calibration seminar held in Wiesbaden.

The seminar outlines requirements and procedures.

Calibration assures pilots flying aircraft that their instruments are accurate, Calibrated torque wrenches assure that helicopter rotor blades are properly checked. Missilemen know that, through calibration, their missile will be on target.

Our daily lives are affected by calibration. Cars are checked by calibrated equipment. Housewives can feel confident that the pound of steak is 16 ounces, not 15, because the scales have been calibrated. The new unit will most likely fit because the size was determined by calibrated cutting machines.

Robert B. Chapman, MATCOM quality control specialist, said, "Although industry spends millions of dollars annually to calibrate equipment to ensure accuracy and dependability, calibration is much more critical in the military. It directly affects our national defense."

Not all calibrators belong to the nomadic mobile teams. Some are assigned to laboratories and work under ideal (environmentally controlled) conditions. They calibrate the delicate instruments used to certify standards and calibrate equipment used by the mobile team.

TEAMWORK—Lt. John R. Hostetler, shop OIC, left, reads off standards to S. Sgt. Norris Holley inside shop van No. 2.



Our Thanks

We are extremely grateful to you for all expressions of Love, words of Encouragement, Services rendered beyond the call of duty and the Joy you've shared to enlighten us during our time of bereavement. May God bless and keep each of you in a very special way.

The Norris Holley Family

Escort Courtesy of
Sumter County Sheriff's Office
Eric Bryant | Sheriff

The service may be viewed on the
J. W. Williams Funeral Home Facebook Page
or the
J. W. Williams Funeral Home Youtube Channel.

J.W. Williams Funeral Home

Since 1918

"Celebrating Over 100 Years of Service"



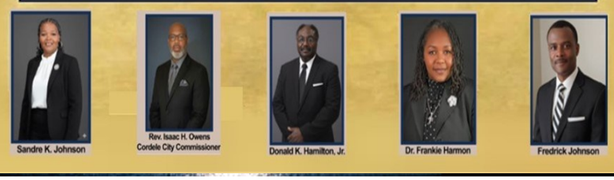


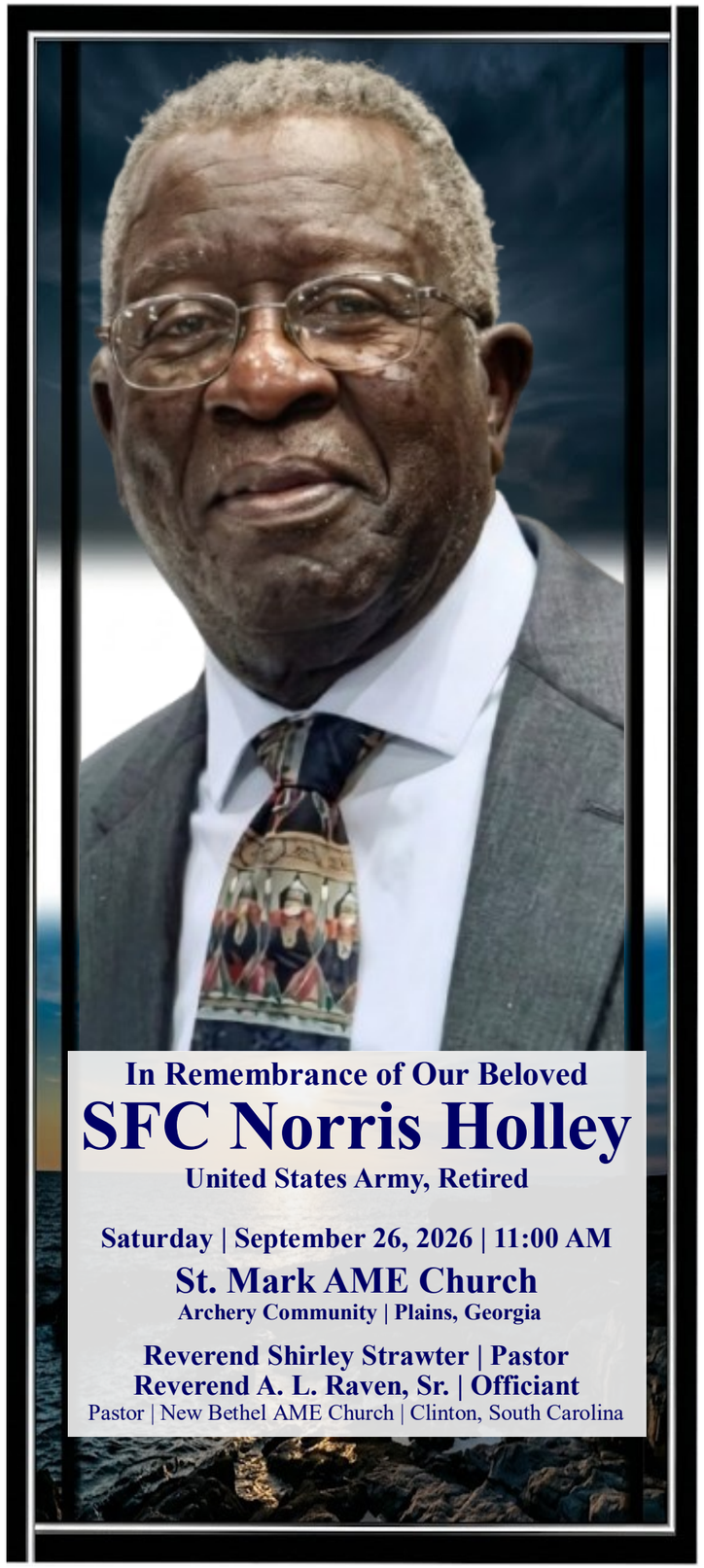
Arthur L. Parker
CEO/President
Graduate Mortician
Licensed Embalmer
Licensed Funeral Director
Licensed Insurance Agent

J.W. Williams Funeral Home
Our Motto: "Service"
229.273.2683
www.jwwilliams.com
jwwilliamsfh@bellsouth.net
407 West 17th Avenue, Cordele, GA 31015, Fax: 229.273.5111

The Parker Family
Calandra Wilkerson Parker
Corporate Secretary/Treasurer

Jai' Wilkerson Parker
Junior-Crisp County High School





In Remembrance of Our Beloved

SFC Norris Holley

United States Army, Retired

Saturday | September 26, 2026 | 11:00 AM

St. Mark AME Church

Archery Community | Plains, Georgia

Reverend Shirley Strawter | Pastor
Reverend A. L. Raven, Sr. | Officiant
Pastor | New Bethel AME Church | Clinton, South Carolina

The Obituary

SFC (Ret.) Norris Holley was born on August 26, 1943, in the Archery Community of Plains, Georgia, to the late Mr. Dock Holley and Mrs. Thelma L. Holley.

Norris accepted Jesus at a young age and joined St. Mark AME Church. He attended Johnson Industrial School and Ida S. Lowery High School, graduating from the Ida S. Lowery in 1962. Shortly after graduation, he voluntarily enlisted in the U.S. Army.

During his military career, Norris served tours in Alaska, Germany, Japan, Korea, Beirut, and several cities across the United States, including two assignments at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama where he retired in 1985. His honors included the National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal (7th Award), and Sharpshooter Badge (M-16). After retiring honorably from the U.S. Army, he was offered a position at the Redstone Support Activity Transportation Department where he worked until his retirement in 2013. Wherever he traveled, Norris shared the gospel, welcomed everyone he met, and taught the Word of God through the way he lived, spoke, and carried himself. Because of his concern for the youth Norris got involved in a weekly Bible study at the Madison County Neaves Davis Center (D-Home) over 20 years ago. He was currently the coordinator for this ministry. Additionally, Norris sponsored several men who attended the Emmaus Walk (A Spiritual Retreat).

Our beloved, Norris, transitioned on Monday, September 14, 2026. He is preceded in death by two brothers, four sisters, four brothers-in-law and four sisters-in law.

Cherishing his memory is his loving and faithful wife, Lillie M. Holley; his brothers, Harry (Karen) Holley of Conley, Georgia, Elijah (Mary) Holley of Hephzibah, Georgia, and James Holley of Tucker, Georgia; and his sisters, Carolyn (Cooper) Roberts of Leslie, Georgia, Velma Price of Decatur, Georgia, Gwendolyn Holley of Ellenwood, Georgia, and Bernice (Isaiah, Sr.) Thomas of Decatur, Georgia. He is also remembered by his brother-in-law, Ernest (Sherrie) Wright, Jr. of Americus, Georgia; his sisters-in-law, Rosetta Wright of Americus, Georgia, Fannie Roberts of Leesburg, Georgia, and Maeola Wilcher of Atlanta, Georgia; and those who were especially dear to him: Elder J. L. Raven Jr., Mrs. Mary Wright Minion of Americus, Georgia, Mrs. Mae Frances Merritt and Bro. Daniel Jackson of Atlanta, Georgia. He also leaves a host of nephews, nieces, and many special friends to treasure his memory.

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 his call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace
at the close of the 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 you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch,
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

The Order of Service

Reverend Shirley Strawter | Pastor
Reverend A. L. Raven, Sr. | Officiant

Musical Prelude

Processional | "Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior
Led by Clergy

The Final Viewing
The Final Closing of the Casket

Prayer of Comfort
Reverend A. L. Raven, Sr.

Old Testament Scripture | Bro. Elijah Holley
Psalm 23

New Testament Scripture | Bro. Marcus Raven
Matthew 25:35-36 & 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

A Melody of Hymns
St. Mark AME Church Choir

<u>The Two Minute Tributes</u>
Bro. Ernest Wright, Jr.
Bro. Daniel Jackson
Bro. Gerald Holley
Bro. Wade Wilson
Bro. Isaiah Thomas, Jr.
A Huntsville Representative

A Word of Thanks from the Family
Mrs. Bernice Thomas

Special Message
Minister Harry Holley, Sr.

Hymn | Yolanda Holley & Jaedyn Holley
"Amazing Grace"

Eulogy
Pastor Shirley Strawter

Acknowledgements, Heirloom Bible
and Memorial Blanket Presentation
The J. W. Williams Funeral Home Staff

Recessional | Postlude
"Going Up Yonder"

The Committal Service

(With Military Honors)

St. Mark Cemetery
Bishop Johnson Circle | Plains, Georgia

REPAST
St. Mark AME Church Community Life Center
1667 Bishop Johnson Circle
Plains, Georgia