Acknowledgments

We, the family of Martez Sims, would like to express our sincere gratitude for the overwhelming support, love and condolences extended to us during this difficult time. Your presence, comforting words, and acts of kindness have provided solace as we navigate through the loss of our beloved Martez. We are truly touched by the outpouring of compassion from family, friends, and well-wishers.

Honorary Pallbearers

Jerrice Stewart
Wayne Stewart
Bruce Stewart
James Malloy
Donnie Milloy
Monique Craft
Terri Logan
Jerry Sims
Larry Sims
Calvert Sims
Kelvin Washington
Authur B. Franklin
Keith Easterling

Active Pallbearers

Reginald Price
Maurice Easterling
Marquez Easterling
Jerald Walker
Bobby Gray
Madelletta Easterling
Marrell Smith
James Turner

Floral Bearers

Family & Friends

Interment

Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery
374 Zion Hill Road, Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
Immediately following funeral service

Repast

A brief repast will follow the burial at Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
The full repast will be held at Saratoga Community Center, 189 J. Smith Road, Magee, Mississippi 39111.

Services Entrusted to

J & M Funeral Home, LLC
732 Dixie Avenue • P.O. Box 475
Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
(601)847-2911 • www.jandmfuneralhome.com
"Your Trust, Sacredly Kept"

Programs—Prints by Danora, LLC—(601)214-6806—printsbydanora@gmail.com

Celebrating the Life of

Martez Lalonde Sims



First Mile Driven
January 8, 1975

Last Mile Driven
February 26, 2026

Saturday, March 7, 2026
11:00 a.m.

Zion Hill M.B. Church
Dr. F. Bernard Mitchell
Pastor & Officiant



A Tribute to My Beloved Son

written by Wyatt Ernst

My dear child, I still can't quite believe that you're not here. You brought so much light and warmth into this world – into our world – and it's hard to imagine life without you. You were never just my son; you were a best friend, a confidant, a pillar of strength when times were tough, and a ray of sunshine on even the gloomiest of days.

I remember your laughter filling the room, bright and contagious. You had this incredible ability to lift others up, to make them feel heard and loved even on your hardest days, you somehow found a way to smile, to reassure the rest of us, as if to remind us that no matter what life threw our way, we'd get through it together.

You had a heart so full of kindness, a soul that never seemed to tire of giving. Whether you were cracking jokes with your friends, lending a hand to a neighbor, or sitting quietly in reflection, there was always a light in you that made everything seem a little more hopeful, a little more bearable.

And your relationship with your support group, the people who loved you so deeply, was something beautiful to witness. You weren't just part of the group – you were the glue that held it together. You knew how to be there for others in the most genuine way, knowing exactly when to offer a listening ear, a comforting word, or simply your quiet presence. They loved you not just because of what you gave but because of who you were.

I can't help but smile through the tears when I think about how you left a mark on everyone who had the privilege of knowing you. Your support group, our family, friends – none of us will ever forget the way you made us feel loved, understood, and valued. I know how much your presence meant to them, how much comfort you provided in times of need, and how much they were your sanctuary as much as you were theirs.

It's easy to dwell on the loss, the hole that's now left in our lives without you here, but that's not what you would want. You'd want us to remember the joy, the laughter, the love – the moments that mattered. And so, today, as we come together to honor you, I find solace in knowing that your spirit lives on in every one of us. The memories, the lessons, the way you touched our hearts – those will never fade. I know you're watching over us now, with that same gentle smile, nudging us to keep moving forward. I promise we will carry your light with us. We will carry you with us.

Love You Always – Your Mother,
Bennie Stewart-Sims

Gone Too Soon

Words cannot describe the loss I feel
Saying farewell to you,
But heaven chose to give you wings,
and now it's time you flew.
I wish that we could have more time,
that God had let you stay.
Forever would not be long enough
But I would take one day.
I wish I had just one more chance
to see that smile,
To laugh with you again my dear
Just for a little while.
Gone too soon, but not forgotten,
Forever you will remain,
My guiding light, my shining star,
Until I see your face again.

Your Loving Grandmother
- Leonia Norwood-Stewart



PRECIOUS MEMORIES

Tributes to Our Beloved Martez

My dad was a strong and loving man who meant more to me than I can ever explain. He was always there for people whenever they needed him. Some of my favorite memories will forever be riding down the road with him, blues music playing while he drove like he knew every mile by heart. Sitting next to him, just watching the road, I felt safe and loved without him even having to say much. Those simple moments meant the world to me. My dad wasn't perfect, but he was my dad, and that's what matters most. He taught me how to be strong and how to love deeply. He would always say he was a legend and in my heart he always will be. Even though he isn't here with me anymore, his love will always live in my heart. I love you so much, Dad, and I'll miss you every single day

- Chyna

My daddy was known as a great man, and anyone who met him could see why. He had a heart bigger than this world generous, kind, and always open to others. He didn't just talk about love; he lived it. He gave without expecting anything in return, and he showed up for people when it mattered most.

To me, he was more than a great man; he was my father, my protector, and my example of what a real man should be. The strength he carried, the wisdom he shared, and the love he poured into our family will stay with me forever.

Daddy, your heart touched so many lives, and mine most of all. I will honor you by living with the same kindness, strength, and big heart you showed every day.

Your Son – Marquavious

Martez, your passing doesn't feel real. I sit some days in silence hoping it's all a dream. The void you left in my life is heavy and I don't think it'll ever be filled.

Friends like you don't come around often. What we had was rare. In all our years of friendship, we never had a falling out. You were always one call away no hesitation, no judgement, just love.

God must really think I'm stronger than I feel, because losing you has shaken me to my core. I keep looking back to the last visit at the hospital when you told me that you were tired and you wished that you would go to sleep and never wake up. I literally had to hold back tears because that wasn't the Martez I knew. The Martez I knew was full of life – laughing, always joking even if it was the wrong time. Saying whatever with no filter. And as much as it hurts me to say goodbye, I find comfort in knowing you're no longer suffering. You have that new heart that you needed and that surgery you were begging for is no longer needed. You're healed. You're free and you're at peace. God made it all brand new for you.

Your Friend, Your Sister from another Mother

- Dot

In Loving Memory of Our Wonderful Brother

Of all the special gifts in life
however great or small,
to have you as our Brother
was the greatest gift of all.

May the winds of love blow softly
and whisper in your ear
"We love you and miss you Brother
and wish that you were here."

Deep in our hearts, your life is kept to love and cherish, not forget. No more tomorrows we can share but yesterdays are always there.

A silent thought, a secret tear
keeps your memory ever near
In our hearts forever.

Love Always—Your Siblings

The Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremony ..... *Mrs. Clara Jaynes*

Processional ..... *Clergy & Family*

Scripture Reading

Old Testament ..... *Reverend Willie B. Hobbs, Jr.*

New Testament ..... *Reverend Earnest Thompson*

Prayer ..... *Deacon Terry "Tip" Price*

Song ..... Nyla Sims

Expressions ..... *(Two minutes or less please)* ..... *Family & Friends*

Special Words ..... *Minister Tremaine Williams*

Acknowledgments ..... *Mrs. Clara Jaynes*

Song ..... *James Malloy*

Words of Encouragement ..... *Evangelist Renee Walker*

Obituary ..... *Read Silently*

Song ..... *Nyla Sims*

Eulogy ..... *Dr. F. Bernard Mitchell*
Pastor, Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church

Last Call ..... *Mrs. Dianne Gaddis*

Recessional ..... *Funeral Directors of J&M in Charge*

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Obituary

Martez Lalonde Sims graced us with his presence for 51 years before God called him home to rest. Martez was born January 8, 1975, to Dennis Darcell Sims and Bennie Stewart Sims. He was born in Hinds County, Mississippi, as the second son of seven siblings.

Martez Sims attended Magee Middle School and High School. After high school, he held a variety of positions before ultimately finding his calling in truck driving. He drove trucks across the country for 28 years.

Martez was baptized and accepted Christ at an early age at St. Peter M.B. Church in Mendenhall, Mississippi.

Memories of Martez will be cherished by his loving children: Marquavious Sims (Sumrall, Mississippi), Jykai Dalonde Sims, Jykari Lalonde Sims, and special daughter, Chyna Neveah Sherman (Baumont, Texas); mother, Bennie Stewart-Sims (Mt. Olive, Mississippi); loving grandmother, Mrs. Leonia Norwood-Stewart (Magee, Mississippi); brothers, DeShaun Sims (Detroit, Michigan), Corey (Katrina) Sims (Hattiesburg, Mississippi), Chad Sims (Houston, Texas), Davion Bell (Mt. Olive, Mississippi), and Joshua Sims (Mt. Olive, Mississippi); and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Martez was preceded in death by his father, Dennis Darcell Sims; grandmother, Dessie Lee Womack Milloy; and grandfathers, Lewis Napoleon Sims and Bennie Stewart, Jr.



10-4 and Goodbye

Martez



Memories...


















OBITUARY