



THE ORDER OF SERVICE



FAMILY HOUR

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Seating of the Family
Visitation and Viewing

SERVICE

12:00 p.m.

Prelude..... Musician

Congregational Hymn..... Congregation

*Scriptures..... Old Testament Deacon Harvey Monk
New TestamentDeacon Paul Ingram*

*Prayer of Comfort Bishop Richard Johnson
St. Peter Church of Christ Disciples of Christ*

Musical Selection.....Rev. Morris Sanders

Heartfelt Reflections..... James Earl Judkins, Appointees

*Acknowledgements,
Resolutions & Obituary.....Deaconess Carolyn Ennis*

Musical Selection.....Rev. Morris Sanders

Eulogy.....Rev. Robin Joynes

Morticians Brief & Committal

Recessional

- PALL BEARERS -

Family and Friends

- FLORAL BEARERS -

Family and Friends



- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO -

Walter Sanders Funeral Home

302 S. Bright Leaf Blvd

Smithfield, NC 27577

(919) 934-6661

www.waltersandersfuneralhome.com

Homegoing Service For Michael Leon Merritt



October 1, 1951 – April 3, 2018

Saturday, April 7, 2018

12:00 P.M.

First Missionary Baptist Church

403 Caswell St.

Smithfield, NC 27577

Officiating

Reverend J.B. Woodhouse

OBITUARY

MICHAEL L. MERRITT was born on October 1, 1951 to Oscar Leon Merritt and Lillie Judkins Merritt of Smithfield, NC. Michael was the fourth child born to his parents, and was preceded in death by two young sisters, his father Oscar L. Merrit and his mother Lillie J. Merritt. He entered into eternal rest on April 3, 2018 at the Smithfield Manor Rehabilitation Center.

Michael was educated in the Johnston County School System, Smithfield, NC and graduated from Johnston Central High in 1969. Upon graduation from high school, he enlisted in the United States Army, spending three tours in Germany. After 16 years of service, he was discharged from the military and he returned to Smithfield.

Michael was a longtime member of First Missionary Baptist Church, Smithfield where he served as a member of the Male Chorus, an operator of the sound system, and was the church custodian. He also volunteered for Meals on Wheels, serving the Smithfield area.

On December 10, 2009, Michael married Loni Larnetta Sanders. They were happily married and spent their time together traveling, taking walks by the Neuse River, volunteering, and taking care of the church. Through his sickness and illness, Larnetta was his driver and companion.

He leaves to love and cherish his memory: wife, Loni Larnetta Merritt, of Benson NC; a brother, Dennis Merritt (Lois) of Smithfield, NC; sister Patricia Merritt McDonald (Mack) of Selma, NC; two daughters, Tonya Merritt of Puerto Rico and Sheila Monroe of Selma, NC, 5 grandchildren, 3 nieces, one nephew, and a host of cousins and friends.

So when tomorrow starts without me,
Don't think we're far apart,
For every time you think of me
I'm right here in your heart.

To my brother Michael,

I am glad for the time that we were brothers, you took me
under your wing and protected me when I was young.

Thank You...

I Love You more than any brother can love a brother...

I'll Miss You...

Love You,

Dennis

- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -

The family is deeply appreciative of the many acts of love, kindness, and care expressed during the illness and hours of bereavement of our loved one. Your love and comforting words have given us strength to carry on.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

The Staff at Smithfield Manor
Rehabilitation- with a very special thanks to
Betty Pearl Wells & Mary Diggs