### **Active Pallbearers**

Men in the family

### **Honorary Pallbearers**

William McGee Jr.

Curtis McGee

### **Flower Bearers**

Family and Friends

### **Interment**

Autumn Woods Cemetery 4000 W. Northside Dr. Jackson, MS 39209 (601) 353-3482

#### ARRANGEMENTS AND SERVICES ENTRUSTED:

Willis & Sons Funeral Home 5235 Robinson Road Ext. Jackson, MS 39204 601.372.0346

### **Acknowledgements**

We, the family of the late Willie (William) Earl McGee, extend our deepest appreciation to the hospital staff who tried to comfort him during his nearly 60-day stay, to Giddens Memorial Chapel, Las Vegas, NV; Pearl St. AME Church, Jackson, MS; and everyone who supported us during our hours of bereavement. We appreciate your prayers, cards, monetary gifts, phone calls, visits, and other acts of kindness.

Program design & poems by Mrs. Meredith C. McGee Family History, Mr. William Earl McGee Jr. Family History, Miss Dorothy McGee



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### Graveside Service

# Willie Earl McGee



**Sunrise:** March 16, 1946

Sunset: October 11, 2020

## **Saturday, October 31, 2020** 2:00 p.m.

Officiating, Pastor Elizabeth McGee Bibleway Church

## **Obituary**

**Willie** (William) Earl McGee was born March 16, 1946 in Jackson, Mississippi. to the late Leeandrew (Canton native) and Christine Easterling (D'Lo native) McGee. He was the 9th of 14 children. Curtis (Butch) McGee and Dorothy McGee of Jackson, MS are his surviving biological siblings.

Willie Earl McGee who was affectionately called 'Big Will' lived a full and exciting life. He moved to Las Vegas, Nevada at age 53 from his hometown of Jackson, Mississippi. He met his significant other Deloris Davis during his 21-year stay in Las Vegas. He was known as "Pops" to his neighbors and grandpa to his grand-children and great grandchildren. He was loved dearly for his southern hospitality and for his soul food cooking. He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings: Mickey McGee, Donnell (Ronnie) McGee, Cleotha (Bro) McGee, Lee Andrew (Jr.) McGee, Fred McGee, Christell Wilson, Pinkie Taylor, Odessa McGee, and several infant siblings.

Willie Earl McGee was joined in holy matrimony in 1972 to Betty Little McGee. He later married Ola Mae Macklin— two children Debra McGee and Kenneth Earl McGee were born to that union. He obtained his primary education in the Jackson Public School System. On June 16, 1963, at age 17, he joined his older siblings and community and participated in a mass protest in Downtown Jackson after the assassination of Civil Rights icon Medgar Wiley Evers who lived in Shady Oaks. Three years later, he participated in the Meredith March Against Fear which was the last mass protest in the Civil Rights era. Professionally, Willie Earl McGee was formerly a painter, a bartender, and a jewelry salesman.

Willie Earl McGee's memories will be cherished by his siblings, dear friends, and children: William Earl Jr. (Meredith) McGee, Michelle (Kevin) Swinney; of Jackson, MS; Debra McGee, Las Vegas, NV; Karen (Russell) Smith, Douglasville, GA; Umekia Scott (step-daughter), Dallas, Texas; Kenneth Earl McGee, Mischa Scott (Marcus) Cage; Rashad Scott, Kelsey Dior Reed, Cleo, et al of Jackson, MS; and a host of friends, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives.

### TRIBUTE POEM FROM GRANDCHILDREN

### Grandpa, Grandpa

Sadness dropped bombs on our hearts the Sunday you got your wings. Our souls were shocked. Our minds were weary. Your pictures flooded our social world. We remember your best because you gave 'your all.'

You gave us your best smile.
You gave us your best wisdom.
You gave us your best hugs.
You gave us motivation.
You gave us style.
You gave the men an example of manhood.

Like a strong wind, memories flowed like the big Mississippi River.
Warmth replaced sadness.
You said, "stay up—keep moving."
Grandpa, we listened, we're holding up!
We're sticking together.
We are strong. We are one!
We are McGees (M. C. G. double E.)!



Christine McGee, Christell & Lee Andrew



Chris, Christie, Adrene, Avion, Johnathon, Kenneth Earl, Amber, Chasity, India, Jessica, Deasia, Akasia, India, Marcus, William (III), Chelsey, Martez, Marquez, Mason, et al...

### TRIBUTE POEM FROM CHILDREN

### Big Will, Big Will

Big Will was our daddy.
Big Will was our friend to the end.
His memories are sealed in our minds as long as we stand in this land.
He had nothing but love for his family.
He had nothing but love for his friends.

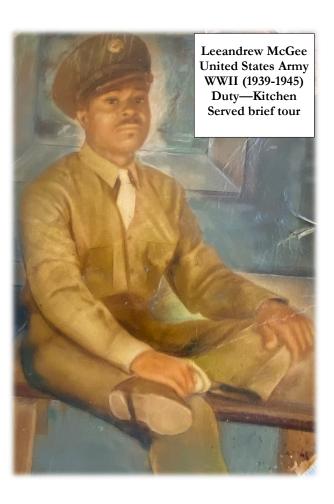
We miss you daddy. We love you daddy. Rest in Power! Rest in Peace!

We are holding it down.
United your children stand.
Take our hands dear Lord.
Lead us onward.

Love reigns like a flower to the ninth power!
Love reigns to the root.
From you our branch grows.
Heaven help us all!
Peace be still.



William (Jr.), Michelle, Debra, Karen, Kenneth Earl, Mischa, Umekia, Rashad, Kelsey Dior, Cleo, et al...

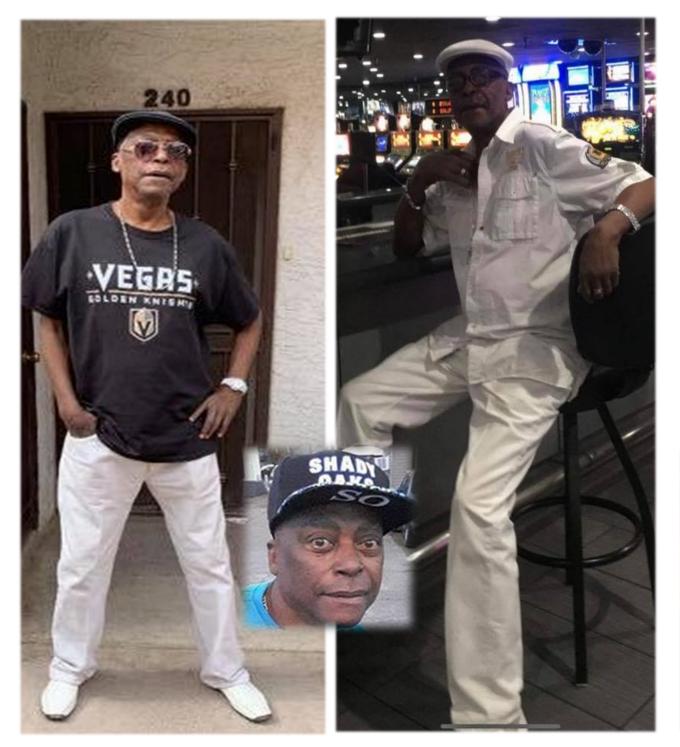


## **Program**

Saturday, October 31, 2020 Graveside Services 2:00 p.m. Autumn Woods Cemetery, 4000 W. Northside Dr. Jackson, MS 39209

Prayer	Pastor Elizabeth McGee, widow of Fred McGee
Scripture	Pastor Elizabeth McGee
Reading of the Obituary	read silently
Reading of Poems	Vickie Robinson, Sister-in-law
Prayer	
Words of Expression	
Family & Friends (4 minutes)	
Willis & Sons Funeral Directors in	ı charge
Recession	
Peace be with you while we are one	e from another



















































# Rest in Power our Shining Black King



