



## Ret Chief Arnold Lee Pittman Sr.

February 21, 1947 - June 30, 2013

et. Chief Arnold Lee Pittman, Sr., the youngest of seven children born to the union of the late Moses and Susie Lyons Pittman, was born on February 21, 1947 in Whitakers, NC. He departed this earthly life on June 30, 2013 at his residence.

He attended Phillips High School in Battleboro, NC, and graduated in 1965. Arnold was joined in holy matrimony to Arlene Marie Whitehead on May 23, 1966. Together, they were the parents of six children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

He was lovingly led to the Lord by his wife, and later attended Red Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Whitakers, NC.

Arnold was a Vietnam Veteran, serving tours with the 82nd and 101st Airborne. He later entered the Rocky Mount Fire Department on May 2, 1969, becoming the first African American Fire Chief to retire on January 1, 1998. Chief Pittman was not one to mince words, and he expressed his unfailing and unconditional love and generosity for everyone. He was noted for the phrase "Everyday is A Holiday."

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Arnold Lee Pittman, Jr., and daughter, Jackie Bridges; sister, Denora King Lyons; and brothers, George Harvey, George, Herman Lee, Willie Lee and Moses Pittman, Jr.

Chief Pittman is survived by his loving wife of forty-seven years, Arlene Whitehead Pittman of the home; two daughters: Phyllis Annette Pittman of

Rocky Mount, NC and Diane Thorne of Plano, TX; two sons: Patrick Deon Pittman (Stephanie) and Deonte' Maurice Whitehead, both of Rocky Mount, NC; five grandchildren: Patrick, Dawanda, Patreon, Kevin, and Jesse; great-grandchildren: Keveyon, Chayse, and Aiyana; one sister, Gloria Mallory of Rocky Mount, NC; four sisters-in-law: Martha Whitehead and Delores Pittman of Rocky Mount, NC; Ella Rogers of Nashville, NC; Pattie Whitehead of Whitakers, NC, and Lillie Howard of Princeville, NC; four brothers-in-law: George (Devora) and William Whitehead, Jr. of Rocky Mount, NC; Joe Whitehead of Battleboro, NC, and David (Ann) Whitehead of Pinetops, NC; several nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and other special friends.

# Previous Events

## Service

JUL 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Word Tabernacle Church  
821 Word Plaza Road  
Rocky Mount, NC 27803

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ret Chief Arnold Lee Pittman Sr.*

October 06, 2023 at 05:52 AM



“ *Uncle Arnold you will truly be missed! May the Lord God continue to comfort you Aunt Arlene and give you peace during this difficult time.*

Chrissy - July 09, 2013 at 10:44 AM



“ *Glenda Coley Pulley lit a candle in memory of Ret Chief Arnold Lee Pittman Sr.*



Glenda Coley Pulley - July 08, 2013 at 08:42 PM



“ *Arlene, my thoughts, love and prayers are with you and your family at this very difficult time. I believe death is not the end of life, it's only the body that perishes. Arnold's spirit and the memories you hold closely will never die. They will continue to live. When God sees us getting tired, and there's no cure meant to be, he wraps his loving arms around us and whispers gently come to me. I extend my deepest sympathy to you and the entire family at this time of sadness.*

Glenda Coley Pulley - July 08, 2013 at 08:41 PM

DK

“ To the Pittman family: I am very sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers.



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**Deloris Kelly** - July 08, 2013 at 05:54 PM

CW

“ We all will missed him very much he was a loving cousin and friend he is in the arms God now look down a upon us all rest rest now we all love you. but god love you the best.your cousin Geraldine &Charles Whitaker of New York City.

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**Charles &Geraldinw Whitaker** - July 07, 2013 at 02:42 PM

SC

“ Shirley & Louise Coley lit a candle in memory of Ret Chief Arnold Lee Pittman Sr.



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**Shirley & Louise Coley** - July 06, 2013 at 03:20 PM

GP

“ Arlene. my love, thoughts, and prayers are with you and the family during this very difficult time. May you find some peace in knowing that death is not the end of life, it's only the body that perishes, the spirit and memories can never die. They continue to live. God knows best. When he see us getting tired and a cure is not be, he wraps his loving arms around us and whispers: "Come to me." Please know that I am truly sorry for your loss.



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Glenda Coley Pulley - July 06, 2013 at 03:11 PM