



## Mr. David Hayes

October 21, 1926 - November 27, 2020

“To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under Heaven”  
Ecclesiastes 3:1. NIV

### A Time to Be Born:

David Lee, was born on October 21, 1926 in the City of Malone, Jackson County, Florida. He was the first of four children blessed to the late Mitchell Sr. and Mary Julia Johnson Hayes. David, along with his brother, Mitchell and two sisters, Eva Mae and Lillie Mack, were reared in the rural, close-knit community of Malone, Florida.

Surrounded by a large number of extended family, David learned the importance of Family and Faith at a very early age.

### A Time to Die:

David Lee, departed this life, victoriously, transitioning to a new home on Friday, November 27, 2020.

### A Time to Plant:

David Lee, received his elementary education in the Malone-Jackson County Public School System. While in school, David joined a Touring Church Choir, which enabled him to travel throughout the “Panhandle” States of Florida, Alabama, and Georgia. Here, began David’s lifelong LOVE for Music, the Arts, and Dance. David also developed and possessed a great passion for literature. As a young man, David was often seen around Malone with a book in his hand. Also possessing a natural talent for baseball, David dreamed of one day becoming a Professional Ballplayer.

He was an avid fan of the Negro Baseball League and followed the growth of the League throughout his adolescence.

During this time, David was offered the opportunity to attend High School in Marianna, Florida. Encouraged by one of the many Mentors, cited later in life, that David was encouraged by several Mentors that transformed his life. He attended High School in Marianna, with plans to attend college, with hopes of becoming a Teacher.

A Time to Gather Stones:

David Lee, graduated High School in 1944, and began College. While attending school, David turned 18 years old. With World War II "In Full Effect" David was drafted into the United States Army. By August 1945, David was on his way to Japan to begin his tour overseas. In mid-route his deployment orders changed. Due to Japan's surrender, he was being sent to Germany. His time in Germany, would alter the Southern Native for the rest of his life.

A Time to Build:

David Lee, worked as a Dispatcher and Communications Provider, while stationed in Germany. He was part of the occupying ground troops, charged to assist those who were liberated from the Nazi Concentration Camps. A life changing experience, David recalled, "I grew up under the "Apartheid" system in the Southern United States. There I was, part of U.S. "Liberators" in Germany. I was there to ensure their Civil Rights, to protect and serve. While back home, my people didn't enjoy the same liberties." David Lee, while in Germany, quickly learned to speak German and even Yiddish to better assist those he was assigned to. Always compassionate, David gave his best to the grateful and generous people of Germany.

They shared their talents, skills and knowledge with David. He met Artisans, Musicians, Writers, as well as Craftsman. Though, it was the TAILORS that particularly intrigued him. David would say, "I Got to sit at the Craft Master's Feet." They taught and shared their passion with him. Their love for their art, truly "Lit a Divine Spark" in David. That is when he decided to become a

TAILOR.

A Time to Gain:

David Lee, returned to the United States, in 1947. With plans to pursue a career as a Tailor. David soon realized that his experiences overseas would not be duplicated in the States. During his tour in Germany, David was graced with the opportunity to attend school. Recalling his days in his Segregated High School, a victim of the “separate but unequal” policies of the South, David excelled in Germany with the help of his white, southern classmates, affirming his success... And succeed HE DID! Upon his return to Malone, David found systemic racism and overt bigotry conditions, sadly, the same way it had been before he entered the military. It was the same... but he was not the same. A story, David recounted many times over the years... He went to the store owned by a man he knew well. Dressed in his uniform, the man placed his change on the counter, instead of handing it to him... David pointed out that the change amount was incorrect. After pointed it out, there was a contentious, silent exchange. “How dare you correct me” he spoke. That night the man came to visit Mitchell Sr. and said to his Dad, “If it had not been your son, I’d of shot him.” The next morning, David was on a train to New York City.

A Time to Sew:

David Lee, arrived in NYC, Harlem to be exact! It was lively, thriving, and spectacular. It was the “Harlem Renaissance.” David felt right at home, he worked hard, studied hard and we all know that David “Played Hard.” David attended New York Technical School (Tailoring Division) and the New York School of Dry Cleaning in order to excel at his career goals. During this busy time in David’s life, he encountered many acquaintances and developed lifelong friendships. He was enjoying the “Bright Lights” of Harlem’s World. He enjoyed and participated in the musical, and cultural events in his community. He loved Jazz and the “Big Bands.” David loved Langston Hughes, Shakespeare, the Bi-ble, and would quote Plato.

David was truly a “RENAISSANCE MAN.” He remained that “LIGHT”.. all of his life.

#### A Time to Love:

David Lee, while enhancing his skills at Tailoring, moved to Brooklyn, NY, in 1956. There he met a quiet, beautiful schoolteacher, named Mamie Blanche. She was lovely, although their initial conversation surrounded the art of sewing. Mamie was a North Carolina A&T Graduate, and quite skilled at the Art of Sewing. He was amazed by this woman, Mamie Blanche. She was beautiful, brilliant, graceful, and talented. She embodied the “talented tenth” that W.E.B. DuBois spoke of in David’s Books...and lest not forget...She was Beautiful (and still is). David knew he had met “the one.” She was the love of his life. Six weeks later, they were married. They enjoyed 64 years of a loving, relationship and marital bond. This union was blessed with three daughters, Julia Celeste, Stephanie Denise, and Diane Lee.

#### A Time to Keep:

David Lee, and his Mamie, taught their daughters many things in life. But the most memorable one, from what we call “The Book of Dave” was.... “The best thing a man can do for his children is to love their mother” He did indeed. A self-described people person, David met no strangers, and showed concern and compassion for all he met. He was a true Ambassador of good will. David was not a rich man by the world’s standard, but he was rich in love, regard, and respect. A learned man, in books... yes. But, most importantly in life. A benevolent soul with a timeless, ageless demeanor and Indomitable Spirit. David often taught and shared “Life’s Lessons” through the use of analogies. He was phenomenal in his figurative language, and his abilities to capture an audience were unrivaled. Another of his favorite sayings was, “Life is Sweet, hold on to your Sugar.” He said, it was all about “The Sugar.” Life’s continuous sweetness. He had a firm believe in God and lived a life of gratitude. An advocate of making good use of your God given “gifts.” He was appreciative for those who helped him along the way and believed in “Blessing Up.” Always dedicated to giving back, David Lee Hayes has been that “BEACON

OF LIGHT” for many. We thank God for having had him in our lives.  
Affectionally called “Main Man” by his Grandchildren.... Who he called “His  
Dividends,” and the Fruits of his Labor, was always about “THE LOVE.”

A Time to Say So Long:

David Lee, leaves to cherish his loving memory... Beautiful and Beloved Wife  
and “Love Partner of 64 years,” Mamie Blanche Hopkins Hayes; “Darling  
Daughters”, Teresa Lee Hailstalk of Alexandria, VA, Julia Celeste Hayes of  
Brooklyn, NY, Stephanie Denise Hayes Greenville, NC, Diane Lee Hayes  
Johnson and husband Leon Johnson, (David’s Son- in- “Love”) of Greenville,  
NC; his beloved sister, Eva Mae Hobbs of Danville, IL; dear  
sister-in-law, Evelyn Hopkins of Greenville, NC; his pride and joy  
grandchildren, Jacelyn Patrice Hailstalk, Terrence Llewellyn Hailstalk, Evan  
Alezander Johnson, Arielle Alezandra Johnson, Kiara Celeste Hemmings,  
Gayla Alezandria Johnson, Jaslyne Nicole Hemmings; several dear heart,  
great-grandchildren; a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, family and friends.  
Well Done Faithful Servant... Rest Well.

God Saw You Getting Tired

God saw you getting tired and a cure was to be,  
So He put His arms around you and He Whispered, “Come to Me.”  
With tearful eyes, and heavy hearts we watched you fade away.  
Although we loved you dearly, we couldn’t make you stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating; hard-working hands went to rest.  
God took you home to prove to us, He only takes the best.  
In life we miss you dearly; in death we love you still,  
In our hearts you hold a special place, no one else will ever fill.  
The Family

# Cemetery Details

## Homestead Memorial Gardens

4251 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858

# Previous Events

## Viewing

DEC 13. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Philippi Church Of Christ  
3760 Philippi Drive  
Greenville, NC 27858

## Celebration of Life Service

DEC 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Philippi Church Of Christ  
3760 Philippi Drive  
Greenville, NC 27858

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. David Hayes*

October 06, 2023 at 05:52 AM



“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



**Teresa Lee Anderson Hailstalk** - December 13, 2020 at 01:08 PM



*Beloved! Thank you so much. Great photos. Much Love. Talk soon.  
God Bless you and yours. 🧡🥰🕊*

**Julia Hayes** - December 14, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ *FAWN ROBERTSON lit a candle in memory  
of Mr. David Hayes*



**FAWN ROBERTSON** - December 13, 2020 at 12:52 PM

TH

“ To my Family, I regret I could not be there in person but my heart is with you all.

Much love.

Teresa

Dad RIP

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**Teresa Lee Anderson Hailstalk** - December 13, 2020 at 12:44 PM

JH



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**Julia Hayes** - December 14, 2020 at 01:23 PM

PE

“ My sincere condolences go out to my 2nd family - Momma Blanche, Celeste, Stephanie & Diane in the passing of Mr Hayes, My memory of Mr Hayes is - he would always ask me how I am doing, My response - fine. Well everytime he saw me it was "Fine Phyllis". He never had to ask me because that is what I would say. Mr Hayes you departed this life here on earth and entered into the Pearly Gates. Take your place, Smile and Sing and SIP. You will be greatly missed by your loved ones. - Fine Phyllis & Family.

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**Phyllis Evans** - December 13, 2020 at 11:10 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mr. David Hayes.



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December 11, 2020 at 10:44 PM

RP

“ Prayers and sympathy go out to Mrs hayes, Diane, Stephanie and Celeste. May Mr Hayes sleep in heavenly peace. He will be missed

Rosalie Powell - December 11, 2020 at 10:44 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. David Hayes.



December 11, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. David Hayes.



December 11, 2020 at 12:46 PM

BF

“ Beverly and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. David Hayes.



Beverly and Family - December 07, 2020 at 05:36 PM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolence on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.



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**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - December 02, 2020 at 02:47 AM

BH

*Deepest condolences and sympathy from Mitchell David Hayes JR And family.Uncle David you'll be truly missed."David Here was one of his most memorable greeting to Mitch.Love y'al please be encouraged in Jesus name Amen.*

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**Beverly Hayes** - December 13, 2020 at 11:14 AM