



Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.

May 14, 1933 - May 28, 2020

We wait in hope for the Lord: He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord even as we put our hope in You.

Psalm 33:20-22

Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr. was born May 14, 1933 to the late Bishop Ethelbert and Violet Payne. He was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts and was the eleventh of thirteen children. Our beloved made his transition to eternal rest on May 28, 2020.

Thomas received his early education in the Boston Mass. School System. He graduated from English High School and later joined the Marine Corp shortly after graduating. He proudly served his country for over 30 years until retiring in 1983. He retired as a Master Gunnery Sergeant (E-9), which was the highest rank of an enlisted servicemember. It was also during this time that he was stationed in North Carolina and met his wife, Shirley. They married on April 19, 1968 and recently celebrated 52 years of marriage.

Thomas was a dedicated sport enthusiast and his passion for sports evolved into him officiating sporting events in his spare time. His many years of dedicated and distinguished service garnered him much recognition and earned him several accolades within the athletic community. His most notable

achievement was being inducted into the CIAA Official's Hall of Fame in 2012.

Thomas furthered his education by enrolling at Pitt Community College where he earned an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Marketing and Retailing and as Associate in Applied Science Degree in Business Administration. He was inducted into the Gamma Beta Phi Society for outstanding scholastic achievement and worthy character while attending Pitt Community College. After graduation, he accepted a job at Pitt Community College where he worked as a Tutorial Officer until retiring in 2002 due to suffering a stroke.

Thomas encountered many health challenges throughout the years undergoing several operations, surgeries, and medical procedures as a result. Throughout them all, it was his faith in God that got him through. He never gave up hope that God would heal and restore him. Thomas loved the Lord and he was faithful dutiful, and dedicated servant of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church (CMBC). He served in kingdom building and ministry at CMBC for over 21 years in the capacity of Trustee, Usher, Sunday School Teacher, Men's Fellowship, and Yoke Fellow Prison Ministry just to name a few. Thomas was an example of what it truly means to be a soldier for the army of the Lord.

Thomas was preceded in death by his parents; three children; six sisters and four brothers.

Thomas leaves to cherish his memories his devoted and loving wife, Shirley T. Payne of the home; his son, Thomas R. Payne II (Deneen) of Charlotte, NC; his one and only granddaughter, Patreece Govea (Marc) of Farmville, NC; his grandson, Kendall Dixon of Charlotte, NC; his daughter-in-law, Debra Edwards of Charlotte, NC; his brother, Eustace Payne, Sr. (Bernice) of Boston, MA; his sister, Eleanor Perryman of Atlanta, GA; sisters-in-law, Rosa Edwards of Winterville, NC Emma Prayer (Charles) of Ayden, NC, Barbara

Payne of Chicago, IL; brothers-in-law, Charlie Edwards of Greenville, NC,
Robert Edwards (Judith) of Greenville, NC, Jay C. Edwards of Greenville, NC;
a host of nieces, nephews cousins, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery

164 Longs Plant Farm Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

JUN 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church
1095 Allen Road
Greenville, NC

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*

October 06, 2023 at 05:52 AM



“ *Sarah G. Pritchard lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Sarah G. Pritchard - June 08, 2020 at 09:35 AM



“ *Sheryl lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Sheryl - June 05, 2020 at 10:44 PM



“ *Annie Fields sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Annie Fields - June 05, 2020 at 02:21 PM

CG

“ *Mr. Payne had a kind gentle spirit! He will be missed. My prayers and condolences to the family. "Another Soldier! In the army of the Lord! I pray peace and strength to you all in the days ahead.*



Cathy Simpson Gorham - June 04, 2020 at 11:46 PM

TS

“ *My condolences to my dear friend, Thomas Payne, jr and family in the loss of his father, Mr. Thomas Payne Sr. May he rest in eternal peace and power.*

~ Teena Foster Smith, Omaha, NE

Teena Foster Smith - June 04, 2020 at 11:05 AM



“ *To a great man and friend. Tom and I go back to officiating in Virginia Beach with Danny Doss. A man I had great respect for. R.I. H my FRIEND.*

RUSSELL WARD Elizabeth City, NC

Russell Ward - June 03, 2020 at 08:27 PM

NL

“ *May God give you strength, comfort and peace always. He shall uplift you daily and brighten your hearts with His unwavering love.*

Nell Lewis - Former Co-worker at Pitt Community College



Nell Lewis - June 03, 2020 at 04:56 PM

NL

“ May God give you strength, comfort and peace always. He shall uplift you daily and brighten your hearts with His unwavering love.



Nell Lewis - (Former Co-worker at Pitt Community College)

Nell Lewis - June 03, 2020 at 04:35 PM

NL

“ May God give you strength, comfort and peace always. He shall uplift you daily and brighten your hearts with His unwavering love.

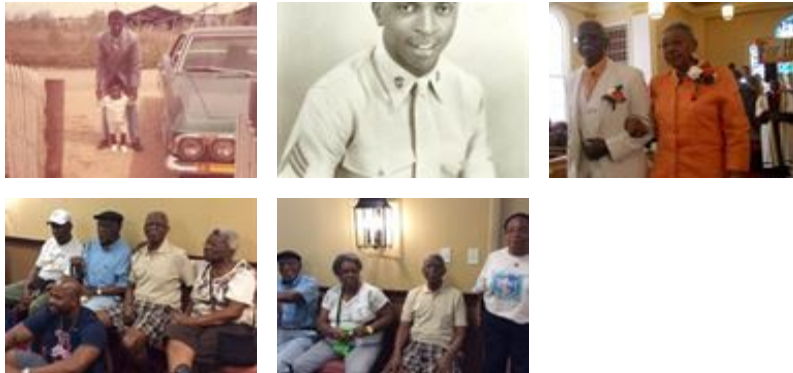


Nell Lewis - Former co-worker at Pitt Community College

Nell Lewis - June 03, 2020 at 03:15 PM



“ 31 files added to the album Life Tributes



Congleton Memorial Mortuary - June 03, 2020 at 11:47 AM

JK

“ To the Payne Family: Mr. Payne was such a sweet and kind man. He would smile as he ushered people into the church. He was very serious about doing God's work and faithful to Cornerstone Church. Mr. Payne, take your rest in the arms of Jesus. Family, you are in my prayers. God bless and keep you at this difficult time.

Joyce King - June 02, 2020 at 11:29 PM



“ 71 files added to the album Life Tributes



Congleton Memorial Mortuary - June 02, 2020 at 06:33 PM

CD

“ Cleveland And Denise lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.



Cleveland and Denise - June 02, 2020 at 04:58 PM

AH

“ Alton, Ella, and Amber Harris



Alton Harris - June 02, 2020 at 09:42 AM

HH

“ Helen Harrell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.



Helen Harrell - June 01, 2020 at 04:27 PM

YC

“ Your Charlotte "Girls" Crew purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr..



Your Charlotte "Girls" Crew - June 01, 2020 at 01:45 PM

TJ

“ Timothy And Sheila Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.



Timothy and Sheila Jones - June 01, 2020 at 11:57 AM

DP

“ *Donna Pierce lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Donna Pierce - June 01, 2020 at 06:44 AM

JJ

“ *A fine Marine has joined the ranks at the gates of Heaven*



jimmye Jones - May 31, 2020 at 07:39 PM

RJ

“ *I have very fond memories of Mr. Payne. I call still see him at the door of Cornerstone MB Church, he was a committed usher, church member and volunteer at Vidant Medical Center. May God grant peace and comfort to the family.*



Rhonda Grant Jordan - May 31, 2020 at 03:44 PM

CC

“ *Mr. Payne was an inspiration to me. He was a christian gentleman that always had himself together. I enjoyed teasing him about being so sharp in dress and how he carried himself. He was man of principle and I always respected him for that. Ms. Shirley , Family and Friends I'm praying for God's comfort, strength, and peace. Love, Friend and Church Member, Cassandra L. Campbell*



Cassandra L. Campbell - May 31, 2020 at 01:27 PM

DP

“ *Donna Pierce lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Donna Pierce - May 31, 2020 at 11:39 AM

JM

“ *To the Payne family, on behalf of the McClaud family! We are so, so sorry to hear of the passing of Thomas "Top" Roosevelt Payne Sr! You will truly be missed! So sorry for your loss!*



Jacquelyn McClaud - May 31, 2020 at 12:11 AM

DF

“ *David And Alpharadia Foreman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



David and Alpharadia Foreman - May 30, 2020 at 01:51 PM

BA

“ *Beatrice Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Beatrice Atkinson - May 30, 2020 at 12:45 PM

BA

“ *Beatrice Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.*



Beatrice Atkinson - May 29, 2020 at 11:53 PM

RW

SENDING OUR CONDOLENCES TO MRS SHIRLEY PAYNE AND ENTIRE FAMILY, FROM RONI WILSON / BEULAH FORBES

Roni Wilson - May 30, 2020 at 02:44 PM

DW

“Gone from our presence is a kind, warm and gentle (yet, tough) soul. Brother Payne encouraged my heart with his respectful and loving Christian ways. He felt like family and made me feel as if I had known him all my life. My husband and I held him in the utmost regard.



Our prayers for God's comfort and peace to all who knew and loved him. He WILL be missed.

James and Dianne Wilson

Dianne Wilson - May 29, 2020 at 06:01 PM

MJ

“Muriel Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.



Muriel Jones - May 29, 2020 at 10:09 AM

EH

“Evangelist Gwen Hudson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Roosevelt Payne, Sr.



Evangelist Gwen Hudson - May 29, 2020 at 07:31 AM

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



Congleton Funeral Home and Staff - May 28, 2020 at 01:04 PM

PE

My heart felt condolences to MaDear , Tommie and the Payne / Edward family.

Pearl - May 30, 2020 at 01:08 PM

RW

SENDING CONDOLENCES TO MRS SHIRLEY AND ENTIRE FAMILY FROM RONI WILSON AND BEULAH FORBES

Roni Wilson - May 31, 2020 at 09:43 PM

KH

My thoughts and prayers are extended to the Payne Family during your time of loss. I was privileged to get to know Brother Payne while serving as Interim Pastor at Cornerstone. May you find strength from God's Presence, Power, and Promises during your time of bereavement.

*Kenneth Hammond
Transition Ministry and Associates*

Kenneth Hammond - June 01, 2020 at 03:03 PM

EG

The Garris family prayers are with the Payne family in this time of bereavement.

Emma Garris - June 01, 2020 at 09:47 PM