



## Dr. Robert Len Jones

January 22, 1935 - February 28, 2021

Dr. Robert Len Jones was born in Laurinburg, NC on January 22, 1935 to the late Willie (Bill) and Mamie Jones. He had three siblings (Willie Mae, Golden and John) who preceded him in death. He departed this life, after a brief illness, on February 28, 2021. Robert, known to his family as “Len”, highly valued education. He graduated from Chapel Hill School in Laurel Hill, NC. After graduating from Chapel Hill School, he enrolled in Winston-Salem State University. He left Winston-Salem State University briefly to serve in the United States Armed Forces. After two years in the Army, he returned to Winston Salem State University and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Education. He received several graduate certifications and degrees in education from North Carolina Central University and East Carolina University. He later attended NOVA University where he received a PhD in Educational Administration.

Dr. Jones began his professional career at what is now W.H. Knuckles Elementary School where he taught fourth and fifth grades. During his over 40 years of service in the school system, he was a Teacher, Coach, Referee, Assistant Principal, Principal, Educational Consultant and Communities in Schools Administrator. As Principal of South Lumberton Elementary School, he received statewide recognition when the school became the first year-round school in Robeson County. He also taught adult education classes at Robeson Community College. He was a member of the Board of Directors for the Lumberton Boys and Girls Club for several years. Dr. Jones was a trailblazer who dedicated his career to offering the highest level of educational opportunities to students in Lumberton. In addition to his many achievements, he was a caring, compassionate teacher who served as an excellent role model for his students and touched many lives. He was often greeted warmly as he traveled around Robeson County and the surrounding area by former students who thanked him for “making them who they are today”.

To know Dr. Jones was to love him. He was a “people” person who never met a stranger. His infectious smile and great sense of humor could lighten the most somber mood. He

treated everyone in his presence to his special brand of hospitality, respect and kindness. Dr. Jones could rhetorically sit among kings and never lose the common touch. He was just as comfortable on his boat with his fishing gear as he was in a conference room filled with scholars. His signature response when asked how he was doing was “Super!”.

As a civic-minded person, Dr. Jones was concerned about the welfare of those around him. He was committed to being a voice for the voiceless. He believed that “to whom much is given—much is required”. He sought elective office because he wanted to use his skills to benefit his community and champion the causes of the less fortunate. He was elected to the Lumberton City Council, representing Precinct 6, and served his constituents faithfully for 24 years. He received county and statewide recognition from numerous agencies for his commitment to public service. He was a Mason for many years.

Dr. Jones accepted Jesus as his personal savior at an early age. After moving to Lumberton, he joined Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where he became a faithful and diligent member. He served in various positions and offices including Sunday School Teacher and Chairperson of the Deacon’s Ministry. He led various committees and men’s groups, and supported vacation bible school. He was also a committed member of the Lumber River Baptist Association, where he served as the president of the Laymen’s League for several years.

In 1966, Dr. Jones married the love of his life, Joyce Parks and to that union two children--Rhondette Lenice Jones and Robert Len Jones Jr. (Bobby)—were born. This loving partnership was a blessing to all with whom they interacted. As a couple, they volunteered in the community and offered their time, talents, and resources to those in need. Dr. Jones deeply loved his family, his church, and his community. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time with family and friends. He dedicated his life to public service and trying to make a difference in the lives of others. He was always willing to lend a helping hand, share an encouraging word and offer support when needed. He wanted to make a difference in the world, and he did just that, and for that reason, he will be missed. Dr. Jones was a loving husband, father, grandfather, godfather, and uncle.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his loving wife of 54 years, Joyce Jones; a daughter, Rhondette (Roderick) Nickson of Atlanta, GA; a son, Robert L. Jones, Jr. “Bobby” of Clinton MD; a grandson, Ryan Lucas Nickson of Atlanta, GA; his niece and namesake Linda (Luther) Douglas of Laurinburg, NC; his niece Lisa (Jermaine) Jones of Washington, DC; his nephew James Golden Jones “Jimmy” of Tucker, GA; his nephew William

Emanuel Jones of Atlanta, GA; his goddaughters: Alexis and Chantel Body of Goldsboro, NC; Lachricia and Jordan Byrd of Lumberton NC; Melissa Robinson of Lumberton, NC, and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

Professional Services entrusted to Colvin Funeral Home.

# Cemetery

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**Gardens of Faith  
Cemetery, Inc.**  
5190 Fayetteville Rd.  
Lumberton, NC, 28358

# Events

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**MAR 4 Visitation** 03:00PM - 06:00PM  
Colvin Funeral Home Chapel  
1904 Elizabethtown Road, Lumberton, NC, US, 28358

**MAR 5 Livestreaming** 11:00AM  
Facebook: Colvin Funeral Home and Crematory-  
Fayetteville & Lumberton  
NC, US

**MAR 5 Service** 11:00AM  
Colvin Funeral Home Chapel  
1904 Elizabethtown Road, Lumberton, NC, US, 28358

# Comments

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“ Dr. Jones was my 5th grade teacher. He was an awesome teacher. Dr. Jones had students to teach different classes. I taught Science and to this day, I don't know why he chose me. However, the golden learning tools I received in his classroom has and will continue to be engraved as a masterpiece!!!

Rest in peace Dr. Jones.

Peace, blessings, and love to the Jones' Family.

Sincerely,

Pamela Campbell-Dereef

Retired United States Congressional for the Honorable Mike McIntyre and Charlie Rose.

Constituent Services/Community Outreach Liaison

**Pamela Campbell-Dereef** - March 12, 2021 at 03:36 PM

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“ Sending my sincere condolences and prayers to the family

**Charlotte Troy** - March 05, 2021 at 12:48 PM

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“ Extending my deepest sympathy and love to the Jones family. Love you all. So sorry for our loss.

**Betty A. Crawford** - March 05, 2021 at 10:48 AM

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“ Rev. David And Carolyn Powell sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Len Jones



**Rev. David and Carolyn Powell** - March 05, 2021 at 09:36 AM

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“ Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church Fa sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Len Jones



**Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church Fa** - March 05, 2021 at 09:34 AM

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“ Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church Fa sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Len Jones



**Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church Fa** - March 05, 2021 at 09:33 AM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Len Jones.



March 05, 2021 at 07:49 AM

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“ Aunt Joyce, Bobby and Rhondette:

No one travels through life without experiencing the loss of someone you love. The loss of a loved one through death is one of life's most intense challenges, and the pain can be overwhelming. But God doesn't leave us to suffer alone.

We cannot be with you today, yet our prayers and thoughts are focused on your family. God promised to be with you through this difficult time.

Today, we give God thanks for a life well-lived and know we will continue to pray for your strength in the coming months.

We love each of you.

Claiborne, Veronica and Collin Hughes

Claiborne Hughes - March 04, 2021 at 09:43 AM

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“ Robert Len Jones was a very nice man that always had a warm smile. Sending sincere condolences to Joyce, Bobby, Rhondette and family. May God give you all the piece that surpasses all understanding. Much love Cousin Sheila Durham Bowens.



Sheila Durham Bowens - March 03, 2021 at 11:29 PM

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“ Cindy Mckoy sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Robert Len Jones



Cindy Mckoy - March 03, 2021 at 02:36 PM



“ Sending condolences to the Jones family in memory of Dr. Robert Jones

Patricia Troy - March 04, 2021 at 05:51 PM

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“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Len Jones.



March 03, 2021 at 01:10 PM

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“ Praying that Gods caring and comforting presence will surround the family of Mr. Robert Len Jones during this most difficult time and may the love and mercy of our Lord help to ease the pain of your loss.

**Sheriff Burnis Wilkins** - March 03, 2021 at 12:22 PM

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“ Pete & Alice Nickson purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Dr. Robert Len Jones.



**Pete & Alice Nickson** - March 03, 2021 at 09:46 AM

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“ SUPER SUPER will certainly be missed Looked so much like my Dad Will always remember your positive attitude Cousin Walter Jones and family



**Walter Everett Jones** - March 02, 2021 at 05:23 PM



“ An amazing man, mentor, and friend of our family. Honored to experience his leadership growing up in South Lumberton and being shaped by his example as a youth at Sandy Grove Baptist Church. I will never forget his kindness to me and his impact upon me personally and professionally. I had the privilege to serve at one of his former schools as a principal, and I was so proud when he would visit and share his wisdom. Love you Dr. Jones, and to your family, you are in my prayers.

**Eric P. Sanders** - March 03, 2021 at 10:56 AM



“ Dr. Jones you will be missed, i remember when you was my Teacher, you believe in popping us in our hand with that long ruler you had, but you were a very good Teacher and you are going to be missed by everyone you have touch in life, and his family you are in our prays, R.I.P Dr. Jones. The Brock Family.

**Cindy** - March 03, 2021 at 02:49 PM