

## Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr.

June 8, 1939 - August 4, 2023

Robert Benjamin Clark, Jr., affectionately known as “Man” to his family, was born on June 8, 1939, in Fort Valley, Georgia. He was the second of six children born to the late Robert Benjamin Clark, Sr. and Willie Mae Clark (née Kendrick). Bob attended Ballard Hudson High School before joining the United States Army at the age of 16. In 1958, while stationed at Fort McPherson, Bob met Alean Harris in Macon, GA. After their first encounter, he asked for her address and promised to write to her. That was the first of many promises he would keep to her during their lives. On April 25, 1959, Robert and Alean were married in Macon, GA. Shortly after, they moved to Fayetteville, NC where they would build a life and raise their children, Ben, Carolyn, and Richard.

Bob served in duty stations around the world, including Germany, Vietnam, and Korea. He was an outstanding soldier, who quickly rose through the ranks and won the respect and admiration of his peers and superiors. Bob attended flight school and finished first in his class. As a helicopter pilot, he flew combat missions over Vietnam. While in the army, he boxed, played football, and excelled in martial arts. In 1975, he retired at the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 2. Bob earned, achieved, and was honored with a Bachelor’s Degree for a double major in Philosophy and

Religion, a Master of Divinity, and a Doctorate of Divinity.

Bob received Christ at an early age and accepted the call to gospel ministry. His pastoral assignments were St. Peter's and Zion Hill AME Zion Churches in Maxton, NC, Union Oak AME Zion in Hope Mills, NC, and St. Matthew's AME Zion Church in Maxton, NC. After several years, the Lord led him to plant a church. In 1981, Bob began having weekly services in his home.

That same year, after much prayer and hard work, St. Jude Missionary Baptist Church was founded and built in Hope Mills, NC. The church grew to 250 active members under his leadership; many souls were saved, lives were touched, and families were changed. Bob retired from full-time ministry in 2012, but never stopped loving, supporting, and praying for the church and its people.

Bob was a loving husband and father, who never knew a stranger, and would help anyone in need. He helped put many young people through college, connected many people to good jobs, and was always there for families in financial hardship. His generosity was boundless.

On August 4, 2023, he transitioned from this life to the next, having completed every assignment the Lord gave him with passion, faithfulness, kindness, and love. He left no work undone.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents Robert B. and Willie Mae Clark, his sister, Annie Willie Clark, and his brothers Albert Clark and Henry Clark.

He leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife of 64 years, Alean; two sons, Ben (Dion) of Fayetteville, NC, and Richard of Clinton, MD; two daughters, Carolyn of Roanoke, VA, and Kathy Renee West of Fort Lauderdale, FL; two sisters, Betty York of Brooklyn, NY, and Mary Franklin (Lawrence) of Upper Marlboro, MD; a

special sister, Laverne Thomas of Macon, GA; two sisters-in-law, Charlie Mae Clark of Byron, GA and Linda McBeth (Kenneth) of Montgomery, AL; two brothers-in-law, Lorenzo Harris (Sylvia) of Lithonia, GA, and John Harris of Dublin, GA; six grandchildren, Crystal Clark of Burbank, CA, Michael Tilley (Donna) of Leesburg, VA, Demetris West, Sennica West, Sekeithia West, and Gerome West, all of Fort Lauderdale, FL; eleven nieces Theresa Rose, Linda Black, Rukiya Franklin, Albertina (Allen) Banks, Iris Rawls and Terrassa Fields, Brenda (Charles) Torrence, Kenley McBeth-West, Gwendolyn Respress, Mardre (Michael) Rogers, Kaylene (Lorenzo) Howell; twelve nephews Lawrence (India) Franklin Jr., Tracey (Devonna) Franklin, Albert (Wanda) Clark, Jr., Rico (Cathy) Clark, Dawann Davis, Michael Lorenzo Harris, Ramond (Jodie) McBeth, Armond McBeth, Neal (Christine) Ivey, Gary Ivey, Raymond Harris, Michael Harris, and his special friends, the Nicholas Family, Linda, Cody (Temeka), Brandon, Makenzie, Madison and Saryn, and a host of great-grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

AUG 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Jude Missionary Baptist Church  
3600 Acordia Lane  
Hope Mills, NC 28348

## Funeral

AUG 11. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Jude Missionary Baptist Church  
3600 Acordia Lane  
Hope Mills, NC 28348

## Burial

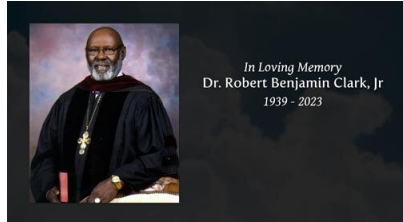
AUG 15. 10:00 AM (ET)

Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery  
8220 Bragg Blvd  
Spring Lake, NC 28390

# Tribute Wall



“ *Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr.*



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**H. M. Colvin Funeral Home** - August 10, 2023 at 05:23 PM

CW

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I will always remember how kind he was to me over the years. I never failed to feel the spirit of the living God whenever I was blessed to be in his company. He was very welcoming to people sharing his wisdom and kindness. I appreciated that about him. I will never forget that. My sincere condolences to your entire family.*  
*Constance Wells*

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**Constance Wells** - September 07, 2023 at 08:40 PM

GM

“ *Glenn McKeithan lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr.*



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**Glenn McKeithan** - August 17, 2023 at 06:37 PM

SS

“ *Sandra Smith lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr.*



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**Sandra Smith** - August 15, 2023 at 01:06 PM

CK

“ *We were saddened to hear of the passing of our cousin, Dr. Clark. Praying that God will continue to comfort and strengthen family!* 🙏  
❤️



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**Charles and Wanda Kendrick** - August 11, 2023 at 08:02 AM

M(

“ *We send heartfelt condolences to the Clark family. May the loving memories be eternal in your hearts during this difficult time.*

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**McIntosh Family (Raeford)** - August 10, 2023 at 11:16 PM

BS

“ *Buffy & Gloria Sanders planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..*

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**Buffy & Gloria Sanders** - August 10, 2023 at 05:46 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..*



August 10, 2023 at 01:42 PM



“ *Dr. Clark spoke to the Hoke County Civic League more than 30 years ago, and I still recall his message as it was so timely and is still true. He was a man of Godly wisdom. Wish I had spent more time learning from him. He and Mrs. Clark exemplified family life.*

**Ellen McNeill** - August 10, 2023 at 08:29 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..*



August 10, 2023 at 07:48 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..*



August 09, 2023 at 10:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..

August 09, 2023 at 07:01 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



August 09, 2023 at 07:01 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



August 08, 2023 at 09:00 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



August 08, 2023 at 08:58 PM

RT

“ Ricky & Edryce T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..

Ricky & Edryce T. - August 08, 2023 at 05:55 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



August 08, 2023 at 05:05 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..

August 08, 2023 at 05:05 PM

EP

“ Ella Patterson lit a candle in memory of Robert Clark



Ella Patterson - August 08, 2023 at 01:50 PM

PC

“ Polly C. purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



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**Polly C.** - August 08, 2023 at 01:31 PM

TF

“ I didn't get to spend a lot of time with him, but he was always kind and welcoming 💕

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**Tamma Ford** - August 07, 2023 at 10:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..

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August 07, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



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August 07, 2023 at 10:14 PM

EF

“ To the Clark Family,

*It was with extreme sadness to learn of the passing of your beloved patriarch. We will truly miss his robust rendition of the Martin Luther King Jr, Speech "I Have a Dream" recited during our Martin Luther King, Jr. community activities Please do not hesitate to reach out in the days and weeks to come if there is anything I can do to assist the family.*

*May the peace of God comfort the entire Clark Family.*

*With our deepest condolences,  
Retired - NC House Representative District 43  
Elmer Floyd*

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**Elmer Floyd** - August 07, 2023 at 09:51 PM

GF

“ Greg & The Thomas Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..

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**Greg & The Thomas Family** - August 07, 2023 at 09:41 PM

GF

“ Greg & The Thomas Family purchased the Full O f Love Bouquet for the family of Dr. Robert Benjamin Clark Jr..



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**Greg & The Thomas Family** - August 07, 2023 at 09:41 PM

AM

“ My condolences to the Clark Family. May God's Love comfort you.

Ann Mathis ❤️🔱🔱🙏❤️



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**Ann Mathis** - August 07, 2023 at 08:32 PM

HL

*We extend our sincere condolences and sympathy to the family of Dr. Benjamin Clark Jr. May the Lord continue to bless and watch over you. Heartfelt Prayers,  
Howard & Carolyn Lattimore*

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**Howard & Carolyn Lattimore** - August 20, 2023 at 02:40 PM

GJ

*It is with great sadness and sincere regret that I recently learned of the passing of Dr. R. Benjamin Clark Jr. I will forever cherish his fatherly wisdom, guidance, powerful teaching, preaching, and infinite love for his family and community. Sending belated yet continuous prayers of comfort, peace, and encouragement to Mrs. Clark, Ben, Carolyn, Richard and all others impacted by this profound loss.*

*Dr. Gregory Jones  
Alexandria, VA*

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**Gregory Jones** - April 20, 2024 at 11:25 PM