

Pallbearers

Grandsons

Flower Attendants

Diaconate Ministry of the Bethel Church

Acknowledgement

Our sincere thanks to our many family members and friends, for every act of kindness, support, sympathy, and your prayers during our time of bereavement. Your thoughtfulness has meant so much to us. May God bless each of you!

~ The Footman Family ~

Arrangements in care of:



4315 N. Main Street
Jacksonville, FL 32206

410 Beech Street
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

904-765-1234
Tyrone S. Warden, FDIC
www.tswarden.com

*The Celebration
of Life
for
David Footman, Sr.*



Sunrise

August 13, 1955

Sunset

April 30, 2020

Service

11:00 AM, Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Bethel Baptist Institutional Church

215 Bethel Baptist Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

*Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Jr., Senior Pastor, Officiating
Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Sr., Pastor Emeritus*

Obituary

David Footman, Sr. was born August 13, 1955 in Greeleyville, South Carolina, the son of the late Samson and Queen Elizabeth (Bennett) Footman. David was 64 years old, when the Lord called him home on Thursday, April 30, 2020 at Orange Park Medical Center.

David graduated from C.E. Murray High School as a proud member of the Bicentennial Class of 1976. He played the trumpet in the marching band and was an active member of the Explorer Scouts and the school's safety patrol. David also served as a trainee for the Junior Varsity Basketball Team. The Bible says, "*A man that hath friends must show himself friendly.*" *Proverbs 18:24*. David was well-liked in his hometown community of Greeleyville, South Carolina as well as anywhere he traveled. David was such a big-hearted person. He genuinely loved his wife, children, and all those he encountered.

David was first employed by Wilder Brothers Furniture Company in Greeleyville South Carolina. He moved to Connecticut after High School, but shortly after returned to Greeleyville. He later moved to Ft. Lauderdale where he worked at Motor Rotor, after which he moved to Jacksonville, Florida where he attended truck driving school at Road Masters. After finishing school, David purchased a truck and started his truck driving business, "**3D Trucking Company**" named after (David, DJ, and Dasia). David had a love for driving and continued to drive until his health no longer permitted.

David's union to his late wife, Virginia Footman, was blessed with three children, David Footman, Jr., Dasia Footman, and LaTasha Small of Ft. Lauderdale.

Family members who preceded him in death: parents: Samson and Queen Elizabeth (Bennett) Footman; two brothers: Jessie and Matthew Footman; and nephew, Alfonza Parker.

Order of Service

Opening Selection

Scripture

Old Testament *Psalm 27* Pastor Reginald Caldwell

New Testament *John 14:1-6* Pastor Zella Richardson

Prayer Rev. Dr. Kirk Houston, Senior Pastor
Gethsemane Community Fellowship Church
Norfolk, VA

Ministry in Music Minister Philip Mercer

Words of Comfort Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Jr.

Benediction

Interment

Restlawn Cemeteries South
3301 Moncrief Road West 32209

A Letter to my Husband

Dear David,

God's timing is not our timing. We are never prepared to let go of those we love, but we must accept the will of God over our personal desire. It is, and has always been my desire, since the day you asked me to be your wife, to keep you here in my life forever. I must say, you have been the true love that God promised me. You were a man of integrity and honor. A God-fearing man, the husband every wife desire, a provider, supporter, comforter and lover. You were a wonderful father to your natural borne children and to all children that entered your life. You were selfless in your giving and your services to others. Even in my effort to encourage you to strike a balance and put yourself first sometimes, you constantly saw the needs of others above your own. I know my life will never be the same without you, but knowing you are resting in the bosom of Jesus, gives my heart relief.

Now, there are many things I know myself and others will miss now that you are gone home to heaven. They say, "the way to man's heart is through his stomach", but you found the way to my heart, by cooking and preparing me meals which dripped with the very essences of your love. The community will miss your special barbeque sauce, which you did not leave us with the recipes. Your willingness to serve in the many communities you have lived will never be forgotten. It was a prestigious honor to serve as your partner in the ministry of service as Co-Deacon at Bethel Institutional Baptist Church.

Our hearts are broken, but our memories are full of wonderful moments of laughter and fun. Our last trip was a family cruise just 5 months ago, full of laughter, fun, and amusement beyond any one's imagination. A moment with you David was never dull, but full of excitement and adventure. We were always planning our next adventure which included celebrating our lives together with family and friends. I was looking forward to celebrating your 65th birthday this coming August 13th, with you, but God had other plans and heaven will have a party and we will celebrate here on earth as well. I will never let your memory fade. You were strong, loving, humble, generous, forgiving, patient, kind, thoughtful, committed, honest, selfless, creative, and a hard worker. I will always keep you near to my heart and I look forward to the day when we will see each other again. I will miss you. Rest well my love.

Your loving wife,

Valerie Footman

David accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior in 2004 while attending Philipian Community Church. He then met his wife, Valerie and moved his membership to Bethel Baptist Institutional Church where he was an active member participating in various church ministries. David was ordained on September 15, 2019 as a Deacon of Bethel Baptist Institutional Church. He was humbled to become a servant of the Lord.

David loved to cook of which barbequing was his favorite. He shared his famous BBQ-Sauce with everyone. David was a dedicated husband and often cooked wonderful meals for his wife and family.

Time to embrace: On August 7, 2010 David and Valerie was united in Holy Matrimony. David and Valerie shared special memories, talking, laughing, traveling, meeting people, and sharing his testimony of the goodness of God in his life. He was thankful for the grace and mercy bestowed to him during his lifetime.

Time to mourn: He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Valerie Footman; his son, David Footman Jr; daughters, Dasia Footman, LaTasha Small, Melissa Richards, and Tenika (William) Fryson; grandchildren: Kali Ariyah Footman, Tayliah Henry, Tamaiya Osborne, Deion Small, and Dontavious Brinson; goddaughter niece, Aaliyah Vaughn; four sisters: Mary Conyers, Cora Parker, Carrie Strong all of South Carolina, and Evelyn (Odell) Beaufort of Jacksonville, Florida; one brother: John Footman, Sr. of Winchester, Virginia; mother-in-law, Jennie Mercer; sisters-in-law: Lena Mann (Herman) and Sharon Houston (Paster Kirk Houston) of Virginia; brothers-in-law: Derrick (Belinda) Mercer, Sr., Gregory Mercer, Cornelius Mercer, Ellis Conyers, Kenneth Strong, and Arnold Parker; three aunts: Aillen McClary, Geneva Gamble, and Ruth York all of Troy, New York; one uncle: Lead Bennett of Troy, New York; his high school best friend, Senator Ronnie Sabb of Greeleyville, South Carolina; Odell Beaufort; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

