

A

Celebration

of Life for



HARDY RAY WILLIAMS

Alpha Omega
December 11, 1937 November 12, 2008

**November 18, 2008
2:00pm**

**St. James Church of Christ
Rose Hill, NC**

**Elder Willie James, Jr., Pastor
Reverend Charlie Williams, Officiating**

Order of Service-----

Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn

Scripture

Old Testament (Psalm 27:1-6)

New Testament (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)

Reverend Willie F. Williams

Prayer of Comfort

Elder Willie James, Jr.

Musical Selection

Acknowledgements

Veronica Williams

Obituary (Read Silently)

Musical Selection

Eulogy

Reverend Charlie Williams

Hickory Grove Baptist Church Chapel Hill, NC

Benediction

Recessional

Interment

St. James Church of Christ Cemetery

Rose Hill, NC

The Legacy-----

Hardy Ray Williams was born December 11, 1937 in Harrells, NC. He departed this life on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at his home in Alexandria, Virginia after a lengthy illness. God closed his eyes, eased his pain, and brought him peace.

Growing up in Harrells, Hardy was very close to his mother, Lessie, and his grandparents, Varice and Addie Williams. He was also very close to a very special Uncle and Aunt, Leondias and Mary Ann Williams and their family (Lee, Willie, Larry, Joyce, George, Charlie, Summerfield, and Alma). Hardy also had a special relationship with Janie Devane and Jimmy Sellars.

Hardy received much of his education in his home state of North Carolina. He graduated Summa Cum Laude in the Class of 1958 from Fayetteville State University. He was also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Later, he received a Master of Education from the University of Virginia. Learning never stopped as he matriculated at various universities in the Washington Metropolitan Area.

Hardy met his beloved wife, Bernice, while both were teachers at the Mary Potter High School in Oxford, NC. They were married in January, 1962.

“Hardy Ray”, as he was affectionately called, was an early riser and stayed busy throughout his life. He maintained the love and respect of his children and all those with whom he came in contact. He enjoyed the simple things in life, such as an early morning cup of coffee, tending to his yard, family gatherings, listening to music, and tinkling with his antique ‘57 Ford. Of course, he loved sports. He spent over 25 years coaching youth basketball with the Alexandria Department of Recreation.

Hardy was preceded in death by his mother, Lessie F. Williams; grandparents, Varice and Addie J. Williams; uncles Leondias & George Williams; cousins Summerfield & Larry Williams; & other beloved relatives. He leaves to cherish precious memories: his loving wife, Bernice Williams; two devoted sons, Derek (Gina) & Glenn (Sylvia) Williams; four grandsons, Devon G., Zion I., Matthew J., & Dylan C. Williams; a very special aunt, Mary Ann Williams; cousins, Lee C. (Emma), Willie (Patricia), Joyce W. Matthews, George A. (Veronica), Charlie (Vivian), & Alma W. (Billy) Burch; and a host of other devoted relatives and friends.

In tears we saw you sinking
And watched you fade away.
Our hearts were almost broken,
We wanted you to stay.

But, when we saw you sleeping
So peaceful, free from pain,
How could we wish you back with us
To suffer that again.

It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you didn't go alone.
For a part of us went with you
The day God called you HOME.

The Family