



## Mr. John Birdo Jones

May 7, 1934 - January 1, 2026

Mr. John Birdo Jones, affectionately known as "Brother" and to many "Uncle Brother", was born in Florence, Mississippi, on May 7, 1934. He was the youngest of thirteen children born to Ed and Della Wansley Jones.

He attended Mount Olive (Morning Star) School and Piney Woods, graduating from Campbell College High School in 1953. That year proved to be pivotal: Mr. Jones met his future wife, Myrtis Loreatha Smith, during his employment at the Mississippi School for the Blind. On April 16, 1953, the couple married.

In 1955, Mr. Jones enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving as a cook for twelve years and as a Food Service Supervisor for eight years. He completed his Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, and undertook remote assignments in Thule, Greenland, and Da Nang, Vietnam. His military career brought the family to Austin and Corpus Christi, Texas; Moses Lake, Washington; Great Falls, Montana; Tachikawa, Japan; and Grand Forks, North Dakota.

In 1959, Mr. and Mrs. Jones welcomed their daughter, Meriel Kasandra. Their family grew with the birth of Donociano Trent eighteen months later. Sadly, in 1962, just before Trent's first birthday, he passed away unexpectedly.

Upon retiring from the Armed Forces after twenty years of distinguished

service, Mr. Jones worked for fifteen years as a mail carrier with the United States Postal Service in Jackson, Mississippi. He later spent eleven years as a livery driver for his brothers' Jet Livery Service in Chicago, Illinois.

In 1994, shortly after retirement, Mr. and Mrs. Jones relocated to Bolingbrook, Illinois, to be near their three grandchildren: Reginald, Christopher, and Paula. Mr. Jones often shared that this move was the most rewarding decision they had ever made.

At an early age, Mr. Jones professed his faith in Jesus Christ at Enoch Grove Baptist Church. He actively served as an usher in military chapels. After his military retirement, he returned to Florence, Mississippi, and joined Greater Enoch Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where Mr. Jones served as Treasurer. After relocating to Illinois, they joined Alpha Missionary Baptist Church in Bolingbrook where he served as an Usher.

Brother Jones was preceded in death by his parents, Ed and Della Jones, his brothers, James (Jack), Odie, Dock, Walter (Bush), Barney, Alton, Ed, Jesse, Vernon, his sisters, Girlie, Rosie, and Lou Villa.

Mr. Jones is survived by his beloved wife of seventy-two years, Mrs. Myrtis Loreatha Smith Jones; his daughter, Meriel Kasandra (Isaac) Champagne of Naperville, Illinois; grandchildren, Reginald (Leigh) Champagne of Glen Ellyn, Illinois; Christopher (Bre) Champagne of Mountain View, California; and Paula (Adam) Goldstein of Portland, Oregon. His great-grandchildren also survive him: Sophia, Winston, Margaux, and Zuri; honorary siblings: Lou Della Glass, Patricia Smith, Towana Smith and Bernard Williams, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and great great- nieces and nephews.

# Cemetery Details

## Greater Enoch Grove Church Cemetery

206 Greenhill Road  
Florence, MS

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **13**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home  
745 Highway 468  
Brandon, MS 39042  
(601) 825-3884  
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

## Homegoing Service

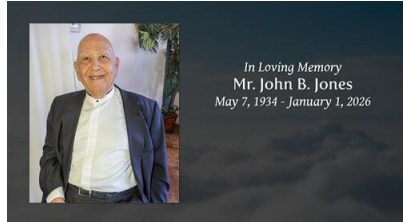
JAN **14**. 12:00 PM (CT)

"Lovie" Dean Memorial Chapel  
745 Hwy 468  
Brandon, MS 39042

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. John Birdo Jones*



**Dean Memorial Funeral Home** - January 13 at 05:30 PM

WA

*Mr Jones(aka "JB", "Uncle Brother" and "John Birdo" :) was a blessing to everyone who knew him!*

*Sis Meriel and family, thanks so much for sharing your sweet parents with us!*

*We will miss his contagious laugh, his smile and his never ending stories!*

*He's in Jesus' presence now, enjoying His Savior!*

*Praying for the Lord's comfort upon your hearts.*

*Karl and Nuku*

**Watson** - January 14 at 06:24 PM

TH

*To the Jones family, praying that you are surrounded by God's comfort and strength during this difficult time . I count it a blessing to have know Brother Jones , he's gone but not forgotten 🙏🏻🏠 Sister Teresa Hill*

**Teresa Hill** - January 14 at 09:32 PM

DG

“Thank You For Your Service” Great Uncle Brother, all the surprise visits and family memories. 🙏❤️



---

**Dixie Hampton Grant** - January 18 at 11:00 PM

CH

“ I will always remember his advice to me...”Expect the unexpected!”

---

**Charles Hammond** - January 14 at 06:11 PM

PM

“ Our sincere love and condolences to the Mrs. Jones, Merial and the Family. Mr. Jones was so loved by Members of Alpha MBC We called Mr. Jones Dad. He always had a smile and the best stories ever. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Gary & Pandora Mitchell

---

**Pandora and Gary Mitchell** - January 14 at 04:01 PM

ML

“ My deepest condolences to all of you!! 🙏🙏🙏 To my friend Meriel, Thank you for allowing me to love on your dad. I always enjoyed my visit with him. May God continue to keep and strengthen you! Love you!! Maggie Lyons

---

**Maggie Lyons** - January 14 at 03:09 PM

EA

“ Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of John Jones



Eddie Ainsworth - January 13 at 05:28 PM

MW

“ Minister Letha Walker lit a candle in memory of John Jones



Minister Letha Walker - January 13 at 05:19 PM

LG

“ James and Latecia Gregory



Latecia Gregory - January 13 at 02:53 PM

WM

“ Wayne & Gert McGee lit a candle in memory of John Jones



Wayne & Gert McGee - January 13 at 02:19 PM

EW

“ *Sending condolences to the Jones Family.  
The Walker Family*



---

**Eletha Walker** - January 12 at 07:49 PM

AB

“ *Alexis Bilbro lit a candle in memory of John  
Jones*



---

**Alexis Bilbro** - January 12 at 07:47 PM