

A portrait of Willie Rowan Oatis, an older man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a white shirt and a green jacket. He is looking slightly to the left. The background is a dark, textured surface. To the left of the portrait is a portion of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars. To the right of the portrait is a white dove in flight, facing left.

In Loving Memory of Willie Rowan Oatis

Sunrise
February 13,
1937

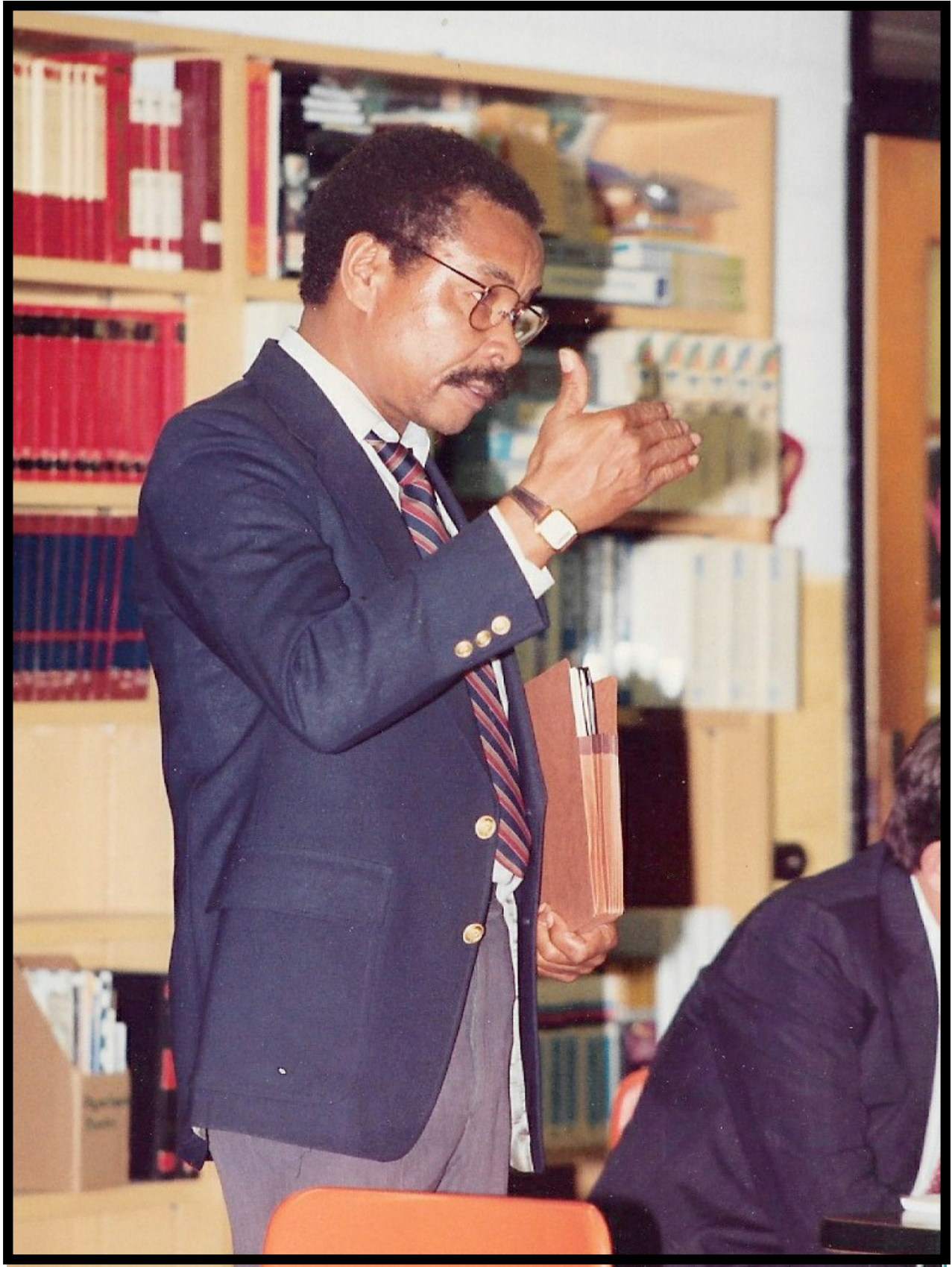
Sunset
January 1,
2021

*Scripture: I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the
righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. - Psalm 37:25*

Saturday, January 9, 2021 -1:00 p.m.

Graveside Service
Spring Hill M. B. Church Cemetery
Silver Creek, MS

Rev. Roy Thompson, Pastor
Elder Timothy T. Scott, Jr., Officiating Pastor
Harvest Celebration Evangelistic Church of God in Christ
Byram, MS





Crossing the Bar

Alfred Lord Tennyson - 1809-1892

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have cross'd the bar.

Order of Service



*P*rocessionals

*S*ong & Prayer Pastor Roy L. Thompson

*S*cripture Rev. Johnny C. Williams

*E*xpressions Evangelist LaWanda Formisano

*E*ulogy Elder Timothy Scott

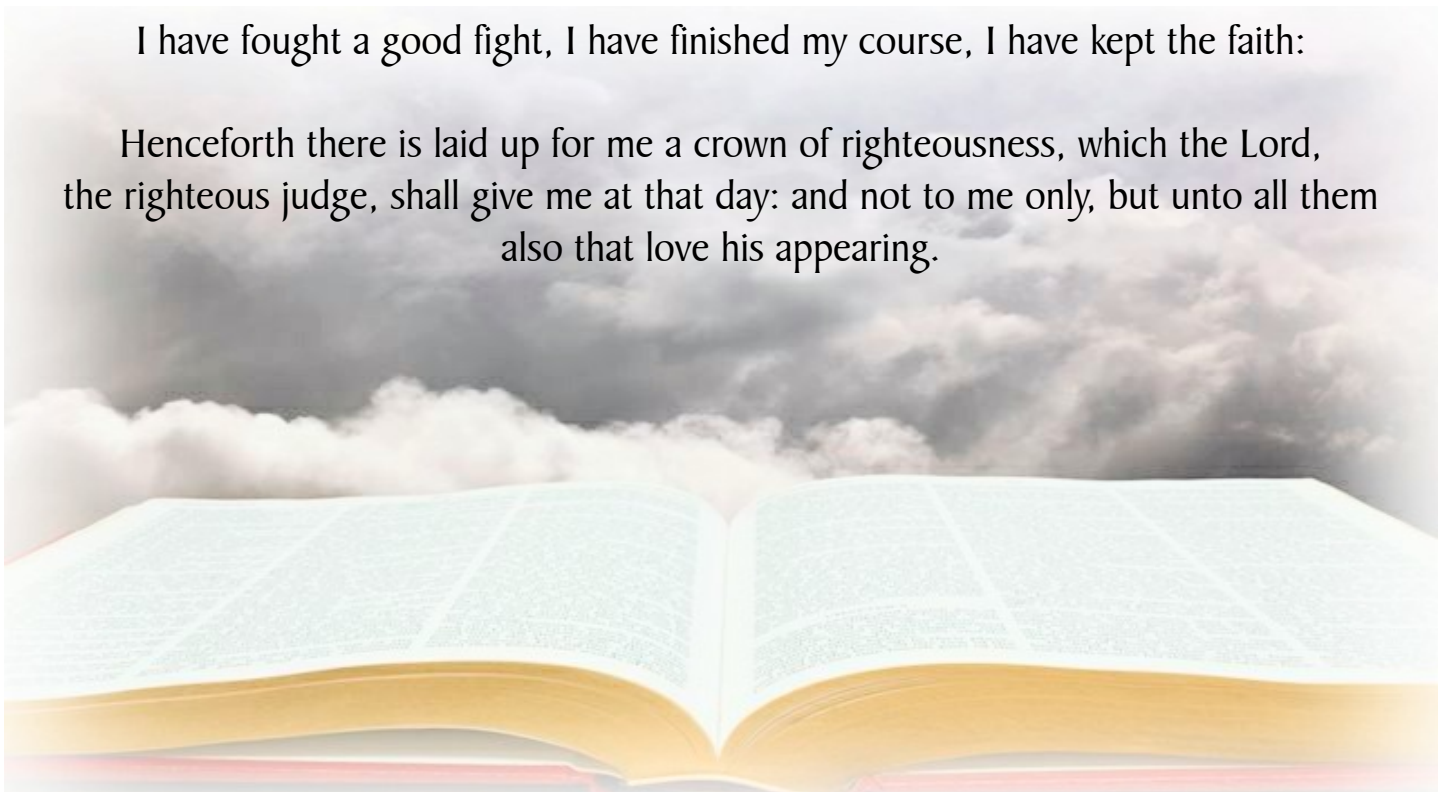
*F*uneral Directors in Charge Johnson Funeral Home

*R*ecessional

II Timothy 4:7,8 (KJV)

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.





Obituary

*“... So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall put on immortality then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory, O death, where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?
- I Corinthians 15:54-55*

Mr. Willie Rowan Oatis, 83, of Silver Creek, Mississippi passed away peacefully on Friday, January 1, 2021 at the VA Medical Center, Jackson, MS. He is the son of the late Reuben and Vanilla Oatis. He was a member of Springhill Missionary Baptist Church and he attended Harvest Celebration Evangelistic Church of God in Christ in Byram, Mississippi.

Mr. Oatis received his early education at J. E. Johnson after which he attained his Bachelor's degree at Jackson State. He then furthered his education with a Teacher's certification at the University of Wisconsin (Racine) and Millsap's College, Jackson, MS. He also continued and received a Master's of Art in History and a Master's of Art in Education Administration both from Jackson State University.

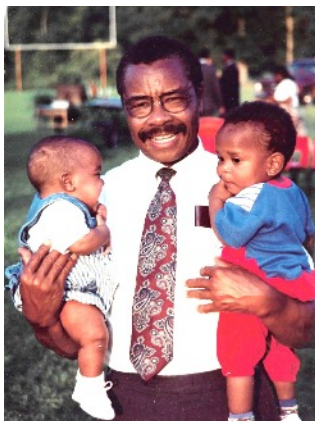
He served in the U.S. Army for 2 years as a draftsman and attained the rank of Sergeant.

Mr. Oatis taught middle school History and Science at J.E. Johnson Middle School for several years giving back to the community he grew up in, and was later promoted to Principal with several administrative assignments in between. He also taught two semesters at Pearl River Community College. He retired from Jefferson Davis School District as an Educator Administrator at the Superintendent's Office.

Some of Mr. Oatis' organizational activities included: membership in the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Boy Scouts of America, Governor's Board and the Optimist Club. He loved farming, hunting, traveling, reading and spending time with family and friends.

Mr. Oatis passed away by the side of his wife of 52 years, LaMildred Oatis of Prentiss, MS; and from this union he leaves three (3) sons: Quincy (Vikki) Oatis of Hattiesburg, MS; William Oatis and Kendric Oatis, both of Silver Creek, MS; brother, Robert S. Oatis of Silver Creek, MS; sisters: Dorris Oatis of St. Louis, MO; Algene Jones of Irvine, CA; and Viola Kaiser of Duluth, MN; eleven (11) grandchildren; and one (1) great grandchild.

Mr. Oatis was preceded in death by his brother, Rueben Oatis, Jr. (New Orleans, LA); sister, Darlene Hearn (St. Louis, MO); and brother, Edward Oatis (Rose Hill, MS)



Precious Memories



The LORD is my *Shepherd;*
I shall not want.

He maketh me to
lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters,
He restoreth my
soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake. Yea though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death.

I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies

Thou anointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over

Surely goodness & mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house
of the LORD *forever.*
- Psalm 23



Pallbearers

Family & Friends

Acknowledgments

The family of the late Willie Rowan Oatis would like to especially thank everyone for your prayers, thoughts, and extreme generosity during the loss of our loved one. Your many visits, calls, food, and encouragement will serve to brighten the days ahead. We remain grateful from the depths of our hearts. The family would also like to thank Ms. Margie Price McNair who was Rowan's only caregiver (2003-2006).

Repast

Due to COVID-19, there will be no repast

Interment

Spring Hill Church Cemetery

Services Entrusted to:

Johnson Funeral Home

P.O. Box 326 / 1112 Fred Street

Prentiss, MS 39474

(601) 792-5629



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