

Homegoing Services For
Dr. James Charles Cox

Sunrise
January 3, 1975

Eternal Life
January 5, 2023



January 20, 2023

11:00 AM

NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH
(South Campus)
1285 Raymond RD
Jackson, Mississippi 39204

Obituary

*"THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION— WHOM SHALL I FEAR? THE LORD IS THE
STRENGTH OF MY LIFE— OF WHOM SHALL I BE AFRAID?"*

PSALM 27:1

DR. JAMES CHARLES COX WAS BORN JANUARY 3, 1975, TO THE LATE PATRICIA ANN (NICHOLSON) COX AND THE LATE JAMES CORNELIUS ROBBINS. HE WAS THE 11TH SIBLING OF 15 CHILDREN. JAMES CHARLES TRANSITIONED FROM EARTH TO BE WITH HIS HEAVENLY FATHER ON JANUARY 5, 2023. HE WAS 48 YEARS OLD.

AS A CHILD, JAMES WAS ALWAYS THOUGHTFUL, WELL MANNERED, AND HAD A QUIET SPIRIT; YET HE WAS CONSTANTLY OBSERVANT AND VERY VOCAL REGARDING THINGS HE WAS PASSIONATE ABOUT. JAMES WAS INTELLECTUALLY INQUISITIVE AND A VORACIOUS READER WHO WAS INTERESTED IN A VAST ARRAY OF TOPICS. HE HAD A BURNING DESIRE TO LEARN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO EXPAND HIS KNOWLEDGE. EDUCATION WAS TRULY HIS FOCUS. AS A TEEN, JAMES EXHIBITED AN ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT BY SELLING CANDY, SNACKS, AND OTHER ITEMS TO EARN MONEY FOR WHATEVER HE DESIRED. JAMES WAS RELENTLESSLY DETERMINED TO ACCOMPLISH HIS GOALS AND OVERCOME ANY OBSTACLES HE ENCOUNTERED IN LIFE. HE ATTENDED VICKSBURG AND JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOLS. HE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL WITH HONORS AND CONTINUED HIS EDUCATION TO OBTAIN HIS BACHELOR'S, MASTER'S, AND DOCTORATE DEGREES WHILE RECEIVING VARIOUS ACCOLADES IN THE PROCESS.

JAMES WAS EMPLOYED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO WHERE HE WAS A WELL-RESPECTED DIRECTOR OF THE JOE CROWLEY STUDENT UNION. JAMES WAS APPOINTED THIS POSITION FOLLOWING A NATIONWIDE HIRING SEARCH. HE SUPERVISED A LARGE TEAM OF FULL-TIME STAFF AND STUDENT EMPLOYEES. HE TOOK HIS JOB EXTREMELY SERIOUSLY AND WORKED HARD TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT EVERY TASK WAS COMPLETED WITH EXCELLENCE.

AS A PART OF JAMES' PASSION FOR EDUCATION, HE WAS DRIVEN TO HELP OTHERS AND ENCOURAGED STUDENTS TO REFRAME ADVERSE CHALLENGES TO BE SIMPLY MOTIVATORS TO THEIR EDUCATIONAL GOALS. JAMES' SUPERVISORS AND COLLEAGUES STATED, "JAMES DEMONSTRATED A WILLINGNESS TO ALWAYS LISTEN, TO MENTOR, AND SELFLESSLY GUIDE COUNTLESS STUDENTS AS WELL AS STAFF." JAMES WAS A MEMBER OF THE FIRST-GENERATION COALITION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO WHICH WAS AN ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO CREATING POSITIVE EXPERIENCES AND EMPOWERING FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT SUCCESS. STUDENTS, HE ALWAYS SAID, WERE HIS TOP PRIORITY AND HE MADE THIS HIS PROFESSIONAL MISSION AND HIS PERSONAL CALLING.

JAMES REALIZED HE HAD A SPECIAL TALENT IN WORKING WITH AND RELATING TO PEOPLE, AND HIS ABILITY PERMEATED EVERY ASPECT OF HIS WORK. HE OFTEN WORKED INTO THE EVENING, WELL PAST NINE OR TEN O'CLOCK – AS THESE WERE OFTEN THE BEST TIMES TO BE WITH STUDENTS, TO LEARN IN AN INFORMAL YET CARING WAY ABOUT THEIR VARIOUS PERSONAL STORIES, THEIR GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS, AND HOW HE AND HIS STAFF COULD HELP THEM.

Obituary

JAMES OFFERED HIS OWN MISSISSIPPI-STYLE FOOD THAT HE PREPARED AT HOME FOR STUDENTS WHO MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD OR EVEN HAVE A MEAL. HE TRULY WALKED THE WALK AS AN ADVOCATE. HE SAW BEAUTY AND POTENTIAL IN EVERY STUDENT, BECOMING PERSONALLY VESTED IN EVERYONE HE COULD HELP TO PURSUE THEIR DREAMS. JAMES' PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDED ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS AT JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA TECH UNIVERSITY, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS.

JAMES' MAIN PERSON IN HIS LIFE WAS HIS MOTHER, "PAT COX." HE HAD A GREAT LOVE AND RESPECT FOR HER. AS AN ADULT, HE ALWAYS DESIRED AND TRIED TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL HER NEEDS WERE MET, EVEN IF IT REQUIRED HIM TO GIVE HER HIS LAST DIME. PAT WAS ALWAYS VERY WELL PLEASED WITH HIS ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, SHE CHERISHED THE PERSON HE WAS AND APPRECIATED HOW WELL HE TREATED HER AND DEMONSTRATED HIS LOVE FOR HER.

JAMES ALSO HAD A UNIQUE LOVE FOR HIS FAMILY WITH EVERYONE HAVING A SPECIAL PLACE. HE WAS ADMIRER FOR HOW SMART HE WAS; AND SO MANY PEOPLE SOUGHT HIS ADVICE AND BENEFITED FROM HIS INSIGHTS AND EXPLANATIONS REGARDING A VARIETY OF COMPLICATED TOPICS. HE HAD GREAT PERSPECTIVE, INTUITION, KNOWLEDGE, AND WISDOM. JAMES WAS ALSO QUICK-WITTED AND HAD A SHARP SENSE OF HUMOR. "STRONG MINDED" WOULD BE AN UNDERSTATEMENT FOR HIS CHARACTER. HE SPOKE HIS TRUTH WITH CONVICTION WITHOUT BACKING DOWN AND WAS STRAIGHT TO THE POINT WITH EVERYONE – NO SUGAR COATING. HE SEEMED TO NEVER BE CONCERNED ABOUT OTHERS' OPINIONS OF HIM. HE WOULD TELL YOU RIGHT FROM WRONG AND YOU COULD DEAL WITH IT HOWEVER YOU CHOSE. YET, HE WAS ALSO AN EXTREMELY CARING, KINDHEARTED, GENEROUS INDIVIDUAL. HE WAS THE FAMILY'S CUSHION WHEN THEY FELL; THERE WHEN ANYONE FELT UNLOVED; SIMPLY OUR "BIG TEDDY BEAR." WHEN HE HUGGED, YOU FELT THE LOVE COMING FROM OUTSIDE INTO YOUR HEART. JAMES LOVED TO EAT (LIKE THE REST OF THE FAMILY) AND WAS AN EXCELLENT COOK. JAMES WAS AN AVID READER OF THE HOLY BIBLE SPENDING TIME WITH GOD BEFORE GOING TO SLEEP AT NIGHT. THE FAMILY ALWAYS COUNTED ON HIS HOME COOKED MEALS AND LOOKED FORWARD TO HIM COMING HOME AS HE WOULD CHEERFULLY COMMANDEER THE KITCHEN.

AS PART OF JAMES' HOBBIES, HE ENJOYED GOING TO CASINOS AND PLAYING BINGO. HE NEVER LEARNED TO DRIVE, YET IT NEVER HINDERED HIM FROM TRAVELING EVERYWHERE HE CHOSE. HE ENJOYED LIFE, LAUGHTER, AND HAVING FUN!

JAMES LIVED LIFE TO THE FULLEST AS AN INDIVIDUAL, SON, BROTHER, UNCLE, NEPHEW, COUSIN, FRIEND, AND MENTOR. WHILE OUR HEARTS ARE TORN AND ACHE FOR JAMES' PHYSICAL PRESENCE, WE LOOK FORWARD TO REJOICING WITH HIM AGAIN WHEN WE GO HOME TO FATHER GOD/LORD JESUS CHRIST. OUR FAMILY'S MOST "GENTLE GIANT" IS TREMENDOUSLY MISSED BUT WILL LIVE IN OUR HEARTS AND IS WITH US IN SPIRIT FOREVER. JAMES LEAVES A GENERATIONAL LEGACY OF LOVED ONES. (SEE PAGES 5 & 6).

Order of Services

MRS. PATRESA BOLDEN - MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES (NIECE)

Processional

PRELUDE "MY LAST DAYS"
BY GENEVA JONES

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT.....PASTOR KEMP BURLEY

NEW TESTAMENT.....MIN. FUDGENE COX SWAIN
(SISTER)

PRAYER MIN. FUDGENE COX SWAIN

SONG..... "WHEN THE GATES SWING OPEN"
BY REV. OTIS CLAY

POEM....."EPITAPH" BY CLEMENTE MATOS JR. (COUSIN)
READ BY CLEMENTE MATOS III (COUSIN)

READING OF OBITUARY.....MIN. FUDGENE COX SWAIN

REFLECTIONS

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS..... GIONNI CARR

VIRGINIA TECH..... JAIME WILLIAMS

SONG..... "I'LL BE CROSSING OVER"
PASTOR KEMP BURLEY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTSPATRESA BOLDEN

SONG..... "I'LL FLY AWAY"
PASTOR KEMP BURLEY

POEM..... "REMEMBERED" BY ROCHELLE COX (SISTER)
READ BY GREGORY COX JR. (NEPHEW)

EULOGY PASTOR KEMP BURLEY

POSTLUDE..... "AMAZING GRACE"
BY ARETHA FRANKLIN

Recessional

Legacy

2ND GREAT-GRANDPARENTS [PATERNAL-ALL DECEASED]

1. NELLIE (NICHOLSON) JOHNSON - MAMA NELLIE
2. WILLIE NICHOLSON

GREAT-GRANDPARENTS [PATERNAL-ALL DECEASED]

1. BENJAMIN L. NICHOLSON SR. - PAW PAW
2. ANNA C. (CALDWELL) NICHOLSON

GREAT-GRANDPARENTS [MATERNAL-ALL DECEASED]

1. DAVE STRAUGHTER - PAPA DAVE
2. SUSIE ELIZABETH (MILLER) STRAUGHTER

GRANDPARENTS [ALL DECEASED]

1. ROSIE LEE (STRAUGHTER-NICHOLSON) KEMPER
2. FUDGE HOYT NICHOLSON
3. WILLIE WESLEY KEMPER (STEP-GRANDFATHER)
4. RACHEL MACK (2ND GREAT AUNT/2ND MOTHER)

PARENTS [ALL DECEASED]

1. PATRICIA (NICHOLSON) COX
2. JAMES CORNELIUS ROBBINS

AUNT & UNCLE [ALL DECEASED]

1. LULA MAE (NICHOLSON-LAWRENCE) MATOS [JOSE']
2. ROY WESLEY KEMPER [MYRA]

SIBLINGS

1. NELLIE ROSE (NICHOLSON) STRONG [HENRY- (DECEASED)]
2. FUDGENE RENE (NICHOLSON-COX) SWAIN [EX-MELVIN]
3. RONALD LYNN NICHOLSON (DECEASED)
4. WILLIE UNDRIA COX [LILLIE MAE]
5. GREGORY EARL COX [GINNIE] (DECEASED)
6. RICKEY REON COX [BERTHA] (DECEASED)
7. JAMES CHARLES COX (DECEASED)
8. LISIA DENISE (COX) KERSH [CHARLES]
9. RACHELLE YOULANDE (COX) WASHINGTON [FLOYD]
10. ROCHELLE YVONNE COX
12. TERRY PATRICK COX [KATINA]
13. TERESA NICOLE (COX) COLLINS [DEMARCUS]
14. CEDRIC NIGEL COX
15. DERRICK BEN COX

NIECES & NEPHEWS

1. HENRY ERIC NICHOLSON [ANITA]
2. ANGELA NICOLE (NICHOLSON) TREVILLION [MARCUS]
3. SABRINA RAE SWAIN
4. MELVIN SWAIN III [JASMINE]
5. CARIS LONDON
6. ARCOLA SHURONN SCOTT
7. ANGELA SCOTT (DECEASED)
8. RONSHINA SCOTT
9. DYADHA NOLAN
10. LATOYA CATRIESE (COX) MCCOY [LARRY]
11. GREGORY EARL COX, JR.
12. GYNIFER COX
13. MICHELLE DIXON
14. ERIC REON COX
15. LAVARCIAY DEANDRE' COX
16. DEIDRA KIARA COX
17. JAMES CHARLES CORNELIUS COX (DECEASED)
18. PATRESA RAGENE RONELLE (COX) BOLDEN [VENTRESS]
19. SARA ELIZABETH WASHINGTON
20. FLOYD WASHINGTON III
21. JEREMIAH ADRIAN COX
22. AKEMI (COX) SMITH [KEREIOTTA]
23. TERRY PATRICK COX, JR.
24. DERION ANDERSON
25. AYDEN COLLINS
26. AYL A COLLINS
27. CEDRIC COX, JR.
28. ASIA RAMSEY
29. DESTINY COX
30. ELIJAH COX
31. DAECIAN COX
32. KEN'ARIYEAL COX
33. DRAEVIAN COX
34. ASHTON KING HALL
35. KENARYAL TUCKER COX

Legacy

GREAT NIECES & NEPHEWS

1. AALIYAH NICHOLSON
2. DARIUS NICHOLSON
3. CARLISHA DESHELL LONDON
4. SHACARIA LONDON
5. CARIS LONDON, JR.
6. KEY'ASIA SCOTT
7. MESIAH SIMS
8. GABRIELLE SIMS
9. RONSHAYLIN WALKER
10. CLIFTON WALKER, JR.
11. JAMRION WALKER
12. MALASIA WALKER
13. RAMSAY NOLAN
14. JORDYNN MCCOY
15. LANDON MCCOY
16. LOGAN MCCOY (DECEASED)
17. KINSLEIGH COX
18. BRAXTON WASHINGTON
19. LAVARCIAY COX, JR.
20. KAEDEN COX
21. LONDON COX
22. BRAYLON COX
23. NYLA COX
24. KE'LARIC MARTIN
25. MADYSON CARTER
26. TAYLOR MALLOT
27. LAILA KAY SMITH (DECEASED)
28. KHAZ SMITH
29. ARIA NICOLE ANDERSON
30. DERION ANDERSON, JR.
31. KISIN COX
32. LEGACY PALMER

1ST COUSINS

1. RACHAEL NICHOLSON
2. LESTER LAWRENCE (DECEASED)
3. DAVID W. LAWRENCE
4. MARY ROSE LAWRENCE (DECEASED)
5. PATRICIA ANN (LAWRENCE) LEWIS [DANIEL]
6. DONALD LAWRENCE
7. JOANNA (MATOS) CATO [CHARLES]
8. MARIA LOUISA MATOS (DECEASED)

2ND COUSINS

1. CLEMENTE N. MATOS, JR. (CATHY)
2. ALPHONSO N. MATOS (ANNETTE)
3. PRENTIS WALKER
4. KADREDRA WALKER
5. TIMONTHY LAWRENCE
6. ZANE GRISSOM, JR
7. YON LAWRENCE
8. LUSTINA LAWRENCE
9. SHANEKA LEWIS
10. SHAMEKA LEWIS
11. DANIEL LEWIS
12. JOHNATHAN LEWIS
12. TAMELA LEWIS
13. DAVE JOSEPH BLAKE
14. SHAWN ROY BLAKE
15. ARMANI F. CATO
16. CHARLES CATO, JR.





Tributes

OUR BELOVED BROTHER

UNFORTUNATELY, IT IS TIME FOR US TO SAY, "GOODBYE BROTHER". THE TIME WE SHARED WITH YOU WAS EXHILARATING! WE HAVE SO MANY GREAT MEMORIES OF YOUR SHARP SENSE OF HUMOR AND YOUR NO-NONSENSE CHARACTER. YOU EXHIBITED A ONE-OF-A-KIND DEMEANOR THAT KEPT US LAUGHING AND ON OUR TOES AT THE SAME TIME - AND WE WILL MISS IT SO MUCH.

YOU HAVE BEEN AN INSPIRATION TO US IN YOUR DETERMINATION TO SUCCEED AND TO KEEP FAMILY FIRST THROUGHOUT ALL YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. YOU WERE AN AWESOME BROTHER TO ALL OF US AND WERE ALWAYS WILLING TO OFFER A LISTENING EAR AND GIVE INSIGHTFUL ADVICE ABOUT ANY CIRCUMSTANCE. YOU HAVE BEEN WITH US THROUGH MANY CHALLENGING SITUATIONS AND IT WILL BE HARD TO CONTINUE LIFE'S JOURNEY WITHOUT YOU. BUT WE KNOW YOUR RACE IS DONE AND YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED HOME TO YOUR RESTING PLACE TO SEE YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER.

WE KNOW OUR TIME APART IS NOT FOREVER, BUT OUR FAMILY WILL ALWAYS FEEL INCOMPLETE WITHOUT YOU HERE. WE LOVE YOU JAMES AND WE KNOW WHEN YOU ARRIVE TO SEE OUR LORD, HE WILL SAY "WELL DONE" FOR YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, FOR THE MENTORING THAT YOU DID WHICH IMPACTED SO MANY LIVES, AND FOR THE LOVE YOU ALWAYS SHOWED TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. WE ARE HONORED TO BE ABLE TO CALL YOU OUR "BROTHER"! REST IN PEACE JAMES UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!

LOVE, YOUR SISTERS & BROTHERS

JESUS REPLIED, "I ASSURE YOU, TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE."

LUKE 23:43

BEING SPEECHLESS ABOUT HEARING OF YOUR PASSING IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT. AFTER LOSING SO MANY FAMILY MEMBERS IN SUCH A SHORT, SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, NO ONE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT WE WOULD LOSE YOU TOO. THERE ARE SO MANY MEMORIES OF US AT GRANDMA PAT'S HOUSE; WHETHER EATING YOUR CRISPY CHICKEN OR LAUGHING AT YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT HOW HOT IT WAS, YOU ALWAYS MADE SURE YOUR NIECES AND NEPHEWS WERE OKAY. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL THAT YOU KEPT YOUR PROMISE TO GRANDMA PAT AND CAME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS. WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT WAS THE LAST TIME WE WOULD SEE YOU BEFORE THE LORD CALLED YOU HOME. YOU'LL BE TRULY MISSED. OUR HEARTS ARE FILLED WITH SADNESS, BUT WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE WITH THE LORD AND REJOICING IN HIS PRESENCE!! WE LOVE YOU!!

YOUR NIECES & NEPHEWS

OUR FAMILY CANNOT EXPRESS ENOUGH, THE GRATITUDE THAT WE HAVE FOR THE
MANY ACTS OF KINDNESS THAT WE HAVE EXPERIENCED DURING THE LOSS OF OUR
LOVED ONE. WE THANK GOD FOR ALL OF YOUR SELFLESS ACTS OF LOVE AND
COMPASSION. THE FAMILY GREATLY APPRECIATES YOUR PRAYERS AND
CONDOLENCES. THANK YOU AND WE PRAY GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS WILL
SHINE ON YOU. SPECIAL THANKS TO JAMES' SISTERS, BROTHERS, NEPHEWS, NIECES
AND COUSINS WHOM DONATED TIME AND LOVE IN THE PREPARATION FOR HIS
HOMEGOING.

THE FAMILY OF JAMES COX

Active Pallbearers

CARIS LONDON	TERRY COX JR.
DERION ANDERSON	LAVARCIAY COX
GREGORY COX JR.	VENTRESS BOLDEN
ERIK COX	LARRY MCCOY

Honorary Pallbearers

CEDRIC COX JR.
JEREMIAH COX
ZANE GRISSOM

Flower Pallbearers

MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY

Interment

GARDEN MEMORIAL PARK
8001 HIGHWAY 49 NORTH
JACKSON, MS 39209

Repast

MISSISSIPPI E-CENTER @ JSU
1230 RAYMOND RD
JACKSON, MS 39204

ARRANGEMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED
TO:

Collins Funeral Home

415 NORTH FARISH STREET
JACKSON, MS 39202