

## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God has laid you see.  
I took His hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found that peace at the close of day.  
If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee  
God wanted me now; He set me free.*

## *Interment*

Belleville Memorial Gardens  
2900 Belleville Road  
Orangeburg, SC 29115

## *Pallbearers*

Family & Friends

## *Floral Bearers*

Family & Friends



## *Acknowledgement*

The family of the late Robert Lee Gooden wishes to extend their deepest THANKS to each of you for your wonderful cards, thoughts, food, prayers, calls, and every other act of kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement. We will forever be grateful for the kind services extended to our family. May God bless and keep you in his care

*-The Gooden Family*

## *Arrangements Entrusted to:*

Simmons Funeral Home & Crematory of Orangeburg  
Simmons Funeral Home of Santee  
Paul A. Simmons, Founder and President  
2868 Columbia Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118  
(803) 534-2646



8824 Old #6 Highway, Santee, SC 29142  
(803) 854-2044  
[www.simmonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.simmonsfuneralhome.com)

*In  
Loving  
Memory  
Of*



*Robert Lee*  
**GOODEN**

SUNRISE: JULY 3, 1932    SUNSET: FEBRUARY 3, 2023

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023  
11:00 A.M.**

*St. Paul Baptist Church  
2259 Rowesville Road  
Orangeburg, SC 29115*

**REV. DR. CHARCEY C. PRIESTER, OFFICIATING**

*A Celebration of Life*



## Order of Service

*Prelude .....Soft Music*

*Processional/Final Viewing..... Clergy & Friends*

*Hymn of Praise ..... St. Paul Mass Choir*

*Scripture Readings.....Rev. Angela Williams*

*Old Testament.....Psalm 121: 1-8*

*New Testament .....John 14: 1-6*

*Prayer of Comfort .....Rev. Sarah Priester*

*Solo..... Kendarius Pauling*

*Expressions of Remembrance (3 Minutes)*

*Church Family ..... Deacon Ellison Brown*

*Church Family ..... Deacon Herbert Snell*

*Friend.....Ms. Hattie Glover*

*Selection.....Minister Rosemary Griffin*

*Words of Comfort... Rev. Dr. Charcey C. Priester*

*Committal, Prayer & Benediction*

*Recessional*



## Reflections of Life



**Robert Lee (“Skeet”) Gooden** was the fifth child of ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Nathan and Marie Gooden. He was born July 3, 1932, and transitioned on Friday, February 3, 2023, at his home.

Robert Lee was employed at Leon’s Bakery in Brooklyn, New York for many years, and loved cooking and baking. He enjoyed hanging out with his special friend, Mrs. Hattie Glover. Robert loved to garden and would share his veggies with family and friends. Robert Lee was a member of St. Paul Baptist Church, where he remained faithful until his death.

Robert Lee was preceded in death by twin sons: Dwayne and Darnell Gooden; his brothers: James, Clarence, and David Lee Gooden; sisters: Queen E. Brown , Minnie Lou Rosenborough, Annie Bell Aiken, and Rose Lee Mack.

He leaves a legacy of love to be cherished and continued through his family: daughters: Sylvia Jackson and Tara Gooden of Brooklyn, New York; sons: Robert Anthony Gooden of Brooklyn, NY; Robert Carl Gooden of Manhattan, NY and Jerry Moody (Latashia) of Orangeburg, SC; grandchildren: Ryan J. Lowe, Shayla N. Brown, Sonia Cyril of Brooklyn, New York; Nath’aszia Gooden, T’ Asia Boyer, Ishmil Harmon, Kendo Gooden, Natalie Gooden, Derrick Gooden, Jaberie Hughes of Augusta, GA, Jerkbie Moody of Orangeburg, SC. and Fatima Wilson of Brooklyn, NY; great- grandchildren: Raylen A. Lowe, Ryleigh, Noel Love, Jeremiah C. Jackson, Zaria Gooden, Devin Cyril of Brooklyn, New York and Kayleigh Hughes and Jabarie Hughes Jr. of Savannah, Georgia; sisters: Helen Bonaparte (Cullie) and Edith Mack both of Orangeburg, SC; brother-in-law, Johnny James Brown of Orangeburg, SC; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family members and friends to cherish his memories.