

HONORARY ESCORT

STEWARDS, STEWARDESSES, TRUSTEES,
HINES MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TROOPERS
GEORGIA STATE PATROL

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

WALTER SPURLIN
RICARDO BARBARY
CHUCKIE LIZZMORE
JAMES HARDY

DAVID SMALL
ROBERT PONDER
JULIUS BENTON
DALE MCCLUSTER

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

You have all been so special to us during this time, but more importantly, you have each played such an important role in daddy's life. Your love and respect for him is and has been obvious, and we know that he really cared for each of you. Please accept our inadequate but sincere words of appreciation for the love and support which all of you have given and continue to give to us. You are special people. You made his life special, and you make our lives special.

Please join us for dinner and fellowship at the Family Life Center next door following the service of committal.

The peace of the Lord be with each of you!!!

THE BENTON FAMILY

A MEADOWS OF ALBANY SERVICE

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
TO THE GLORY AND HONOR OF GOD

IN MEMORY OF
MR. THEOTIS BENTON



FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2008
11.00 A.M.

HINES MEMORIAL
CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE REVEREND KENNETH D. McMILLIAN, PASTOR
THE REVEREND CARLTON MAHONE, PRESIDING ELDER
BISHOP OTHAL H. LAKEY, PRESIDING PRELATE



A TIME TO LAUGH...

Theotis always had a smile on his face and was a very generous man. The fulfillment and joys of his life were the cherished times he spent with his family and close friends. He enjoyed playing cards, fishing, gardening, carpentry and painting.

A TIME TO DIE...

Theotis completed his purpose under the heaven and was called home by God on Friday, July 18, 2008. He was preceded in death by one sister, Ruby Porter, and three brothers: Clifford, Albert, and Charlie Benton, Jr.

A TIME OF PEACE...

The legacy of his season is left to his faithful and loving wife, Vivian Roberts Benton, his son Darryl, Sr., a daughter by marriage, Marilyn, and two grand children, Darryl, Jr. and Mariah. He also leaves his legacy with eight siblings: Lillian Fowler (The Reverend Edward J. Fowler, Jr.) of Albany, M.C. Benton (Gladys), Mildred Hardy, and Donnie Lizzmore of Jacksonville, FL, Carlton Benton (Maggie) of Memphis, Minnal Wingate (Barney) of Hartsville, SC, Silas Benton (Mary) of Ladson, SC, and Dorothy James of Shellman, GA. Sisters and brothers-in-law include: Mae Thelma Benton, Ray Lee Roberts, Joe Felix and Annie Louise Roberts, Tommie L. and Sylvia Roberts, Robert B. and Gloria Roberts, Ober Genia R. Brown, Willard and Charlotte Roberts, David Roberts, Geneva Green, Ruby Roberts, Willie James and Gloria Roberts, and Don and Dee Dee Roberts, and one Aunt Daisy Tucker.

MEMORIES are a way of holding on to the things you love and treasure: hugs, laughter, sharing moments, love, caring, smiles. Keep fond memories in your heart, for they will last a lifetime.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE AND THANK GOD
FOR THE LIFE OF THEOTIS BENTON

THE PRELUDE MR. ERSKINE WEAVER, ORGAN
 THE SOUNDING OF THE HOUR
 THE PROCESSIONAL *"LARGO"* FROM XERXES
 THE HYMN OF COMFORT 340 *"WHAT A FRIEND"* SCRIVEN
 THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH; AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON OUR LORD; WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD, AND BURIED; THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD; HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND SITTETH AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD. I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT; THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.

THE INVOCATION
 THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE ECCLESIASTES 3.1-10
 THE GLORIA PATRI MIENEKE
 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY GHOST; AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN. AMEN.
 THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE JOHN 3.16-17
 THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC *"SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT"* TRADITIONAL

WE SURRENDER THE LIFE OF THEOTIS BENTON
TO GOD AND HIS ETERNITY

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC *"ONE DAY AT A TIME"* LANE
MRS. ANNIE ADAMS, SOPRANO
 THE EULOGY
 THE RECESSIONAL *"GOING HOME"* DVORAK



I AM STANDING UPON THE SEASHORE. A SHIP AT MY SIDE SPREADS HER WHITE SAILS TO THE MORNING BREEZE AND STARTS FOR THE BLUE OCEAN. SHE IS AN OBJECT OF BEAUTY AND STRENGTH. I STAND AND WATCH HER UNTIL AT LENGTH SHE HANGS LIKE A SPECK OF WHITE CLOUD JUST WHERE THE SEA AND SKY COME TO MINGLE WITH EACH OTHER.

THEN, SOMEONE AT MY SIDE SAYS: "THERE, SHE IS GONE!" "GONE WHERE?" GONE FROM MY SIGHT! THAT IS ALL. SHE IS JUST AS LARGE IN MAST AND HULL AND SPAR AS SHE WAS WHEN SHE LEFT MY SIDE, AND SHE IS JUST AS ABLE TO BEAR HER LOAD OF LIVING FREIGHT TO HER DESTINED PORT.

HER DIMINISHED SIZE IS IN ME, NOT IN HER, AND JUST AT THE MOMENT WHEN SOMEONE AT MY SIDE SAYS "THERE, SHE IS GONE," THERE ARE OTHER EYES WATCHING HER COMING, AND OTHER VOICES READY TO TAKE UP THE GLAD SHOUT: "HERE SHE COMES!" AND THAT IS DYING.

HENRY VAN DYKE



TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND TIME TO EVERY PURPOSE UNDER THE HEAVEN.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

A TIME TO BE BORN...

Theotis Benton was born to the late Charlie and Pearl Benton in Shellman, Georgia on April 14, 1930.

A TIME TO PLANT...

The seeds of his life were planted in Shellman, Georgia where he grew up and accepted Christ at an early age. He joined the Union Baptist Church, and after moving to Albany, he joined the Hines Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church where he served as a dedicated Sunday school teacher.

A TIME TO BUILD UP...

Theotis attended Shellman Vocational High School in Shellman, Georgia and obtained his high school diploma from Monroe High School in 1959. Serving two years in the United States Army and in the Korean Conflict, he retired from the Marine Logistics Base after 34 years of loyal and faithful service.

A TIME TO LOVE...

For as much as Theotis Benton was in agreement with the words of God: "it is not good that the man should be alone," he chose Vivian Roberts Benton as his "helpmate," and they became one flesh. To this union, one son was born.

