



## James Randolph Dickens

July 17, 1932 - February 19, 2016

James Randolph Dickens was born July 17, 1932, the eldest of eighteen children born to the late Samuel Dickens, Sr. and Eunice Johnson in Tarboro, North Carolina. He departed this life on Friday , February 19, 2016 at his home in Washington, DC surrounded by his loving family.

James received his primary and secondary education in the Public Schools System in Tarboro, North Carolina. He had an extensive work history as a stone mason.

James proudly served in the Korean War as a Combat Engineer in addition to being a Boxer in United State Special Service. While serving in Korea, James didn't forget about his brothers and sisters who worked as sharecroppers (along with his father) on the farms in Tarboro, North Carolina. He continued to send home money he earned as a Combat Engineer. These monies helped buy clothes, shoes, and food for our family during the 1950's (when trying to make a living on the farms was extremely difficult). More often than not, our father would be told by the overseer (after working all year) " you broke even again Mr. sam"!!!

Following his active duty service he devoted his life to family, and followed the teachings of Jesus Christ. James was a parishioner for many years at the Isle of Patmos Baptist Church in Washington, DC and more recently a member of Corinth Baptist Church.

James leaves to mourn his loving and devoted wife of 60 Years, Bessie Dickens of Washington, DC and his sons James Covington Dickens of Mount Rainier, MD, Billy Reginald Dickens (Jennie) of University Place, WA and George Wayne Dickens of Washington, DC. James had four wonderful grandchildren; Lynette Russell, Christian Dickens (Cadet at West Point Military Academy), Nia Dickens and Joshua Dickens, two awesome great grandchildren; Bryson Russell and Bryn Russell, eight brothers; Willis Dickens of Washington, DC, Clarence Dickens (Joan) of Stroudsburg, PA, Milton Dickens of Washington, DC, Rev. Roosevelt Dickens (Maggie) of Washington, DC Clemon Dickens (Annie) of Landover, MD, Rev. Almond Dickens, Sr. (Hattie) fo Gaithersburg, MD, Melvin Dickens of Washington, DC, Ronald Dickens (Joyce) of Washington, DC, five sisters: Brenda Dickens Ross (Floyd) of Columbus, OH, Peggy Dickens King (Robert Sr.) of Upper Marlboro, MD, Sandra Dickens of Washington, DC, Linda Dickens Hall (Troy) of Pleasantville, NJ, Mary Dickens Johnson (Reginald) of Clinton, MD, Three brothers, Samuel Dickens Jr., Leroy Dickens, Elijah Dickens and a sister Janice Dickens preceded James in death.

He will live forever in the hearts of many including a host of nieces, nephews, other cherished relatives and close friends. He was an amazing husband, father, brother, mentor, friend and hero to many and while we deeply mourn our great loss, we also celebrate his life.

Viewing will be held Saturday, February 27, 2016 at 10:00\_ 11:00 am immediately followed by funeral services at 11:00 am both at Corinth Baptist

Church 814 Cypress tree Dr. Capitol Heights, MD with burial services proceeding at George Washington Cemetery, 9500 Riggs Rd. Adelphi, MD. In addition to or in Lieu of flowers we ask that you please consider making a donation in James's honor to the following: Veterans of Foreign Wars [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) or the James R. & Bessie L. Dickens Scholarship Fund, Corinth Baptist Church, 814 Cypress tree Dr. Capitol Heights, MD 20743. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home, 716 Kennedy St. NW, Washington, DC 20011 [www.johnsonandjenkinsfh.com](http://www.johnsonandjenkinsfh.com). (202) 882-8800.

# Cemetery Details

## George Washington Cemetery

9500 Riggs Rd  
Adelphi, MD 20783  
(301) 434-4640

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**FEB 27.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Corinth Baptist Church  
814 Cypresstree Dr  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743  
(301) 636-9443  
<http://www.corinthbaptistchurch-md.com>

## Service

**FEB 27.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Corinth Baptist Church  
814 Cypresstree Dr  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743  
(301) 636-9443  
<http://www.corinthbaptistchurch-md.com>