

*Celebrating the Life*  
*of*  
***Johnnie Belton***

**November 12, 1925 – September 26, 2021**



***Friday, October 8, 2021***

**Viewing: 10:00 a.m.**

**Service: 11:00 a.m.**

*From the Heart Church Ministries®*  
4949 Allentown Road  
Suitland, MD 20746  
Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor



# Obituary

Johnnie Belton was born on November 12, 1925, to Leroy Belton and Eliza Tucker Belton in Ridgeway, South Carolina. He was the oldest of six siblings: Irene Ganitt, Nettie Wright, Harry Belton, James Belton, and LeeEtta Parham. At 95 years old, he transitioned peacefully on September 26, 2021.

Johnnie was educated in the Ridgeway Public School System. At Old Grow School in Ridgeway is where he met his sweetheart and classmate, Glosell Moore. They married in December 1945, in Ridgeway, South Carolina. From this union two sons, Eddie Louis and Arthur James were born. Johnnie and Glosell later moved to Washington, D.C., and had two daughters, Doris Ann and Margaret.

In June 1945, Johnnie joined the United States Army and served in World War II (Europe); he received numerous awards and letters of appreciation. And in August 1946, he received an honorable discharge and became an employee at Walter Reed Army Hospital. He was a dedicated and hard worker, and received a Top Secret clearance. He was also selected to work as a cook for the VIP Ward and had the honor of preparing meals for presidents such as Dwight Eisenhower, and other dignitaries. Johnnie loved his job and received many awards and much recognition. He retired in June 1976, after 29 years of service.

Johnnie was baptized in August 1974, in Jesus' name, received the gift of the Holy Ghost and joined the Bible Way Church in Washington, D.C. Over the years, he worked in many capacities in the church—New Members Club, chorus, kitchen duty, and the Junior Deacon Board. And in 1981, he was ordained as Senior Deacon in Columbus, Ohio.

Johnnie was a self-taught handyman and loved working with his hands. He had licenses in carpentry, engineering, auto mechanic, electrician, plumbing, chef, you name it—he could do it. He was requested to perform all necessary repairs around the church, and it was granted. He remained on the Deacon Board; and in March 2000, he accepted Chairmanship of the Deacon Board of Bible Way Church.

Johnnie used to drive anywhere and everywhere before being diagnosed with dementia; distance did not bother him. But when he felt he couldn't drive long distances, he would ask one of his daughters, Doris, to drive him. She had to remind him that he drove his children when they couldn't drive, now it was their turn to drive him. As time went on, Johnnie started getting lost or confused while driving around town. His doctor said he was showing signs of dementia and suggested he discontinue driving—which he did not like at all. Doris assured him that it was okay and she would take him any place he wanted to go. When he could not get a ride to his church, Doris would sometimes take him. Oftentimes he would ask her if he could attend church with her. To that end, he joined From the Heart Church Ministries in 2020. Surprisingly enough he really enjoyed it. As Doris would drop him off at the front door of the church, he said he liked how the doorkeepers would come to assist him into the sanctuary, whether he was using his walker or they would bring him a wheelchair. Everyone was always so loving and considerate. He said he even enjoyed the messages. He really appreciated it and wanted to come every Sunday. He especially liked how everyone would hug someone after service and tell them they loved them. He thought that was very important to people who never got hugs. So, of course, Doris picked him up, along with his aide, and together they would attend church whenever he wanted to go.



Since Doris knew he enjoyed traveling, and with the assistance of his dedicated aides Rebecca Mawulakpor and Matilda Kumazah, she would take him out of town in her Recreational Vehicle (RV). He loved traveling so much she would take him to visit friends and families, family reunions, or just going to RV parks. He loved hitting the road and riding shotgun. Oftentimes, he didn't even care where they were going. Sometimes they would break from the RV travel and just drive to a timeshare for a more relaxing break which he enjoyed. If she didn't take him out of town for a while he would ask "When are we going on your bus again?" So sometimes she would just pick him up and ride him around the Beltway—that would usually pacify him for a while. She wanted him to enjoy his latter years as much as possible.

Whether you knew Johnnie as "Dad," "Daddy," "Boy," "Uncle Boy," "Uncle Johnnie," "Deacon, or Mr. Belton," he touched everyone he met in some way or another. Although everyone had fond memories of him, his goal was to share his gifted wisdom with everyone he met. He wanted to make a difference in all lives and leave a legacy in the Earth; and he truly did. Everyone can all look back at something he said, did, showed, taught, built, or made. He had natural born wisdom that would allow him to see what you couldn't. God truly blessed him, and he shared that wonderful gift with everyone. Johnnie will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Johnnie leaves to cherish his memories his sister, LeeEtta Parham; children: Eddie (Brenda), Arthur, Doris (Jerry), and Margaret; grandchildren: Anthony, Michael, Noelle, Pamela, Angela and Johnnie; great-grandchildren: Angelique, Sade, Victoria, Octavia, Jourdan, Christopher, Jarrett and D'Angelo; great-great-grandchildren, Kevin and David; a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and other loving relatives, along with his church family, Bible Way Church, neighbors and friends.

Johnnie was preceded in death by his parents, Leroy Belton and Eliza Tucker Belton; his siblings: Irene Gantt, Nettie Wright, Harry Belton, and James Belton.





# Order of Service

**Invocation**

**Scripture Reading**

Old Testament: *Psalms 31:1-5*

New Testament: *John 15:1-6*

**Prayer of Comfort**

**Selection** ..... *FTH Psalmist*

**Acknowledgements**

*Doris Belton-Harrison, Daughter  
Arthur Belton, Son  
Eddie Belton, Son*

**Obituary** (*Read Silently*)

**Song of Preparation** ..... *FTH Psalmist*

**Message of Hope** ..... *Minister James Johnson, II*

**Call to Christ**

**Recessional**

**Interment**

*Fort Lincoln Cemetery  
3401 Bladensburg Road  
Brentwood, Maryland 20722*



# *"I'm Free"*

*Anonymous*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me;  
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, or play;  
Tasks left undone must stay that way.  
I found that place at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembering joy,  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;  
Ah, 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've 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 heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now--He set me free.*











## **PALLBEARERS**

Anthony Belton  
Michael Belton  
Wynard Belton  
Jay Pope  
Warren Parham  
Winston Parham

## **FLOWER BEARERS**

*Family and Friends*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*Perhaps you sang a touching song  
Or came and sat quietly in a chair,  
Perhaps you sent lovely flowers  
If so, we saw them there.*

*Perhaps you sent or spoke comforting words  
Or simply helped us pray,  
Perhaps you were not there at all  
But just thought of us this Day.*

*Perhaps you prepared some tasty food  
Or maybe furnished a car,  
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen  
Right here or from afar.*

*Whatever you did to console our hearts,  
We thank you sincerely whatever your part.*

*Eddie, Arthur, Doris and Margaret*

*Special thanks and gratitude to Rebecca Mawulakpor, Matilda Kumazah and Rosemary Johnson for their unwavering devotion, dedication and commitment for caring for our father for these last few years to the very end.*

**Services Entrusted To:**  
Horton Funeral Home  
600 Kennedy St NW,  
Washington, DC 20011