



## Burnie Battle

June 7, 1936 - June 25, 2021

Burnie Battle, Sr, age 85, died peacefully after a long illness, surrounded by family and loved ones, on June 25, 2021. He was a resident of Roseville, MN, since 1968.

Born on June 7, 1936, in Money, Mississippi, Burnie was the 11th of 13 children of Nathan and Bessie Battle.

Burnie was a veteran of the United States Army. Burnie was a self-made entrepreneur and active electrical contractor for over 44 years. Later in life, he felt a call to ministry, becoming an ordained minister.

On June 25, 2021, our beloved Burnie took his last breath on earth, ascending to his eternal home in heaven, as he was surrounded by family. He was preceded in death by his parents and 10 of his siblings.

Burnie leaves his loving wife of 64 years, Bessie, where together they had and raised seven children; Burnie, Jr, Walter (Gloria), Robert (Theresa), Roxane, Nathaniel (Michelle), Damien, and Daniel. In addition to his wife and children, Burnie is survived by eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; siblings Louella Pittman, Bishop Robert Battle (Wilma), sister-in-laws Dr. Willa Grant Battle, Mrs. Patricia Reed, Mrs. Dorothy Jean Simmons, Mrs. Gladys Wright (Rodney); and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, church family, and

friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Hillside Cemetery

2900 19th Ave. NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 9. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Temple Ministries  
1908 S 4th Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

## Funeral Service

JUL 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Grace Temple Ministries  
1908 S 4th Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

# Tribute Wall



“ I married "Uncle Burnie's" nephew Jesse Buckner. At our first meeting with him & his beautiful wife, "Aunt Bessie," Uncle B told me "Do it, even when you're angry. It'll keep you together." Both mine & Aunt Bessie's mouth flew open in astonishment. I didn't know what to say, so I laughed! But the sincerity with which Uncle B spoke, stays with me. That was five years ago. Since that time, I came to learn fully what Uncle Burnie said. "Do it, even when you're angry...keep you together," means-- cook the meals, do the laundry, clean the home, be intimate, go places together, hold hands, embrace each other, talk, smile, laugh, look into each other's eyes, support each other, make decisions, stand together, pray, sing, worship together, even when you're angry. Uncle B thank you so much...it is keeping us together.

Uncle B was so encouraging to me when he would say, "I'll help you keep this boy in check. He's wild but you got 'em!" He always made me laugh.

When he heard me speak during our Women's Jurisdictional Conference, he said, "Wow, that was so short but you packed a lot into it. How did you get so deep and insightful in five minutes of speaking?" I answered I asked God what to say. He looked stunned. Then he looked to my husband and said, "She's a keeper."

Uncle B saw me once after I had packed on a few more pounds, and he said, "I almost didn't recognize you; you got so chunky." Coming from anyone else, I might have been insulted, but I had come to know Uncle B as a 'straight-shooter.' And he wasn't lying! So I laughed and said, thank you for noticing.

He looked at my husband and said, "Whatever you're feeding her stop! She's too pretty to be fat." Then he turned back to me and said, "Just because he's giving it to you doesn't mean you have to eat it!"

Uncle Burnie was wall-to-wall wisdom, love, compassion, honesty, humor, kindness and seasoned with grace. He always had a quick wink and enthusiasm. I thank God for the few but impactful encounters He blessed me with in Uncle Burnie. My last encounter with Uncle Burnie was pre-covid 2019, at the VA hospital when we both had multiple appointments that day. Cousin Walter, his son,

*stopped so Jesse & I could chat with Uncle B. He grabbed my hand with his larger-than-life sized palms and told me I was pretty. He said "I don't know if I've met you before, but it's so good to meet you now." I told him I remember you and all the good lessons you taught me about being a better wife. He smiled and said, "I did?" I answered, Yes sir!*

*He looked at Jesse, and asked, "Is it working?" We all shared a good laugh. Today, I chuckled again.*

*Uncle B, forever kind, insightful, full of wisdom and caring for others. I loved you then. I love you now. Thank God for your life.*

*Your Niece-in-Love, Benita Buckner*

---

**MrsBenita Buckner** - July 10, 2021 at 01:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Burnie Battle.*



---

July 08, 2021 at 11:06 AM



“ *ISD 191 Board of Education & Leadership Team purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Burnie Battle.*



---

**ISD 191 Board of Education & Leadership Team** - July 07, 2021 at 02:09 PM