



Dear Melvin,

Words cannot express the pain and sorrow that I am feeling right now. You know how much I love you and how much you will be missed but you can rest assured knowing that O'Neal, Brodrick, and myself will be strong, take care of each other, and make you proud!

You have fantastic sons who as young men will go on to have wonderful careers and families and make a difference in this world just as their father did.

All the wonderful memories with you are etched in our hearts where we can draw strength from them when we are feeling weak. You will never be forgotten but always loved!

Say hello to Jerrell for me, he can introduce you to my parents as you will introduce your parents to me when we met again! Rest now, much love, my loving husband!
Always and Forever,

Beverly

Rifle Detail

Sgt. Silva
Cpl. Classer

Sgt. Martinez
LCpl. Gengler
PFC. Sanchez

LCpl. Heredia
LCpl. McGuyer



Excellence in Service:

FD1746

Preferred Cremation and Burial

6529 University Avenue, San Diego, CA 92115 (619) 584-7000

Offer your condolences online: www.PreferredPassages.com/obituaries

In Loving Memory...

SGT. MAJOR MELVIN CHESTNUT



SUNRISE:
MAY 25, 1960

SUNSET:
FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Service



Thursday, March 5, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

New Creation Church

Pastor: Rev. Reginald L. Gary

3115 Altadena Ave., San Diego, CA 92105

Remembering...

MELVIN O'NEAL CHESTNUT

Melvin O'Neal Chestnut was born on May 25, 1960 in Sumter, South Carolina. He was the eighth of ten children born to Mable and Joseph Chestnut, Sr. Melvin attended Sumter public schools graduating from Maywood High School in 1978. He also enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on June 16th of that same year, attending recruit training at Paris Island South Carolina where he proved to be a unique individual with amazing commitment and focus. Melvin earned several medals for his service including the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, and ten Good Conduct Medals. He officially retired as Sergeant Major on June 30, 2008 from the United States Marine Corps with thirty years of honorable service to God, Country, Corps and Family.

While serving a tour in San Diego, California he came to the rescue of a young lady in distress. He met the woman he would fall in love with, later marry, and spend his life with. Melvin loved her big pretty eyes and Beverly loved his big captivating smile. After dating and getting to know each other, he married Beverly Freeman in a beautiful religious ceremony at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, surrounded by family and friends.

Melvin became an active member of the New Creation Church serving God in various ministries of his church including Usher, Armor Bearer, and Men Ministry (Brotherhood). As a member of the Montford Point Marine Association Inc. Chapter #12 of San Diego, he performed many speaking engagements on their behalf. He was a member of the Marine Corps League San Diego Bulldog Detachment #835 and The Drill Instructor Association.

His strong love for family and friends was reflected in the role he played in the lives of his nieces and nephews. Uncle Bo/Uncle Melvin, as he was affectionately known, was a mentor, choreographer, advisor, counselor, friend, role model and an inspiration to follow in his military career footsteps. Friendship took on a new meaning if you were fortunate enough to have Melvin (NUT) as a friend. His friendship was unconditional. Melvin enjoyed his yearly travel to Sumter for Family and Class reunions. He was known for his Memorial Day cookout everyone was welcome; family, neighbors, co-workers, old and new friends. If you came as a guest you left as a friend of the Chestnut family.

Preceding Melvin in life's departure are his parents Mable and Joseph Chestnut, Sr. He leaves to cherish his memory; his loving and devoted wife Beverly and two exceptional sons, Melvin II and Brodrick; nine siblings and their spouses; sisters Mildred, Helen, Mary, Rebecca, Thomasena, and Dalphine, brothers Joseph, Jr., Walter, and Alfonso; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, love ones, caring in-laws, classmates and friends.