

# Legacy of Life

*“Let not your heart be troubled: Ye believe in God, believe also in me”.*

*John 4:1*

Samuel Franklin Berksteiner was born Monday, August 17, 1925 one of three children to Samuel Franklin Berksteiner, Sr. and Julia Jenkins Berksteiner in Sandfly, GA. His spirit departed this earthly realm Sunday evening November 6, 2015 at St. Joseph's/ Candler Hospital.

Samuel was a native of Savannah (Sandfly) Community and educated in the public schools of Chatham County. He was a graduate of Haven Home School Class of 1950. He received a certificate in radio and television repair from Georgia State College (Savannah State University), on December 18, 1943. Samuel enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and on January 3, 1943 he began actively serving as one of the Original Montford Point Marines; the first African-American Marines that served during WWII and trained at the segregated Training Facility-Camp Montford Point- near Camp Lejeune, NC. He received The Congressional Gold Medal at the Marine Barracks in Washington, DC on June 28, 2012.

After returning to civilian life, Samuel married Mabel Wright on the 28th day of July 1951 from this union they were blessed with six children.

Samuel had a meaningful career as a warehouse manager for Rosen Brother, M&M and Kroger's. He joined Speedwell Methodist Church (Speedwell United Methodist Church) where he was a Christian Gentleman and an active Steward, he served as Church Treasurer, Sunday School Teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, and a Member of the Male Chorus.

Samuel was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Mable Wright Berksteiner. His legacy includes, his sons, Samuel “Chippy” L. Berksteiner of Augusta, GA, Calvin “Denny” D. Berksteiner, Joseph “Joey” T. Berksteiner, Daniel “Danny” Berksteiner all of Savannah, GA, his daughters, Minere (Al) A. Wilson of Savannah, GA, and Julie (Sam) Pearson of Augusta, GA, his devoted sister, Carrie Berksteiner of Brooklyn, NY, 16 grandchildren, Calvin, Paul, Tayon, Brandon, William, Jeremy, Jenerria, Jenard, Jawaun, Crystal, Courtney, Trenace, Josette, Amber, Ambria, and Emanuel, five great grandchildren, Malaeya, Jeremiah, Jirnae, Trent, and Josiah, a caregiver, his niece, Edna Wright Brown, like a adopted son, Modou Ndow, a host of special nieces, nephews, close cousins, and friends.