

**In Loving Memory  
of  
Mr. Sylvester Hood, Sr.**



November 29, 1918 - February 21, 2003

Saturday, March 1, 2003

11:00 a.m.

Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church

3998 Pleasant Hill Road

Meridian, Mississippi 39301

Rev. Tony M. Campbell, Pastor

## PROGRAM

### Processional

Selection.....Glory to His Name.....Choir

Scripture.....Old Testament.....Rev. Timothy Graham

.....New Testament.....Rev. O . J. Holt

Prayer.....Rev. Mozell Young

Selection .....I'll Fly Away.....Choir

A tribute...My Friend "Sylvester".....Bro. Edwinna Wilson

Tributes....(2 minutes ).....Church Members & Friends

A tribute to my Grandfather.....Bro. James White

A tribute to our Father.....Sis. Minnie Reese

Bro. Ivery Hood

Solo tribute....Wind Beneath My Wings.....Sis. Peggy Lofton

Words of Consolements.....Pastor Tony Campbell

Acknowledgment of Condolences.....Sis. Clara Newell

Obituary.....(soft music).....Read Silently

Solo.....(Walk Around Heaven).....Sis. Jackie Burns

Eulogy.....Rev. Willie C. Hood

Berry & Gardner Funeral Directors in charge

Recessional

## *An Icon to His Community*

My name is Sylvester Hood Sr. born November 29th 1918. I was a productive citizen in the Pleasant Hill Community for nearly eight and a half decades. I have helped many people, and many people have helped me over the years. Many of you are here today and I thank you for honoring me this way. I have supported you the best that I could over the years through the goods and services my family and I provided you. As I looked back over my life I have done many things but one thing I am most proud of is the time I spent servicing this great nation of ours as a United States Marine. I was in the second battalion of Negroes ever accepted into the Marine Corps during World War II. I was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine division in Camp Lejeune North Carolina. We trained at Montford Point, North Carolina and mobilized to Saipan, Japan where I worked the ammunition dumps and the mess decks of Hawaii. I even guarded Japanese prisoners after America bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I attained the rank of Corporal. After I finished my service in the Marine Corps from December 27, 1943 to March 9, 1946. I came back home and worked beside you in the job markets of Meridian and St. Louis but I never lost my passion and desire to work Mama and Papa's farm. After awhile I stopped working on public jobs and started farming full time producing livestock, cotton, and fresh vegetables while raising eleven children; three including Jewel preceded me in death. Jewel and I always tried to teach our children right from wrong. You may also remember when I worked in the church as Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, served on the Board of Trustees, Boy Scout Master and Graveyard Coordinator. I was a devoted Husband, Father, and Icon of the Community. As a scoutmaster I valued having the ability to train and develop the young boys of our community and watch them grow up to become men. I required my scouts to learn the Boy Scout Oath. I also taught the Oath to my sons. I can hear those kids now:

### SCOUT OATH

*On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the scout law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.*



*Boy Scout Master*



*Always Faithful*



## Obituary

Brother Sylvester Hood Sr. was born November 29, 1918 in Meridian, Mississippi to the late James Clifton Hood and Armetta Hood. He departed this life Friday, February 21, 2003 at Jeff Anderson Memorial Hospital.

He accepted Christ at an early age and became a member of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Meridian, where he worked as a faithful member until his illness. He was united in holy matrimony on April 13, 1940 to Jewel A. Bonner Hood. She has preceded him in death.

Sylvester leaves to cherish his memories four sons; Sylvester Hood Jr, James Douglas Hood, Charlie Frank Hood all of Meridian and Ivery (wife Yolanda) Hood of Vacaville, CA. Five daughters Shirley Faye White, Armetta Hood, and Mae Jewel (husband Neal) Boyd all of Meridian, MS; Minnie Pearl (husband Ronald) Reese of Broadview, IL., Peggy (husband Paul Kenneth) Lofton of Lancaster, CA; two sister-in-laws; Mary M. Hood of Meridian, MS; Bernice Bonner of Sandusky, OH; one brother-in-law, James Capers of Russell, MS; 21 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by two sons Andrew William Hood and Arthur Milton Hood, one infant daughter Celia Mae Hood; one brother Clifford Hood, one brother-in-law Edgar Bonner; and one sister-in-law Hazel Whitfield.

## *Honorary Pallbearers*

*Sylvester Hood, Jr.  
Charlie Frank Hood  
Marcus Allen Hood  
Arthur (Mil) Hood, II*

*James Douglas Hood  
Ivery Hood  
Ronald L. Reese  
James Noel White*

## *Active Pallbearers*

*Robert J. Newell, Sr.  
Bobby F. Johnson  
Tommy Gathright  
Rev. O.J. Holt*

*Dennis M. Patterson  
George Wilson  
Timothy Wilson  
Isaac King*

## *Flower Bearers*

*Pleasant Hill Mission Ministry*



## *Interment*

*Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church Cemetary*

## *Acknowledgment*

*The family expresses appreciation for your prayers, thoughts, deeds, and support during this, our deepest hour. May his legacy remain in your thoughts and his good works appreciated for years to come. May God continue to bless each of you.*

*The Family*

## *Rites Entrusted to:*

*Berry & Gardner Funeral Home  
Meridian, Mississippi*

Daddy lived his life according to this Oath combined with the Marine Corps core values; Honor, Courage, and commitment. He trusted in God and served his country. He obeyed the law and always helped other people. He honored his body by keeping it strong. He read stories to his family keeping himself mentally awake and he was a man of integrity this kept him morally straight.

Three of his sons also joined the military and between us and daddy we covered all four branches of the armed forces. Sylvester Jr. served two tours in the Air Force during the Vietnam War, Charlie served seven years in the Army, and I retired after servicing twelve-one years in the Navy.

When we're under pressure and unsure of the out come, we always need something to inspire us and give us hope. The Boy Scout Oath is something that is pure and Godly. We should all be encouraged to learn this simply Oath and live our life according to its words;

Duty to God and Country, be physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight!

## **A Father Figure What is a father figure?**

A father figure is someone who leaves a lasting impression on a child. A father figure is to a young boy one of the most important figures in his life. Today we do not have enough positive father figures raising the children in our country. Some kids don't even have a father figure at home. There was a time in my life when I was really put to the test. I didn't know if I was going to see a high school and graduating from one was just a Dream. I was able to slow down and get my act together because of the things my grandfather showed me. This world that we live in is 350% more than what we see on T.V. so we have to start being positive father figures for our children. No one else is going to do it. If you go by the statistic I was not suppose to see the age of 18, why? Because I was a young black male under extreme circumstances. Thanks to God and my Grandfather I made it 10 years past the statistic. I know anything can happen today or tomorrow, but I am happy that I have made it this far.

So with these words I will be ending my tribute to my grandfather Sylvester Hood Sr., my father figure, and I would like to thank You for listening.

# Mr. Sylvester Hood, Sr. Military Service 1943-1946



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## God Bless the U.S.A.

*If tomorrow all the things were gone  
I'd worked for all my life  
And I had to start again  
With just my children and my wife  
I'd thank my lucky stars  
To be livin' here today  
'Cause the flag still stands for freedom  
And they can't take that away*

*And I'm proud to be an American  
Where at least I know I'm free  
And I won't forget the men who died  
who gave that right to me  
And I'd gladly stand up next to you  
And defend her still today  
'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land  
God bless the U.S.A.*

*And I'm proud to be an American  
Where at least I know I'm free  
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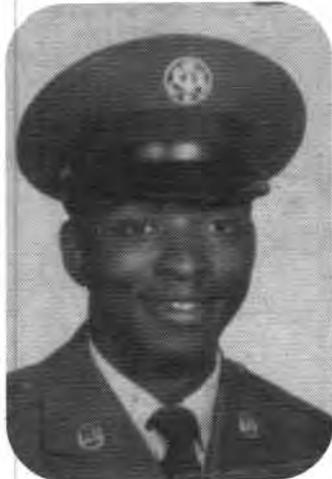
*From the lakes of Minnesota  
To the hills of Tennessee  
Across the plains of Texas  
From sea to shining sea  
From Detroit down to Houston and New York to L.A.  
Well, there's pride in every American heart  
And it's time we stand and say*

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## The legacy of patriotism



**Daddy**



**Sylvester Jr.**



**Charlie**



**Ivery**

