

WORDS TO OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS...

WAYNE COLE...a kind and loving and tender, yet strong (stalwart) gentleman who came into my life 23 years ago...loved me deeply and unconditionally and sought ways and words to demonstrate his devotion to me! From first meeting him, I found him to be most honorable, trustworthy, dependable...a true Southern gentleman!

My prayer...may our sons and grandsons love their wives as he loved me, and may our daughters and granddaughters be so loved and cherished as was I by my dear husband!

Yes, my heart is broken because we are for the present temporarily separated one from the other, but my faith is strong...

- In my Heavenly Father, in His Word and His promises to His children,
- In my Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work on Calvary,
- In His forgiveness, His Love, His Grace, His Mercy,
- In His promise never to leave me or forsake me,
- In His promise to return for the Church, His Bride, His Beloved,
- In His Indwelling Holy Spirit who sustains me moment by moment and will be with me and in me forever!

Because of Christ, I am strong! Because of Wayne, I am fulfilled!

Though my heart is broken, though many tears have fallen and more will follow, though there's an absence of Wayne's physical presence in our home and lives, the prayer support and love of our family and all our many friends has helped me to walk in the strength and empowerment of the LORD. For this, I thank each of you!

2 Corinthians 12:9 "...My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

Memorial Service & Celebration Of A Life Well-Lived

DR. AVEAN WAYNE COLE

{In his own words..."one of them that can't help nobody!"}



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Music - Emmanuel Praise Team

Welcome and Obituary – Kenny Hodges, Pastor

Song – ‘*Amazing Grace / My Chains Are Gone*’ Medley

Scripture Reading and Prayer – Everett McKibben

Song – ‘*Break Every Chain*’

Words of Remembrance – Hilton (Butch) Simmons

Song – ‘*How Great Thou Art*’

Message of Grace – Kenny Hodges, Pastor

Song of Reflection and Meditation – ‘*I Can Only Imagine*’

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Pallbearers – Cole Grandsons

Wade Holeman – Jordan Brown – Aidon (AJ) Cole
Ethan Tucker – Reaves Tucker – Scott Branch

Honorary Pallbearers – Emmanuel Elders & Special Friend

Gerald McKibben – Everett McKibben – Garry Jones
Keith Jeffries – James Smith

Graveside – Memorial Garden Park – 9036 Oktoc Road
(...in Oktibbeha County at the corner of Oktoc and Artesia Roads)

MY MARINE....Wayne Cole...

He joined the Marine Corps as a young man. Upon enrollment at Itawamba Junior College following high school, he joined the Marine Reserves. Then having earned a junior college degree and believing he was going to be drafted, he enlisted with the US Marine Corps before furthering his education. After joining the Marine Corps, he made the decision to become a pilot. To do this, he had to be discharged from the Marine Corps and join the US Navy to enter Flight School. After completing Flight School and earning his wings, he returned to the US Marine Corps.

Wayne never talked much about his accomplishments, but I will; I believe he deserves being recognized and honored. I believe his grandchildren and great-grandchildren need to know the makeup of this man they call ‘Papaw.’ They need to know about and remember how this young country boy from Smithville, MS, could go from a small county high school and graduating from a MS junior college to become a US Marine Corps pilot, flying on and off carriers out in the ocean, flying strategic missions, and eventually to being selected to become a Marine One pilot stationed to White House detail during the Presidency of Dwight David Eisenhower.

After serving six years in the Marine Corps, he joined a Marine Reserve Unit while earning a Bachelor’s Degree from Mississippi State University. After MSU, he furthered his education, earning a double Ph.D. from Iowa State University. His first teaching position was with the University of Wisconsin before returning to Mississippi State University where he spent approximately 26 years as a teaching and research professor in Weed Science and Plant Pathology. Because the closest Marine Reserve unit was either Memphis or New Orleans, he joined the Army National Guard unit out of Tupelo, MS, and continued his military career while on staff at MSU until he had to retire (from flying) due to health issues. He continued his career with MSU until his retirement in 1995 shortly after our marriage on May 21, 1995.

For the past 22+ years, Wayne and I have purposed to live as Christ has called us in obedience to Him and to blend two families of children and grandchildren into one family, including a stepson and stepdaughter and their families. We've expressed many times to one another and to others how blessed we are to have become 'one in marriage' and 'Nana and Papaw to our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.'