



Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.

November 29, 1943 - May 8, 2025

Charles “Muscles” Edward Patterson, Sr., age 81, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, passed away peacefully on May 8, 2025, surrounded by love. He was a devoted husband, a proud father, a cherished grandfather, a treasured uncle, and a friend to many. To know Muscles was to feel welcomed, uplifted, and truly seen—his presence was a gift, and his laughter was unforgettable. Born November 29, 1943, Charles lived a full and meaningful life rooted in love, family, and purpose. He earned the nickname “Muscles” not just because of his physical strength, but because of the kind of man he was—strong in spirit, in loyalty, and in heart. He stood tall for the people he loved and never hesitated to offer a helping hand or a word of wisdom.

Charles proudly served in the United States Army, a time he often spoke of with honor. After his military service, he spent many years as a dedicated worker, retiring from Dupont, the City of Chattanooga, and Chattanooga State Community College. Even after retirement, he kept busy—always on the go, always engaged, always smiling.

Tennis was his favorite way to stay active and social. If you didn’t find him on the court, you could bet he was somewhere making people laugh, sharing stories, or just enjoying time with his lifelong circle of friends. His sense of humor, his energy, and his ability to make everyone feel like family made him truly one of a kind. One of his favorite sayings was, “Laugh more—it’s healthy

and good for the soul.” That was Muscles: joy in motion, always encouraging others to live a little lighter.

Charles was preceded in death by his father, Thomas Patterson; mother, Helen Bailey; brother, Harrison Patterson; sister, Doris Patterson; and nephews Larry and Jerry Patterson. Though gone, their memory remained close to his heart. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Sheila Patterson; sons, Derrick (Janetta) Patterson and Charles (Tammy) Patterson Jr., both of Chattanooga, and Keven (Leslie) Patterson, of Atlanta, GA; daughters, Avonne White, of Chattanooga, and Kalydra (Eric) Willis, of Huntsville, AL; stepdaughters, Nicole Smith and Nitrice Martin, both of Chattanooga; he was especially proud of his many grandchildren, each of whom he adored; sister, Pam, of Huntsville; his devoted nieces, Diane Black of Savannah, GA, and Sharon Thompson of Atlanta, held a special place in his heart as well; a host of other relatives and friends. Charles’s life was a testament of love, laughter, resilience, and kindness. He will be missed deeply, but his stories, his values, and his spirit will live on in the hearts of all who were lucky enough to know and love him.

Charles will lie-in-state on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will follow at 3:00 p.m. in the chapel with Pastor Vincent Dixon as Eulogist. Burial will be held on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

MAY 17. 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37411-1076

Funeral Service

MAY 17. 3:00 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37411-1076

Burial

MAY 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Chattanooga National Cemetery
1200 Bailey Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Tribute Wall

JW

“ Joann Whitlock lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Joann Whitlock - May 28, 2025 at 11:20 PM

KJ

“ Khendra Jordan lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Khendra Jordan - May 19, 2025 at 10:34 AM

HA

“ Man oh man...I saw Charles Edward Patterson earlier, the name didn't ring a bell. Coming back, seeing WHO Charles Edward is it's more than sad. Haven't seen him for some years, but "remember" MUSCLES well from back. in the day. I know some may have called him by his name, but "most" always called him MUSCLES. AGAIN "hate" to read such bad news...CONDOLENCES, PRAYERS out to the Patterson family... HOWARD "DUCK" AKINS, FAMILY



HOWARD AKINS - May 18, 2025 at 07:33 AM

TB

“ We’re so sorry for the loss of your loved one.



Tyrone and Selita Brumfield - May 17, 2025 at 02:13 PM

NR

“ My cousin Charles Edward always had a smile. My nickname was Nick the way he said it I always knew it was him if he called me out somewhere. As we got older I did not see Charles as often but I loved him and I know he loved me. I can hear him saying Nick. Going to miss that here on earth. But in my heart I hear him he will truly be missed. Sending love to the family. God be with you.



Niota L Robinson - May 17, 2025 at 12:40 PM

E?

“ Elder Willie & Alisia Brown 🙏 lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Elder Willie & Alisia Brown 🙏 - May 17, 2025 at 12:18 PM

E&

Elder Willie & Alisia Brown
Praying for you and your family. ❤️🙏

Elder Willie & Alisia Brown 💎💎💎💎 - May 17, 2025 at 12:19 PM

FK

“ *Faye Kellogg lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Faye Kellogg - May 16, 2025 at 08:11 PM

FK

Condolences to the family. Muscles will truly be missed but never forgotten 💔

Faye Kellogg - May 16, 2025 at 08:21 PM

SH

“ *Rest in peace(Muscle) I remember the days in Bushtown where we grew up. Mrs. Helen, Harrison(fats), Pookie and others. I remember them all.*

sherine - May 16, 2025 at 03:54 PM

SH

“ *Sherine lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



sherine - May 16, 2025 at 03:42 PM

PC

“ *Pastor Jeremiah Chester & St Mark Church purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr..*



Pastor Jeremiah Chester & St Mark Church - May 16, 2025 at 01:20 PM

SJ

“ *SANDRA E JORDAN lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



SANDRA E JORDAN - May 16, 2025 at 10:01 AM

JJ

“ *May God Bless the Family of Charles Patterson, Sr and Keep them 🙏
James Ford n Family send our heart felt Condolences*



James Ford Jr - May 16, 2025 at 04:54 AM

YS

“ *Yvonne Sanders lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Yvonne Sanders - May 15, 2025 at 10:26 PM

DN

“ *Muscles always showed love to me and my husband "DeAngelo" We will truly miss you!!!*



Diane Newson - May 15, 2025 at 09:09 PM

SK

“ *Sophie R King lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Sophie R King - May 15, 2025 at 06:34 PM

SK

My condolences to Charles Patterson and family

Sophie R King - May 15, 2025 at 06:35 PM

CL

“ *My sincerest condolences to the entire family of Charles (Muscles) Patterson. I had the please of working with Muscles at Chattanooga State Community College. A man who loved people, dedicated, full of laughter and would brighten the office when he entered with that contagious simile. He will truly be missed from his earthly walk. 'To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord,' RIH Charles.*

Cynthia Long

Cynthia Long - May 15, 2025 at 11:59 AM

AD

“ *Angela Deloach lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Angela Deloach - May 15, 2025 at 10:58 AM

RH

“ *Rufus Hicks purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr..*



Rufus Hicks - May 15, 2025 at 07:10 AM

FL

“ *My deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Charles Edward Patterson, Sr I thank god for the friendship that we shared he will be missed but not forgotten may god bless and keep you is my prayer. Felix and Cathy Loagan*

Felix Logan - May 14, 2025 at 05:25 PM

NR

“ *Nitrice R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr..*

Nitrice R. - May 14, 2025 at 03:22 PM

SS

“ *Stephanie Saxton lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Stephanie Saxton - May 14, 2025 at 10:20 AM

SS

Charles, our Heartfelf Condolences go out to you and your family. Our prayer is that God will comfort and strengthen you and your family in the passing of your father. Keep your hands in God's hands, because he is able to comfort and keep you and your family at this time and in the days to come.

Pastor & Mrs. Blevins B. Saxton III

Stephanie Saxton - May 14, 2025 at 10:38 AM

RB

My deepest condolences to the Patterson family I will keep your children in my prayers and God knows he called home an angel

Robbie Bailey - May 14, 2025 at 06:23 PM

MC

“ *Micheal And Cookie lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Micheal and Cookie - May 13, 2025 at 05:11 PM

MC

“ Micheal And Cookie lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Micheal and Cookie - May 13, 2025 at 05:08 PM

MC

“ Micheal And Cookie lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Micheal and Cookie - May 13, 2025 at 05:03 PM

FA

“ Charles, praying that the Lord will give you and your family strength and peace during this difficult time.



Frankie Anderson - May 13, 2025 at 04:41 PM

MB

“ Marilyn Brown lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Marilyn Brown - May 12, 2025 at 05:56 PM

VB

“ Vincinetta Brown lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Vincinetta Brown - May 12, 2025 at 09:54 AM

VB

Our deepest condolences go out to the Patterson family. Our prayer is that God will give you comfort and strength during this difficult time. Vincinetta Brown and family.

Vincinetta Brown - May 12, 2025 at 09:56 AM

AD

You have my deepest sympathy praying for you and the family. Know that you are surrounded by caring friends who are here for you. The DeLoach's

Angela Deloach - May 13, 2025 at 02:30 PM

HU

“ Hump lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Hump - May 12, 2025 at 12:50 AM

BS

“ Beverly Sales lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.



Beverly Sales - May 11, 2025 at 11:23 AM

KW

“ *Rest in Peace Daddy, I miss you so much all the phone calls you traveling to Huntsville. I remember the time you came AAMU homecoming game we had a good time. All the laughs and you dancing. I miss you so much but you are in a better place say hello to grandma and papa. God got you now rest on daddy love you so much.* ”



Kalydra Willis - May 11, 2025 at 05:05 AM

VH

“ *Vanessa Holloway lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.* ”



Vanessa Holloway - May 10, 2025 at 11:31 PM

AP

“ *May God shine a light on your path and shine on good memories.*
Reverend Ann Jones Pierre ”



Ann Pierre - May 10, 2025 at 09:50 AM

SB

“ *Deepest sympathy from Sandra Brown and Family.* 💜 ”



Sandra B - May 09, 2025 at 08:47 PM

TR

“ *Thpmas & Callie Ragland lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Thpmas & Callie Ragland - May 09, 2025 at 07:39 PM

EF

“ *Earl And Lori Freeman lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Earl and Lori Freeman - May 09, 2025 at 04:21 PM

RM

“ *Robbie And Barbara Marshall lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



Robbie and Barbara Marshall - May 09, 2025 at 03:14 PM

CW

“ *Carlethia D Watts lit a candle in memory of Charles Edward Patterson, Sr.*



carlethia d watts - May 09, 2025 at 11:54 AM