



## Melvin L. Owens

March 17, 1953 - October 23, 2023

Melvin L. Owens, 70, of Chattanooga, passed away Monday, October 23, 2023, at his residence. He was born March 17, 1953 in Chattanooga, Tennessee to Willie D. and Annie Sue Owens. Melvin gave his life to Christ at the age of 14 and was baptized at St. Ruth Primitive Baptist Church. Later, he moved his membership to St. Mary Primitive Baptist Church where he worshipped the Lord for 10 years. Then he moved his membership to Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church where he remained until his demise. Melvin was a 1971 graduate of Central High School. Shortly after graduation, he was employed by Wheland Foundry. Melvin enlisted in the Airforce to serve his country. He received an honorable discharge at the end of his service time. After returning home, Melvin was employed again by Wheland Foundry and also Tennessee Valley Authority. In 1989, Melvin purchased a cab and became owner of United Cab and Mercury Cab Companies. Melvin was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Richard Owens and Callie Davenport; maternal grandparents, Richard and Carrie Troupe; parents, Willie D. and Annie Sue Owens; sister, Dorothy Owens; brothers, Jessie Owens, Rickey Owens, and Nathaniel Wiley. Survivors include his children, Jessica (James) Belton of Atlanta, GA, Melvin T. Owens of Chattanooga, Demetrus (Anthony) Gladden, Detra (Antonio) Shackelford, Latisha (Antonio) Menifee, Ricky (Keisha) Coonrod, all of Chattanooga, Carlos Bell of Atlanta, GA, and Marcus (Fig) Moss of Chattanooga; a host of grandchildren; great-grandchildren; brothers, Joe (Mary) Troupe of Valdosta, GA, Vernard

(Johnnie) Owens, and Larry Wiley; sister, Linda (Robert) Hinton, all of Chattanooga; a host of nieces; nephews; cousins; other relatives and friends. Melvin will lie-in-state on Sunday, November 5, 2023, from 12:30-5:00 p.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will be Monday, November 6, 2023, at 12 noon at Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church with Minister Joe Troupe as the eulogist. Burial in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Chattanooga National Cemetery

1200 Bailey Ave  
Chattanooga, TN 37404

# Previous Events

## Lie-In-State

NOV 5. 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc  
3417 Wilcox Boulevard  
Chattanooga, TN 37411

## Service

NOV 6. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

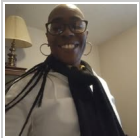
Greater Friendship Primitive Baptist Church  
1208 Glenwood Drive  
Chattanooga, TN 37406

# Tribute Wall

LR

“ I met Melvin when he came to school at Booker T Washington Elementary School we became best friends the first day and remained friends for the next 60 years. We went through a lot crazy stuff together but I always knew we had each other back he was my ride-or-die partner . I'll miss you, brother.

Larry Ramsey - November 06, 2023 at 09:56 AM



“ Tomikia Pittman Yates sent a virtual gift in memory of Melvin L. Owens

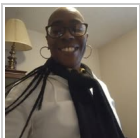


Tomikia Pittman Yates - November 04, 2023 at 06:07 PM

DS

Dana Smith Melvin is my big brother i did not lose my brother when you lose someone you don't know where they are Bernard we Know where our brothers are and they would not come back down here for all the money in the world Love you Nard and family tears rolling down my face

Dana Smith - November 07, 2023 at 03:14 PM



“ Tomikia Pittman Yates lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens



Tomikia Pittman Yates - November 04, 2023 at 06:07 PM

JJ

“ Jennifer Johnson lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens



Jennifer johnson - November 04, 2023 at 03:40 PM

CF

“ Chattanooga Hamilton Co. FJC purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Melvin L. Owens.



Chattanooga Hamilton Co. FJC - November 03, 2023 at 06:30 PM

CF

“ Chattanooga Hamilton Co. FJC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melvin L. Owens.

Chattanooga Hamilton Co. FJC - November 03, 2023 at 06:30 PM

FJ

“ Frederick L. McClendon Jr lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens



Frederick L. McClendon Jr - November 02, 2023 at 07:57 PM

ES

“ MAY GOD HOLD THIS FAMILY IN HIS  
LOVING ARMS..🙏🙏..THE  
WADLEY,SHROPSHIRE&STARKEY  
FAMILIES



Edie Starkey - November 02, 2023 at 11:13 AM

TJ

“ Trevon Johnson lit a candle in memory of  
Melvin L. Owens



trevon johnson - November 02, 2023 at 10:13 AM

RT

“ Randy Toney lit a candle in memory of Melvin  
L. Owens



Randy Toney - October 30, 2023 at 07:01 AM

SK

“ Sharon Kennard lit a candle in memory of  
Melvin L. Owens



Sharon Kennard - October 29, 2023 at 09:07 PM



“ Calvin and Shia Smith send their condolences to the Family of Melvin Owens. Praying Comfort and Peace to the Family.



Calvin Smith - October 28, 2023 at 08:21 AM

PR

“ Patricia Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens



patricia reynolds - October 27, 2023 at 04:02 PM

MW

“ Mary Woods lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens



Mary Woods - October 27, 2023 at 12:13 PM



“ Vernard you and your family are in our prayers.  
The Late Pastor Jay P. Trimble Family



Teresa Trimble-Smith - October 27, 2023 at 08:43 AM

DE

“ *Sending love and prayers to the family of Melvin Owens. You are in my heart!!*  
*Debra*



Debra - October 26, 2023 at 10:50 PM

JB

“ *Jennifer Bennett lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens*



Jennifer Bennett - October 26, 2023 at 07:33 PM

RC

“ *Sending Our Prayers and Condolences to Melvin Owens Family Rest In Paradise Our Friend R.L., and Rosa 🙏👼*



Rosa Covington - October 26, 2023 at 06:56 PM

BR

“ *Larry and Melvin were best friends from childhood to the end! They always seem to find each other! They stayed connected. You will be missed! REST IN PEACE*



Brenda Ramsey - October 26, 2023 at 02:45 PM

VQ

“ *Vikki Qualls lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens*



**Vikki Qualls** - October 25, 2023 at 09:48 PM

DR

“ *Sending Condolences To The Owens Family. Sorry for loss of your father, take your rest Mr. Melvin, thxzs for serving our Country. The: Readus, Hatten, Davis, & Hamler Family*



**Doris Readus** - October 25, 2023 at 09:20 PM



“ *Brenda Drake lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens*



**Brenda Drake** - October 25, 2023 at 07:40 PM



*Fly high Melvin Owens, United Cab Number 14 always, is 10-7, home with his mom and dad and other Family members,RIP*

**Brenda Drake** - October 25, 2023 at 07:47 PM

DW

“ *Melvin was a very nice young man I met him when I was in high school haven't seen Melvin in years May he rest in Heaven and much love to his family from Gregory and Diana Chavis Williams!!*



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**Diana C Williams** - October 25, 2023 at 11:06 AM

HH

“ *Hilda Harris-Hardaway lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens*



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**Hilda Harris-Hardaway** - October 25, 2023 at 10:30 AM

CC

“ *Cardella F Cummings lit a candle in memory of Melvin L. Owens*



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**Cardella F Cummings** - October 25, 2023 at 10:01 AM

JB

“ *JoAnn Ballard sent a virtual gift in memory of Melvin L. Owens*



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**JoAnn Ballard** - October 25, 2023 at 09:56 AM

JB

*I will miss seeing you at DCI. Rest in Peace my friend*

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**JoAnn Ballard** - October 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM

TR

“ *Rest in peace, classmate*

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**T Rawls** - October 25, 2023 at 06:16 AM