

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
For The Life Of



Joseph Berkley McLean, Jr.

5th September 1942 – 9th January 2025

First Baptist Church

Thursday, 6th February 2025

2:30 PM

Officiating Ministers

Alson Ebanks

Stephen Brady

David Jorge

Interment - The Garden of Reflections

Order of Service

Song-.....Hymn of Heaven..... FBC Choir
Opening Remarks Pastor Stephen Brady
Opening Prayer Pastor Stephen Brady
Opening Song:-.....Great is Thy Faithfulness Congregation
Scripture Reading-Psalms 46Mr. Haroon Pandohie
Song-.....No More Night..... FBC Choir

Tributes:

Wife Song - Dancing with the Angels
Sons Mr. Samuel Rose, JP
Daughters-in-law Ms. Jennifer West
Grandchildren Ms. Kaylyn McLean
Special Song..... Mr. Samuel Rose, JP
Seafarers Association Tribute Cayman Islands Seafarers Association
Obituary Mrs. Gloria McField-Nixon, JP
Slide Show
Sermon Pastor Alson Ebanks
Closing Song:-.....How Great Thou Art..... Congregation
Closing Prayer Pastor Alson Ebanks

Pallbearers

Mr. Kevin McLean
Mr. Kyle McLean
Mr. Kory McLean

Mr. Keion McLean
Mr. Simon Pairaudeau
Mr. Arden McLean

Honorary Pallbearers

Mr. Rolphie Braggs
Dr. Louis Cona
Mr. Brian Braggs
Mr. John B. McLean, Jr.
Mr. Reagan McLean
Mr. Amadello Mena-Hebbert
Mr. Brian Pairaudeau
Mr. Ian Pairaudeau
Mr. Haroon Pandohie

Mr. Whilton Graham
Mr. Evelyn McLaughlin
Mr. Dervin McLean
Mr. Mack McLean
Mr. Vernell Rankine
Mr. Matthew Adam
Mr. Samuel Rose
Mr. Verneal Frederick
Mr. Egbert Jackson

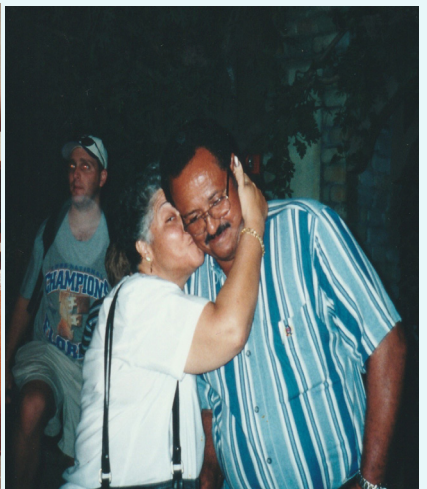
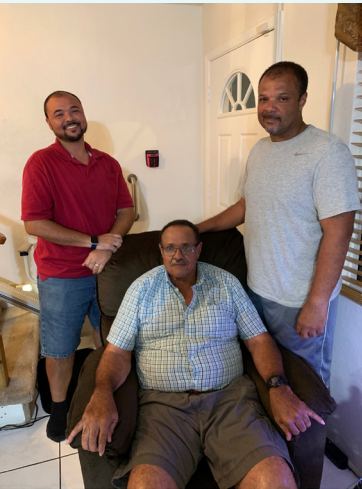
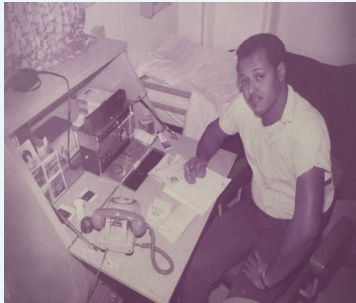
Mr. Rollin Gourzong
Mr. Tommy Jackson
Mr. Verdun Terry
Mr. Colford Scott
Mr. Dave Christian
Mr. James Watler
Mr. Jerry Frazier

Ushers

Mrs. Kerry Nixon, JP
Ms. Paulette Conolly-Bailey, MMH, JP
Mr. James Watler

Guest Book Attendants

Mrs. Martha Dunbar
Mrs. Babry Dale Connolly



**THE LIFE STORY OF
JOSEPH BERKLEY MCLEAN, Jr.
1942 - 2025**

Mr. Joseph Berkley McLean Jr., affectionately known as (Mr. Junior), was born on 5 September 1942, the eldest son of Joseph and Vella McLean. Growing up, he attended school in East End, where he was taught by Mr. William Allen McLaughlin. His early childhood was a quiet existence, spent with his mother and younger brother John, whilst his father spent many months at a time, away at sea.

This idyllic childhood was permanently altered by a tragic event. When Mr. Junior was 13 years old, his father died suddenly. Barely a teenager at the time, this loss thrust Mr. Junior into the role of provider, a role he would lovingly and dutifully fulfil throughout his lifetime.

While still in school, he began to work odd jobs. Then, just three years after his father's death, at age 16, Mr. Junior would follow in his father's footsteps and begin his own career at sea.

He excelled in every position he held starting in the mess and through hard work, dedication and study, rising to the rank of third Engineer. During this time, he sailed to places such as the USA, Middle East, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, and his favourite port of all... Bantry Bay, Ireland, to name a few.

He sailed on some of the largest ships of this era such as the Universe Kuwait, the Universe Ireland, and others within the National Bulk Carriers fleet. While he endured many hardships, what he recalled most distinctly was how bad the food was. He later shared that the only time he had good food, was when he sailed with Caymanian cooks like his cousin Mr. Brazley McLean.

In 1971, Mr. Junior met the love of his life, Linda. She obviously made quite an impression because Mr. Junior only sailed for one more year before giving up a life at sea to return home. The couple married on 4th October 1972 in Kingston, Jamaica but only after he had built their family home in Prospect, the home that the couple resided in until his death. When he had completed this project, it was agreed that the couple could marry. The following year, in 1973, the couple welcomed their first son, Kevin and five years later in 1978, their second son Kyle was born.

Other than his family, Mr. Junior's passions were cars and country music. He loved cars and during his lifetime he owned and maintained many vehicles, including a Ford Fairlane, Ford Galaxie 500 and even a prized red Mustang Convertible, followed by various trucks. He had to part with his beloved convertible when the other love of his life, Linda, told him that it had to go. As she put it, "A little breeze once in a while was fine...but not every day." Like many Caymanian men who sailed the seas, Mr. Junior developed a love for country music which he brought home with him. Kevin and Kyle remember that every long truck ride from Prospect to East End, was accompanied by hits from the likes of Charlie Pride, Big Al Downing, Conway Twitty, Jim Reeves and Alan Jackson.

Everything that Mr. Junior put his hand to, flourished. He was the provider who worked hard his entire life to meet the needs of his family. Kevin remembers the time that his father made him go to Frank Sound with him on a Saturday, to plant out pumpkins. Kevin wasn't very happy about having to spend the weekend that way and recalls planting the seeds when he was still quite angry. Kevin says he didn't know if it was the seeds, the soil or what...but those grounds wouldn't stop yielding and Mr. Junior was able to sell pumpkins to the supermarket for one whole year.

Mr. Junior also developed a love for raising animals from his grandparents. From a young age he would raise cows and he maintained this family tradition.

After returning home from sea, Mr. Junior began working briefly with Cayman's national hero, Mr. Jim Bodden, as various land developments were being formed in Prospect at that time.

Following this brief stint, Mr. Junior embarked on a long career within the Cayman Islands Government. He joined the Civil Service on 1 March 1972, as a Heavy Equipment Operator with Mosquito Research and Control Unit (MCRU). In 1977, he transferred from MRCU to the Central Transport Maintenance Department; later renamed the Central Funding Scheme. He rose through the ranks once again, where in 1978, he was appointed to act as the Mechanical Supervisor and within 2 years he was confirmed in that role. By May 1988, he was promoted to the rank of Superintendent responsible for Heavy Equipment. Later that same year, Mr. Junior would begin to act as the Manager of the Central Funding Scheme which he did regularly for numerous years. On 1 January 1995, he was promoted to Assistant Director for what had now become known as the Department of Vehicle & Equipment Services (DVES). Mr. Junior would continue in that capacity until he retired from the public service on 13 July 2001.

Mr. Junior continued to be known for his engineering and mechanical skills long after his retirement. He was known as man who could fix anything that had an engine. From cars to heavy equipment, he could get anything to work. As the family engineer, Mr. Junior took his role seriously and had to be present to inspect any family vehicle before it was purchased. That duty didn't just apply here in Cayman, but abroad as well. When his eldest granddaughter, Kelsie, needed to buy a car to get her around in the US, she called her Dad-Dad. As she drove home from the dealership tightly clutching the steering wheel, sitting in the passenger seat and reassuring her all the way home, was her granddad. Throughout his life, he gave his time and his talents to look after his family. On January 9, 2025, Mr. Joseph Berkley McLean Jr. passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by his loving wife and family. He was preceded in death by his father Joseph McLean, Sr., his Mother Vella McLean, and his brother John McLean, Sr. Left to mourn his passing are his beloved wife, Ms. Linda McLean; sons Kevin and Kyle; daughters-in-law Gladys and Felicia, six grandchildren – Kelsie, Kory, Genet, Kaylyn, Keion and Kezia; two Great-Grand Children Maverick and Theo Jernigan and a host of relatives and friends.

Mr. Junior's life was a testament to the power of love, resilience, and dedication. He will be deeply missed, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of his family and those who had the privilege of knowing him. May his soul rest in peace.

To Our Dad,

The Lord has truly blessed us with loving parents who worked hard to ensure we had everything we needed and our father, Joseph Berkley McLean, had a life well lived.

Daddy, how do we sum up a lifetime with you? You personified the ultimate provider as a son, brother, husband, father, and grandfather. You gave everything to your family, in most cases, at a great sacrifice to yourself.

Daddy, you set an example for us as a man by always providing for us. You always told us about how hard life was for you and how you worked hard to allow us to have a better life than you did.

You would always tell us of your childhood and say “you think it was easy...?” or “Sometimes we would be so hungry our stomach sound like that East End reef.” Life was especially hard after you lost your father at the tender age of 13.

You would often reminisce about your time at sea and how tough it was to leave home as a boy who was forced to quickly become a man providing for your mother and younger brother John.

In all of this, you were not sharing any regrets, rather you wanted us to always work hard and to be grateful for what we had.

From your early departure to sea at the age of 16, to expressing concern about our mother’s wellbeing in your final moments, you consistently demonstrated an unwavering love for our family.

Of the many values you taught us, we hold on to those we know meant the most to you - courage, discipline, humility, integrity, resiliency, and gratitude. We will honor your memory by ensuring that these values continue to enrich our family’s lives.

You taught us the value of family. You never wanted us to fuss over your birthday with a big celebration; you were too easy-going for that. Rather, you were content with just sitting in your recliner and having all of us around to spend time together. God gave us the privilege that you never had – to have a father in our adult years.

You never had a lot of close friends but you always cherished people and relationships. You made sure we knew our East End family and how we are related to each person.

You taught us that being true to yourself isn’t always the popular choice but always the right thing to do. You showed us how to navigate life’s challenges with courage and grace without compromising who we are. You taught us that working hard was never an option; it was the only way.

As we got older, you made sure to tell us how proud you were of the men that we have become. You shared in our achievements along with the achievements of our wives and children.

You taught us the importance of being present. You were present to celebrate our achievements, to see us get married, and for the birth of our children,

You were never overly emotional but you shed tears of joy at our high school and college graduations. You always said you were so proud of us and you were glad that you could live to see us finish our higher education.

You always offered your wisdom and guidance when we came to you with our problems. We could write a book with all the stories you told us and the sage advice that you gave us when we were growing up. The most important advice that you gave was the same whether we were choosing a pair of shoes, a car, or a wife....”My son, it’s your decision, because it’s you that has to live with it” followed by “Experience will teach a fool to be wise.”

You loved your cows, and farming. Amongst the many valuable life lessons, you taught us how to grow our own food and raise cows..

As a mechanic for most of your life you had a passion for working your vehicles. You taught us how to work on our own vehicles and you were always available to give us advice on how to carry out a difficult repair, or to lend a helping hand when needed.

The day Kyle brought home his first Toyota Supra you looked at him, shook your head side to side and said “what you going to do with that?” Yet you spent many days with him making countless repairs, and modifications teaching him so much along the way. Similarly, despite knowing he would regret it, you watched and helped Kevin customize his brand new Dodge Ram to the point where it became impractical to drive daily.

Through all those endeavors you helped us amass more tools than what we know to do with and we drive around with a repair shop in our trucks to this day, just like you did.

Your ability to remain positive and hopeful, even in the face of insurmountable odds, was truly inspiring.

As a civil servant you served these islands faithfully for over 30 years working your way through the ranks and helping others to achieve similar success in their careers

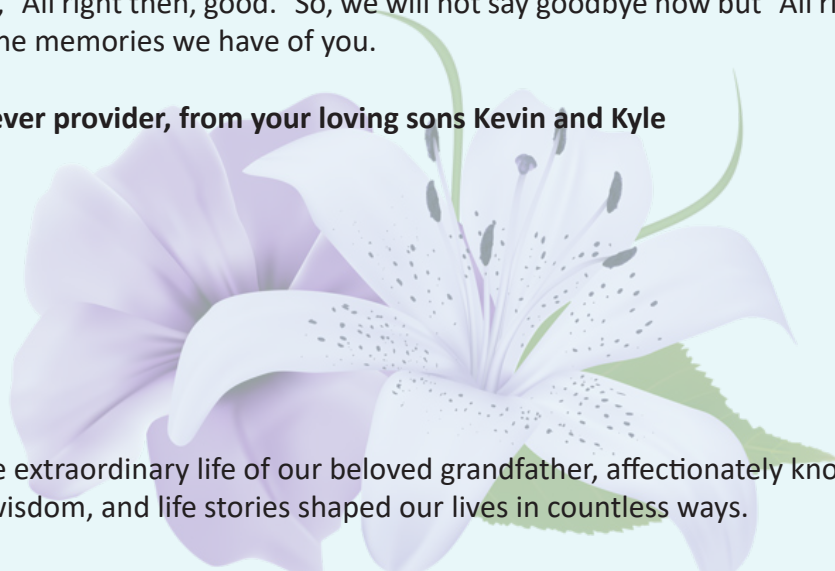
Although losing you is a void that can never be filled in our lives, we will hold on to all our wonderful memories of you. We love you, Daddy, and we will be eternally grateful to have such a strong and loving father. You were the foundation of our family, and you will be forever cherished in our hearts.

We praise God for the greatest gift that we received on December 28th when you accepted The Lord as your Savior. We have peace knowing that when you left this Earth that you went to be with Jesus. You are now where there is no more pain, and no more suffering.

Though our hearts are broken that you aren't here with us, we have peace knowing that you are with Jesus.

You said that it was hard for you to say goodbye when you were signing off of a phone call or when you were leaving a conversation because you had lost so many people in your life, and you never want to say goodbye. Instead, you would say, "All right then, good." So, we will not say goodbye now but "All right then, good". We will miss you and cherish the memories we have of you.

Rest in peace, our forever provider, from your loving sons Kevin and Kyle



To Our Dad-Dad

Today we celebrate the extraordinary life of our beloved grandfather, affectionately known to us as Dad-Dad —a man whose love, wisdom, and life stories shaped our lives in countless ways.

We look back fondly on all the time we spent with Dad-Dad at the house during summer breaks. We were fortunate to have experienced Dad-Dad in his element - in 'the land' with his beloved cows. On the drives up to East End, he was sure to point out the various landmarks and we could bet that there would be a pop quiz on the way back - "you know where we are right?" As young kids at the time, it was a way to pass the long drive. But looking back now, we appreciate that Dad-Dad wanted us to know and be proud of who we are and where we come from. Dad-Dad was a great story-teller and loved to share his stories with us about his adventures at sea - all the places around the world that he visited, the cultures experienced, some of the Spanish he learned and the challenges he faced along the way. He always took the time to ask each of us how we were doing in school, never failing to remind us to work hard, do our best in all we do and to respect our elders.

Through his words and actions, he taught us to navigate life with respect and integrity. Through the lessons he shared, he instilled in us to be kind to one another and be strong in our faith. We will carry these with us forever.

Rest peacefully, Dad-Dad. May the sea breeze carry you, and may you find endless pastures in the heavens above. You will forever be in our hearts.

**With love always,
Your grandchildren - Kelsie, Kory, Kaylyn, Keion, Kezia and Genet**

To our Father-in-law,

We want to say thank you for the love and warmth you showed us from the moment we became a part of your family. You welcomed us not just as daughters-in-law but as one of your own, and for that, we will always be grateful. You always took the time to check in, to truly know how we were doing and that's how we knew we were loved by you.

Your wisdom, kindness, and unwavering strength were a constant source of inspiration to everyone who knew you. You taught us what it means to live with integrity, to love deeply, and to value family above all else. Thank you for always taking the time to check on us and assisting with the children's pickups when needed.

Though you may no longer be with us, your memory will live on forever in our heart. We will always cherish the lessons you taught us, the laughter we shared, and the countless moments that made you so special. You weren't just a father-in-law—you were a role model, a mentor, and a true father in every sense of the word.

You may be gone, but your legacy of love, kindness, and goodness will remain with us forever. May you rest in peace, knowing how much you were loved and how deeply you will be missed.

From your loving daughters in-law Gladys and Felicia



A Tribute to our Uncle - Kung Kung

Kung Kung, as we affectionately called our Uncle Junior, was such a remarkable man. He got the name Kung Kung from us, because at a very young age we found it easier to pronounce than Uncle, so from then on we always called him "Kung Kung". As our Daddy's older brother, Kung Kung was an incredible father figure to him. He was such an amazing role model, his humble, kind and caring disposition was admirable.

In our younger years we often spent summers at his home, playing with our cousins Kevin and Kyle. Kung Kung always ensured that we were very well taken care of and Aunt Linda would prepare the most delicious meals for us. We thoroughly enjoyed riding bicycles and exploring Prospect.

One of our most fondest memories as youngsters was during Christmas time when Kung Kung and his family would all come up to Mama's house in East End. They would help prepare the Christmas Beef along with our parents & our More (Mr. Whitmore). It was an all night experience that we absolutely enjoyed.

As we got older, we looked forward to seeing Kung Kung when he visited Mama. The familiar sound of his Dodge Ram would always let us know that he was driving into her yard. We enjoyed listening to Kung Kung's stories of his days at sea and all the countries he'd visited during that time. It was so intriguing.

We will miss Kung Kung tremendously, he will never be forgotten and we will always treasure the memories and vow to continue the McLean legacy.

Rest in peace Kung Kung. We love you always!

Johnnie, Shannon & Reagan

Tribute to Junior

Junior, my brother- in-law, a brother of my heart. Your love and kindness set you apart. In a world that is often harsh and cruel, you were always a shining light. The bond we shared and memories we made will forever stay and never fade. Though you're gone, your spirit will live on.

Farewell Junior, my dear brother-in-law, my friend, you will always be remembered.

**Love Always,
Stephanie**

A Tribute to our uncle and brother-in-law

Our Uncle Jr. today is hard, but we're so thankful that you knew how much we love and admire you, thank you for the way you brightened our lives, even though we never thought you'd leave us so soon and yet we must learn to be grateful to God almighty that you were in our lives.

We have all despaired at this loss over the days and the love and strength of the memories you gave us through the years are now giving us the strength to move forward. We have found great comfort and joy in knowing that you have once again began to walk hand in hand with our precious daddy, our beloved grandma and with your father.

With every tribute, the common denominator has been your leadership and insight. We pray God grants the family and every soul you've touched the fortitude to bear this loss and the strength to Aunt Linda, Kevin and Kyle to keep your light shining all the days of their lives.

A brother-in-law and uncle's love, a heart so vast, hugs so sweet, laughter so bright. A gentle soul, in times of need, just like our dad, you have given us peace. Like a lighthouse, may your wisdom provide guidance and protection.

It was, is and will always be a privilege to have known and loved you while you were here, our family's pioneer. We pray that your voyage of life casts a light that shines through us and your sail to Heaven's port will be calm and peaceful.

**Rest in peace our sweet Uncle Jr.
We love you always, Priscilla, Britney and Chrissie
Denise McLean, sister-in-law**





Graveside Service

Song:.....Amazing Grace

Prayer Pastor Alson Ebanks

Committal.....Pastor Alson Ebanks

When we all get to Heaven

BenedictionAlson Ebanks,

When We All Get To Heaven

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, Sing His mercy and His grace
In the mansions bright and blessed, He'll prepare for us a place.

Refrain: When we all get to Heaven, What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus, We'll sing and shout the victory!

While we walk the pilgrim pathway, clouds will over-spread the sky
But when traveling days are over, not a shadow, not a sigh.

Let us then be true and faithful, trusting, serving every day
Just one glimpse of Him in glory, will the toils of life repay.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come,
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Close the Gate
By Nancy Kraayenhof

For this one farmer the worries are over, lie down and rest your head, Your time has been and struggles enough,
put the tractor in the shed.

Years were not easy, many downright hard, but your faith in God transcended, Put away your tools and sleep in
peace. The fences have all been mended.

You raised a fine family, worked the land well and always followed the Son, Hang up your shovel inside of the
barn; your work here on earth is done.

A faith few possess led your journey through life, often a jagged and stony way, The sun is setting, the cattle are
all bedded, and here now is the end of your day.

Your love of God's soil has passed on to your kin; the stories flow like fine wine, Wash off your work boots in the
puddle left by blessed rain one final time.

You always believed that the good Lord would provide and He always had somehow, Take off your gloves and put
them down, no more sweat and worry for you now.

Your labor is done, your home now is heaven; no more must you wait, Your legacy lives on, your love of the land,
and we will close the gate.



Thanks and Acknowledgements

Our family would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the family and friends, for the kindness, care, and support we received during this difficult time. To Dr. Louis Cona, our family doctor and friend, to Dr. Virginia Hobday and Nurse Edward Muchenje, from Jasmine, your compassion and dedication to Mr. Junior's care meant the world to us.

To our wonderful caregivers, Kayann Golding, Kerry Cushnie, and Terry Thompson, your patience, kindness, and unwavering support to both Mr. Junior and our family brought comfort when we needed it most.

Also, to Scott at Bodden's funeral and Maureen and Maxine Bodden and Pansy Anderson. Thank you to the Elders, staff, choir, and congregation of First Baptist Church for your prayers and support.

Thanks to Cayman National for your support.

We are truly grateful for each of you and the love you have shown.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts