



Mr. Derek Reed

August 24, 1968 - July 3, 2015

Mr. Reed was born on August 24, 1968, in Natchez, the son of Ronald Reed and Jacqueline Evans Reed. He graduated from North Natchez Adams High School and received a BS from TUI University. Later, he served in the Air Force. He was employed in administrations with the Department of Veteran Affairs. He was a Baptist and was a member of King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. John Scott, Sr. before relocating. Derek enjoyed cooking, golfing, traveling, being with family and friends and serving others.

Derek was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Josephine Evans.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Andrea (Ann) Reed of Denver, CO; son: Bronson Reed of Denver, CO; his parents: Ronald Reed, Sr., and Jacqueline Reed of Chicago, IL; three brothers: Ronald Reed, Jr., Morris Reed, and Bryan Giles, all of Chicago, IL; three sisters: Quiwana Bell, Sharon Whitehead, and Sheila Sanders, all of Chicago, IL; and grandfather: Oliver Evans, Sr., and other relatives and friends.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Wake Service

JUL 6. 6:00 PM (CT)

West Gate Funeral Home (Natchez)
409 N Martin Luther King Jr Street
Natchez, MS 39120
(601) 445-2008
james@westgatefh.com
<https://westgatefuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Christian Hope Baptist Church
301 Lasalle Street
Natchez, MS 39120

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Derek Reed*

September 17, 2022 at 03:10 AM



“ *My condolences to the family Mr Derek Reed family he a beautiful singer with the beautiful voice he enjoyed singing for God and now God has an angel that will sing all day*

Annie Hall - January 30, 2016 at 05:44 PM



“ *I was stationed with Derek in Guam. We played basketball, bones, and drank all the time. He had a big heart and was always smiling. My favorite memory of Big D was playing against him in a basketball game and I was playing him so close that he never got the ball. D told me the next day, that he got home and looked under the bed and Ann asked, "What are you doing?" D said, "Checking to make sure Chuck didn't follow me home." That is the type of friend Big D was. He even gave money to an individual that he knew he would never get that money back, but he wanted to help anyway.*

Prayers to the family and Rest in Peace Big D!

Love the Mickens Family.

Chuck Mickens - July 10, 2015 at 04:14 PM



“ *D was my bro, my friend an uncle to my son he will be missed, love you man,Devon*

Devon young - July 09, 2015 at 01:08 PM

SW

“ I would like to send my condolences to Derek's family. I just read about his passing. However, I had to share that he was a fine young man that always had a gentle smile and charisma. We ran track at north Natchez together. May God bless the family.

shelia watson - July 08, 2015 at 07:42 AM



I would like to send my condolences out to Dereks family he was a beautiful person and enjoyed singing for God so let's just praise that now God has a singing angel God bless ,Annie hall

Annie Hall - January 30, 2016 at 05:36 PM



“ I liked to call uncle Derek "big D"!

Tonia Makris - July 07, 2015 at 10:44 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.



July 07, 2015 at 08:24 PM

JW

“ After we became friends with Ann and D , my daughter's came to me and asked if they could call D , UNCLE D. They had discussed it the way 7 and 5 year olds do. I said you have to ask D, they did, he said, YES. And hugs and kisses later he was UNCLE D. AND ANN WAS AUNTIE ANN, FOREVER. His heart was great and filled with love and laughter. Thank you for being my friend and their UNCLE. We will think of you and smile. R.I.H. Love and prayers for the for the family. Joyce Walton and family

Joyce Walton - July 07, 2015 at 11:26 AM

TC

“ Tracy Lynn Jackson, former VA colleague purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.



Tracy Lynn Jackson, former VA colleague - July 07, 2015 at 10:08 AM

EF

“ Eugene Kinard and Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.



Eugene Kinard and Family - July 07, 2015 at 09:33 AM

SW

“ *Derek, Sherry and I are still in shock. We shared so many remarkable times during the years in Guam both in work and play. You were like our second son, not sure whether you or Greg needed more guidance some time but we are so proud of all you accomplished both professionally and personally. You touched the hearts of so many and we will miss you.*

Sherry and Andy Wall

Sherry and Andy Wall - July 07, 2015 at 09:19 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.*



July 07, 2015 at 08:56 AM

EK

“ *Our deepest condolences to the Reed family. Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.*

Eugene Kinard and Family

Eugene Kinard - July 07, 2015 at 08:36 AM

DE

“ *May God in all his love and compassion heal the hearts that are broken during this time of great sorrow.*

- Derek, you will be missed by many....your smile...your laugh will never be forgotten. Rest in peace my friend.

Deborah

deborah - July 07, 2015 at 08:14 AM

ST

“ *Big D, I don't know what to say brother, gone way too soon, I'll never forget you, will never forget you picking us up when we got to Guam, in your Fred Flinstone mobile with the rotted out floor boards. I still owe you for the sharpie drawings from our last party night, can't a guy take a nap in peace? ;) I'll catch you on the other side man, say Hi to Deb for me. RIP my friend.*

Stevie B. a.k.a. lil buddy

Steve - July 07, 2015 at 08:09 AM

 Lacee
Jae

“ *My condolences to the family of this amazing person we were blessed to have known. He was personally someone special to me when he stepped up as the leading male role model in my life. He gave me great life advice and always supported me, even when telling me I was wrong. His laughter and smile will be missed; and his hugs could never be replaced. The out pour of love I have seen these few days have been amazing to know his light reached all. We will miss you Derek.*

Lacee Jae - July 06, 2015 at 11:29 PM

VM

“ *My condolences to the family. Praying for God to give you all comfort, strength, and peace during this difficult time. Love, Vikki McCant*



Vikki McCant - July 06, 2015 at 10:09 PM

TM

“ *Uncle D, you were the bomb! All those 4 wheeler adventures that we didn't tell my mom about! he bless your soul!*

tonia makris - July 06, 2015 at 09:30 PM

TM

“ *I remember some fun times when i was a kid, my big uncle D would take me on my grandpa's 4 wheeler in the tundra behind his house!*

tonia makris - July 06, 2015 at 09:25 PM

SD

“ *I was crestfallen to hear of Derek's passing -- he was always the gentleman and dedicated professional. I had the honor of serving alongside Derek in the mid-1980s at Luke AFB. A kind soul and a great friend to all, Derek never had a harsh word to say about anyone or anything; instead, he always drew our focus to the bright side of life. I have no doubt that Derek now resides on that bright side of life. My heart goes out to Derek's family during this profound time of sorrow -- may God grant them peace.*

Sharon Dunbar - July 06, 2015 at 08:32 PM

JB

“Joyce, Elizabeth, Whitney, Drake, and Bubba purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.



Joyce, Elizabeth, Whitney, Drake, and Bubba - July 06, 2015
at 07:46 PM

CA

“Derek and I served together at Luke AFB. We were both young and finding our way - he was such a good friend to have. Sadly we lost touch through the years, but it's easy to see he remained the wonderful person I knew. My sympathies to family and friends. I pray you find comfort in knowing he did incredible things while he was with us and he is now in a better place. I look forward to the day we will all reunite. Until then I pray for blessings for each of you.
Cathy

cathy - July 06, 2015 at 07:13 PM

BU

“butch purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.



butch - July 06, 2015 at 06:19 PM

BP

“ Derek, one of the best friends I ever had. The gang is getting smaller. I'll never forget your big smile and heart and your BBQ ribs. Man I had a big pie for your face, extra whip cream. This is so sad, I'm all choked up. I'm Glad we got to talk when I worked on your house. Read your obituary and glad you are a man of God and you know Jesus. This made me feel relieved. Now I know where you are and I'll see you again and get one of those big man hugs I always enjoyed from you. After I got my breath back. Glad you got on the trophy. Things won't be the same, but you will never be forgotten. We'll honor you ever chance we get. Just like DY. Say Hi to him for me.
Love you Man!!!
Butch

butch petsche - July 06, 2015 at 05:11 PM



Lacey
Jae

I'm really sorry uncle Butch. I'm here if you need anything. Love you

Lacey Jae - July 06, 2015 at 11:30 PM

BP

Thanks girl I love you too!

butch petsche - July 07, 2015 at 06:47 PM

DK

“ Derek worked with me at the Department of Veteran Affairs and he was one of the best contracting officers we had. Such a smart man and such a hard worker. Of course the smile that lit up his face when he talked about his wife and son just lit up the whole office. My prayers and condolences go out to his family.

Deborah Kupecz - July 06, 2015 at 04:06 PM

ST

“ Mr. ODB.....

Speechless..... your my rock... every time I needed a warm welcoming face you never faild me. Your voice is smoother than harmonics "just chill man, easy handsom"; Heaven gained a beautiful angel because your spirit is more pure than mile high drinkin water.....there IS HAS been and ALWAYS will be a place for you in my heart..... and to his family my greatest condolences... though i have never met you I thank you because you were part of Derek and he was such an inspiration in my life like a father figure... You all are in my prayers!

God Bless You

Stephan Dickens

Stephan - July 06, 2015 at 02:34 PM



Lacey
Jae

I luff you Steph. This was beautiful

Lacey Jae - July 06, 2015 at 11:32 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.*



July 06, 2015 at 01:58 PM

JM

“ Jody M. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. Derek Reed.



Jody M. - July 06, 2015 at 01:56 PM

JM

“ Derek and Andrea spent an evening with us at our home about 10 years ago in Anchorage hanging out and listening to "old school" music and we had so much fun that Dex and I often talk about what a great time we had and how wonderful it was to hang out with Derek and Andrea.

I can still see Derek sitting on the couch bobbing his head to the music and every time we would put on another cd with one of our oldie favorites Derek would light up the room with his big smile and say, "oh yea that was the jam!"

My love and sympathy to Derek's entire family and may you find strength in each other.

Jody Moses

jody moses - July 06, 2015 at 01:10 PM

“Derek was the most kind son, brother, nephew, uncle, husband and father a person could have ever known. You have gone to a place that will be an even better place to be at - now that you're there.

My fondest memory of my nephew was while visiting his family for thanksgiving in 2001. Auntie Carol came along as well. A bunch of us piled into our 15 passenger van and headed for the mountains. Man I had no idea we wouldn't make it up the thing so easily. Lol lol lol lol lol.

Although I can't recall the exact order of the events, the thoughts still remain.... Not getting up the mountain easily was funny, but the next story was the most memorable.

Derek and I had no idea how to properly prepare this enormous ham we were assigned to cook. With the help of a few glasses of Captain Morgan we got to work. We bathe that puppy with an entire bottle of mustard, perhaps even 2 bottles. We laughed and began dressing the thing with pineapples and haphazardly placed cloves all over the thing.....laughing the entire time about how it might not turn out so good. After washing our mustard soaked hands in the sink we put the top on the roaster, turned the timer on and prayed for the best.

We settled down for the night in his basement, and of course had a few more glasses of libations and played cards with my sister Carol.

As the sun rose we decided to check on our creation. The results.it never made the thanksgiving dinner table fully intact.

It was the best ham we'd ever tasted. We scrambled some eggs, someone else in the family made biscuits and the ham was history.

I've known many a fine cooks in my life, but I'll have to say.....that our ham was the best damn ham I'd ever tasted in my life.

Thanks Derek for those 2 and many other wonderful memories.

We will see each other again.

*Your Auntie,
Yvonne*

Yvonne Magee - July 06, 2015 at 12:37 PM

RE

“ *The End of my Journey*

*One day soon my name will be called,
No answer and no reply.
My work here will be done
It's time to say goodbye*

*Truly, I enjoyed the laughs,
I even enjoyed the times we had to cry.
But my destiny has been fulfilled
This calling I can't deny*

*The time I spent with family
The memories of old friends
These moments will continue to live on
When you think of me, now and then.*

*One day we'll be reunited
I'll be there to welcome you home
Enjoy each day to the fullest
If you're feeling a little weak, use my strength to make you strong*

*To be loved is a blessing unlike no other
It makes the darkest days easier to bear
For if I ever found myself in need of any service
I always knew you would be there.*

*Well, I've reached the end of my journey
It's time to lay this clay form to rest
All of my illnesses have subsided
I'm flying away to build a new nest.*

*I know you will miss me
But you must continue to be strong
I'm feeling much better now
I finally found my way back home*

Richard D. Eskridge

Richard Eskridge - July 06, 2015 at 12:27 PM

WA

“ *My deepest sympathy to my extended Reed Family. Wish I could be there with you all during this difficult time. Love you all and pray that God comfort and keep you. The Harper and Anderson family sends their love and sympathy.*

*Love Wanda Alford
1900 Block of 7th Ave*

wanda alford - July 06, 2015 at 12:05 PM

JR

“ *My deepest sympathy is extended to Derek's family. Derek was a joy to know. I worked with Derek at Luke AFB. I have never forgotten his sense of duty, but also his sense of fun. A group of us went on a weekend trip to Mexico, and Derek was with us. He was a huge part of the memories of the trip that I still hold dear. Derek had that kind of impact. He was never a stranger to anyone. He genuinely cared about others. The world is a sadder place with Derek's absence. May his family take comfort with their wonderful memories of this amazing man who is gone too soon.*

Joanna Rodriguez - July 06, 2015 at 11:19 AM

WH

“ West Gate Funeral Home and staff extends our deepest sympathy to your family. May the love of God sustain you during this difficult time. Remember to hold to God's unchanging hands. "Gone too Soon".

West Gate Funeral Home - July 05, 2015 at 07:57 PM

WH

“ West Gate Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Mr. Derek Reed



West Gate Funeral Home - July 05, 2015 at 07:52 PM