



Hugh Collie Jr

August 23, 1924 - July 29, 2019

“Victory is mine, Victory is mine, Victory today is mine, I told Satan, “Get thee behind!”

Victory today is mine. Joy is mine, Joy is mine, Joy today is mine.”

Hugh Collie Sr., 94, 314 West Eighth Ave., Johnson City slipped from this world into Eternity on Monday morning, July 29, 2019 when God summoned His Angel of Death to Hugh’s bedside as his family stood guard at his home and this angel gently whispered to him in a voice only he could hear, “Hugh, you told your family, you only want to see Jesus and your baby, Shirley, and now I am here to escort you to the Father’s House.”

He was the son of the late Hugh and Rev. Edna Bell Eatman Collie, born on Aug. 23, 1924 in Montgomery, Ala. While a child, he and his younger brother, the late Fred M. Collie moved to Johnson City, Tn. where his family became a fixture on West Chilhowie and later West Eighth Avenue. The Collie family became synonymous with church, business, and civic contributions.

Hugh accepted Jesus at an early age and joined Thankful Baptist Church remaining a faithful member for 85 years, a fact which he would proudly interject in conversation, not as a boast but as an invitation to check one’s own relationship with Jesus Christ because he took his role as a soldier on the

battlefield of life seriously. He served Thankful over the years in many roles including Superintendent of the Sunday School, Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Trustee, member of the Men's Choir, and a Deacon.

He was educated in the Johnson City School System and was a proud member of the Langston High School community being the last surviving member of the graduating class of 1943. Shortly after graduation he answered the patriotic call to serve his country in the United States Army during World War II where one of his duties overseas was in mortuary services on the battlefield. He was honorably discharged in 1946.

Hugh returned to Johnson City and joined his father as a partner in the family owned business, Collie Dry Cleaning Company where he remained employed until 1950 when he and his late wife, Shirley Jane Rhea Collie were united in holy matrimony on Aug. 23, 1950 officiated by his mother at the Collie home. When asked why he chose that date to marry his bride, he replied "that by marrying on his birthday he would never forget his anniversary!" This union would last for 67 years when Shirley was called to Heaven's Gates on October 15, 2017 and for the remainder of his days he grieved for her and longed for the day that they would once again be reunited.

Following their marriage Hugh and his bride moved to Dayton, Ohio where he accepted an employment position but returned to Johnson City after a short period to work for Inter Mountain Telephone Company and remained there until his retirement 32 years later. Following his retirement he supported Shirley in her decorating business venture, The Rose of Sharon and quite often was involved in the behind scenes jobs always with a smile.

Hugh and Shirley welcomed four children to their union but ever so graciously extended their home to several children over the years who needed shelter, love, and guidance, some had biological connections and others were simply related by the thread of being one of God's children.

Recognizing a need for an organization that would bring continuity to the segregated black community perpetuating education, civic, and social awareness and growth, Hugh founded the Progress Together Club Inc. affectionately known as the Pro-To Club in 1952 along with four other black business and like-minded men, the late Dr. Eugene Kilgore, Douglas Ledford, Edward Carson, and Willie Norris. They worked diligently within the school communities of Dunbar Elementary, Douglas Elementary, and Langston High School and by 1957 were able to have enough club members to award the first academic scholarship of \$50.00 to one Langston senior and as the years continued by 2019 the annual award has grown to four scholarships of \$1250.00 a piece to local high school seniors.

Hugh is the last of the Founders of the Pro-To Club as well as West Eighth Avenue "Elders" and his absence will be felt by many; however, his torch can remain lit as in his footsteps we walk with the same spirit of love for Jesus, family and community that he modeled.

In addition to his wife, parents, brother, brother-in-law, sister-in law, he is predeceased by one grandson, Jared Isom and a sister-cousin, Wilhemenia "Me-Me" Jackson. He leaves to mourn; one son, Christopher Collie (Kim), three daughters, Huetta Isom, Ovetta Thomas (Charles), Lisa Sanders (Allen), all of Johnson City; 9 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; several nephews, nieces and extended family; prayer partner, Rev. Dr. C. H. Charlton; and special couple, John and Margaret Smith, Mountain City.

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course; I have kept the faith.”

Funeral services will be held Friday August 2, 2019 at Thankful Baptist Church in Johnson City, the family will receive friends from 11:30pm until 12:30pm at the church prior to the service. Interment will be held at the Mountain Home National Cemetery in Johnson City.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 2. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Thankful Baptist Church
1501 E Watauga Ave
Johnson City, TN 37601
(423) 926-5241

Service

AUG 2. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Thankful Baptist Church
1501 E Watauga Ave
Johnson City, TN 37601
(423) 926-5241

Tribute Wall



“ *Hugh Collie Jr*

January 29, 2023 at 10:28 PM



“ *CLINTON&PAM ROLLINS lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



CLINTON&PAM ROLLINS - August 17, 2019 at 02:05 PM



“ *Patria Rhea sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Patria Rhea - August 12, 2019 at 04:14 PM



“ *Katie Bailey-Hynes sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Katie Bailey-Hynes - August 07, 2019 at 08:59 AM

CT

“ *Connie Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Connie Thompson - August 03, 2019 at 10:22 PM



“ *Andréa Verzi lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Andréa Verzi - August 01, 2019 at 10:34 PM

KM

“ *Katherine Madison lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Katherine Madison - August 01, 2019 at 08:55 PM

DF

“ *Debra F.Williams lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Debra F.Williams - August 01, 2019 at 08:26 PM

JW

“ *Janice Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Janice Wells - August 01, 2019 at 04:34 PM

MD

“ *Melvin Drumgoole sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Melvin Drumgoole - August 01, 2019 at 08:22 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Hugh Collie Jr.*



August 01, 2019 at 02:41 AM

CG

“ *Claudia Goines lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Claudia Goines - July 31, 2019 at 10:18 PM

BH

“ Benita Hopson lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Benita Hopson - July 31, 2019 at 08:19 PM

PB

“ Paul & Vanessa Braxton lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Paul & Vanessa Braxton - July 31, 2019 at 08:02 PM

ML

“ Mary And James Latham lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Mary and James Latham - July 31, 2019 at 10:17 AM

ML

Mr. Collie is going to be missed. He has now joined his beloved wife, Ms Shirley, where they're gonna walk around heaven all day. May God bless you all knowing that your loved one is now with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. 8th Avenue will never be the same.

Mary and James Latham - July 31, 2019 at 10:22 AM

JM

*Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.
But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.
Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.
Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.
Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die God never makes a mistake! Comfort yourselves in this truth, he's waiting for you all in Glory.
J.B.Mcnair Jr*

Jerry B McNair Jr - July 31, 2019 at 11:49 PM

DM

“ *Darrell & Janice Murphy lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Darrell & Janice Murphy - July 31, 2019 at 09:14 AM

FF

“ *Fred Jackie Fields lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Fred Jackie Fields - July 31, 2019 at 05:29 AM

WB

“ *Wjualana Benson lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Wjualana Benson - July 31, 2019 at 05:25 AM

RD

“ *Ralonda Davis lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Ralonda Davis - July 31, 2019 at 12:59 AM

RO

“ *Raymond & Carol Oxendine sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Raymond & Carol Oxendine - July 30, 2019 at 10:47 PM

SA

“ *Sandy.Sylvers@va.gov sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Sandy.Sylvers@va.gov - July 30, 2019 at 08:41 PM

CB

“ Carol Bradley lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Carol Bradley - July 30, 2019 at 07:20 PM

CR

“ Daddy Collie was such a gentle giant among the community. He is the last of my mother's Langston High School graduating class. I will miss his " Hey, baby, how are you doing?" greeting which made me know I was like one of his own. West Eighth Avenue has lost the last of its elders and it is my hope that those children and grandchildren of his peers will think about his words of wisdom, reflections from the past, and hopes for the future and make a contribution to society that will make him smile. I know that he and Shirley are walking the streets of Glory hand in hand with smiles as bright as the noon day sun. Collie family, know that I offer my sincere condolences during this difficult time. May God send His Comforter to let you know that "weeping may endure in the night, but joy comes in the morning."

Cecil and Clara Faye Hart Rutledge - July 30, 2019 at 05:03 PM

RB

“ Roddy Bird lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Roddy Bird - July 30, 2019 at 04:27 PM

GF

“ Gary And Moricina Fain lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Gary and Moricina Fain - July 30, 2019 at 03:48 PM

DB

“ Diane Bradley



Diane Bradley - July 30, 2019 at 03:13 PM

DB

And Joseph Hardin

Diane Bradley - July 30, 2019 at 03:14 PM

Tina Morrison

“ Morrison & Greenlee family💕



Tina Morrison - July 30, 2019 at 01:08 PM

JH

“ *Jeri Harrington lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Jeri Harrington - July 30, 2019 at 01:06 PM

LB

“ *Lynn & Rayetta Bachman lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Lynn & Rayetta Bachman - July 30, 2019 at 12:21 PM

NG

“ *Nancy Greenlee sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Nancy Greenlee - July 30, 2019 at 12:18 PM

CG

“ *Chico & Gwen Gardner lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Chico & Gwen Gardner - July 30, 2019 at 12:00 PM

FE

“ Faye Ellis lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Faye Ellis - July 30, 2019 at 11:21 AM

LB

“ Lee & Lydia Bridwell lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Lee & Lydia Bridwell - July 30, 2019 at 10:10 AM

VM

“ Viola Patton And Mother sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Viola Patton and Mother - July 30, 2019 at 10:04 AM

DD

“ Delores Delaney lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Delores Delaney - July 30, 2019 at 08:39 AM

SS

“ *Sandra Stevens-Bell lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Sandra Stevens-Bell - July 30, 2019 at 08:01 AM

AS

“ *Andre Stevens lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Andre Stevens - July 30, 2019 at 07:48 AM

EB

“ *Elaine Brady lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



elaine brady - July 30, 2019 at 07:41 AM

TR

“ *Tiffany M Ryans lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Tiffany M Ryans - July 30, 2019 at 07:32 AM

RH

“ Robert Hall lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Robert Hall - July 30, 2019 at 07:06 AM

SS

“ Shelia Smith lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Shelia Smith - July 30, 2019 at 07:05 AM



“ Pamela Renea lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



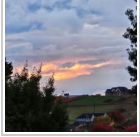
Pamela Renea - July 30, 2019 at 06:25 AM

CF

“ Carla Forney lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Carla Forney - July 30, 2019 at 05:12 AM



“ *Dona Daniels lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Dona Daniels - July 30, 2019 at 05:05 AM

SR

“ *Sherry Roberts lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Sherry Roberts - July 30, 2019 at 04:38 AM

PD

“ *Pauline Douglas lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Pauline Douglas - July 30, 2019 at 02:32 AM

SW

“ *Susan/Steve Wagner lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Susan/Steve Wagner - July 29, 2019 at 11:53 PM

JB

“ He was the best Grandpa anyone could ask for we are goin to miss him so much watch over us

jessica bradley - July 29, 2019 at 11:45 PM

MF

“ Such a precious man. He was always kind when I spoke with him. The last time I saw him I stopped to see Huetta and asked how he was and he replied, “abundantly blessed.” I asked if I could do anything for him before I left and he said, “you can pray with me.” We held hands and I was honored to pray with him. I know he didn’t remember me but he sure made me feel welcome and like he had known me forever. Praying for you all for comfort. My love to the entire family.

Love,
Marchel Fisher

Marchel Fisher - July 29, 2019 at 11:27 PM

HF

“ Howie Kemper & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Howie Kemper & Family - July 29, 2019 at 11:27 PM

HF

“ Howie Kemper & Family lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr



Howie Kemper & Family - July 29, 2019 at 11:26 PM

RF

“ *Renea Hall And Family lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Renea Hall and Family - July 29, 2019 at 10:53 PM

SI

“ *Susie Inman lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Susie Inman - July 29, 2019 at 10:53 PM

Mary Rollins

“ *Condolences from Rollins, Taylor and Hale Families*



Mary Rollins - July 29, 2019 at 10:50 PM

KM

“ *Kathy Mills sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Kathy Mills - July 29, 2019 at 10:45 PM

WJ

“ *Wilma Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Wilma Jenkins - July 29, 2019 at 10:07 PM

JW

“ *Janice Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Hugh Collie Jr*



Janice Wells - July 29, 2019 at 08:06 PM