

The Family asks that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to

Communities and Schools  
601 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Charlotte, NC 28202.

### HONORARY PALL BEARERS

West Charlotte High School  
Class of 1958

### FLORAL BEARERS

West Charlotte High School  
Class of 1958

### TRIBUTE

*He will live in the hearts of his family and friends he made,  
And be known always for the foundation he laid.*

### Final Rites Entrusted To:

**LONG & SON MORTUARY SERVICE**  
2312 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216  
Telephone: (704) 394-1111 Fax: (704) 394-1316  
"Over 50 Years of Quality Service"

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

FOR

LT. COLONEL WILSON EDWARD COUNTS, RET.



Saturday, January 28, 2006  
11:00 A.M.

Memorial Presbyterian Church  
2600 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

Rev. Dr. Edward B. Newberry, Pastor - Officiating

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE ..... Mrs. Jocelyn P. Thompson  
 PROCESSIONAL ..... "Holy, Holy, Holy"  
 CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Rev. Dr. Edward B. Newberry  
 HYMN ..... "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" ..... 464

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

Eternal God, Lord of heaven and earth. You formed us from the dust of the earth and blessed us with life. We praise you for your greatness and love. Your wisdom is seen in all your works. Your grace and truth are revealed in Jesus Christ your Son. Your power and presence are given us through your Holy Spirit. We honor your holy name even as we worship in this hour. Accept our praise through Christ, our Living Savior. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE ..... "Hear Our Prayer O Lord"

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## THE SCRIPTURES

OLD TESTAMENT ..... Psalm 100

NEW TESTAMENT ..... Philippians 4: 8-9

DOXOLOGY ..... The Congregation

SOLO ..... "The Lord's Prayer"  
 Mrs. Jocelyn P. Thompson

TRIBUTES ..... Donald McClure  
 Pettis Norman  
 Herman L. Counts, Jr.

## PRAYER FOR THE COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS

HYMN ..... "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart" ..... 145

## BENEDICTION

## MILITARY RITES

RECESSIONAL ..... "For All The Saints"

# OBITUARY

**LT. COL. WILSON EDWARD COUNTS** was born in Cheraw, South Carolina June 21, 1940, the son of the late Rev. Herman L. Counts, Sr. and Mrs. Olethea Wilson Counts. He entered into eternal rest on January 24, 2006 at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Wilson graduated from West Charlotte High School in the Class of 1958 where he was active in several school organizations. He was the quarterback of West Charlotte Lions football team from 1955-1958 and was especially proud to be selected as the starting quarterback in the 1958 Shrine Bowl Game. Upon graduation from West Charlotte, Wilson enrolled at Johnson C. Smith University where he graduated in 1962 with a B. A. in Economics. While at Smith he played football and was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Upon his graduation, Wilson joined the United States Air Force and enrolled in Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX and was commissioned as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Counts in August 1963. During his career in the Air Force Wilson was stationed at Goose AFB, Labrador; Clinton-Sherman AFB, OK; Maxwell AFB, AL; Offutt AFB, NE; Francis E Warren AFB, WY; Peterson AFB, CO; Tyndall AFB, FL; Andrews AFB, MD and Wright Patterson AFB, OH. He was promoted to Lt. Colonel in 1978 and was base commander at the Wright Patterson AFB, OH; Tyndall AFB, FL and Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center, Wright Patterson AFB OH. While in Omaha and Cheyenne he served as Adjunct to General Chappie James.

Lt. Col. Counts received the following decorations during his 21 year military career: Meritorious Service Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters; Joint Service Commendation Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster; AF Outstanding Unit Award; National Defense Service Medal and AF Longevity Service Award Ribbon with Four Oak Leaf Clusters. He retired and was honorably discharged in 1984.

After retiring Lt. Col. Counts worked with at-risk middle and high school students a site coordinator with Communities and Schools in Charlotte where he felt he could give back to those who needed his help and advice.

Lt. Col. Counts leaves blessed with precious memories, the following: a sister, Dorothy Counts-Scoggins of Charlotte and two brothers, Herman L. Counts, Jr. (Doris) of Newark, OH and Howard A. Counts (Stephanie) of Charlotte; an aunt, Mary B. Carroll of Rowland, NC; several nephews, Herman L. Counts III (Vickie) of Pickerington, OH; Tyrone P. Counts (Barbara) of Westerville, OH; John V. Counts (Leeann) of Holly Springs, NC; Mitchell R. Scoggins (Ana) of Charlotte and Jonathan R. Counts of Atlanta, GA; one niece, Nicole L. Scoggins of Mercer, WA; twelve grand nieces and nephews and other relatives and friends.

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## Expressions of Gratitude

The Counts Family wishes to thank their many friends for their kind expressions of sympathy during this time of bereavement. May God continue to bless you.