



Deacon Napoleon McKinney

April 11, 1938 - December 3, 2025

Deacon Napoleon McKinney, age 87, of Forrest City, Arkansas, transitioned peacefully from this earthly life into the loving presence of the Lord on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 6:53 a.m. in Belleville, Illinois. The Word of God declares in Psalm 116:15, “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints,” and truly, the homegoing of Deacon McKinney reflects the life of a faithful servant who walked with humility, reverence, and unwavering devotion to God.

Born in Palestine, Arkansas, he was the only son of the late Tilmon McKinney and Fannie Adams McKinney and was lovingly referred to by family members as “Boy” or “Boy Adams.” Deacon McKinney was nurtured in a loving home that instilled in him strong values, quiet strength, and a deep respect for family. These early foundations shaped the manner in which he lived, loved, and served throughout his life.

On October 13, 1962, he was joined in holy matrimony to his beloved wife, Mother Eva Jean Weaver McKinney, a union ordained by God and strengthened by mutual love, prayer, and steadfast companionship. For sixty-three years, they walked together as partners, confidantes, and best friends, exemplifying the sanctity of marriage and the beauty of God’s design for family.

Deacon McKinney was the proud father of four children, each of whom brought him tremendous joy and purpose. To them, he was a steady protector, a gentle giant whose laughter brightened family gatherings, and a quiet but firm disciplinarian who always led with love and wisdom.

A man of diligence, Deacon McKinney believed in the honor of hard work. From the early years of plowing fields while his wife picked cotton, to his faithful service at Yale & Towne Manufacturing and the Forrest City Water Department, until he retired from the Forrest City Public School System, he modeled integrity, consistency, and humility. His gentle spirit and dependable presence left a lasting imprint on coworkers, teachers, and generations of students.

Deacon McKinney gave his life to the Lord one Sunday morning while watching G. E. Patterson on TV. He never talked about it. No one knew he had given his life to Christ until his wife found him on his knees praying at his bedside one evening. After encountering Christ, notable changes were seen in his life. He joined Days Temple Church of God in Christ and was a devoted and long-standing member. He worshipped faithfully and lived out the principles of the Church with dignity and sincerity.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Tilmon McKinney and Fannie Adams McKinney, and his sisters, Willie G. McKinney, Ophelia McKinney, Katie McKinney Newborn, and Emra C. McKinney.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife of sixty-three years, Mother Eva Jean Weaver McKinney, formerly of Forrest City, Arkansas, currently residing in Belleville, Illinois. He also leaves his children: Larry Logan of Sandusky, Ohio; Dr. DeVata Davis of Belleville, Illinois; Napoleon McKinney, Jr., of Portland, Oregon; and Jerome McKinney of Sandusky, Ohio. His surviving sibling, Ideltra Campbell of Buffalo, New York, remains to treasure his memory. He is further survived by ten grandchildren: Nickco Smith, Juanita Hill Carter, Dr. Leslie Y. Davis, James Tyrone Smith, Angel Smith, Chardene McKinney, Jayden Jerome McKinney, Brooklyn Smith-Logan, Napoleon McKinney, Jr., and Neveah McKinney. He also leaves twelve great-grandchildren: Paige Perkins, Courtney Perkins, Donovyn Hill, Logan Hill, Judah Horton, Jaylen Glin, Dorian McKinney, Dallas McKinney, Jordan Williams, Jayvionn Williams, Ayden Hawkins, and Amorn McKinney. He also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, church family, neighbors, and friends who will forever cherish his quiet strength, gentle spirit, and unwavering love.

Deacon Napoleon McKinney's earthly journey has closed, but his legacy of faith, humility, and steadfast service will continue to live on through all who knew and loved him.

Cemetery Details

Paradise Garden Cemetery

68 Minnis Drive
Edmondson, AR 72332

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM (CT)

Day Temple Church of God in Christ
102 East Day Street
Forrest City , AR 72335

Service

DEC 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Day Temple Church of God in Christ
102 East Day Street
Forrest City , AR 72335

Tribute Wall



“ *Miles J. Kimble Mortuary & Cremation created a Webcast in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney*



Miles J. Kimble Mortuary & Cremation - December 19, 2025 at 11:24 AM



“ *Eddie Hodges lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney*



Eddie Hodges - December 20, 2025 at 12:07 AM

DD

Thank you Eddie. Keep us in your prayers.

DeVata Davis - January 06 at 09:17 PM

TQ

“ *May God bless you with peace and comfort during this difficult time.*



Tiffany Quarrells - December 19, 2025 at 01:08 PM

LW

“ *Lisa Weaver lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney*



Lisa Weaver - December 18, 2025 at 10:31 AM

JW

“ Jackie White lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney



Jackie White - December 17, 2025 at 10:04 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Deacon Napoleon McKinney.



December 17, 2025 at 08:26 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deacon Napoleon McKinney.



December 16, 2025 at 12:12 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Deacon Napoleon McKinney.



December 16, 2025 at 11:43 AM

SC

“ Sherri & Albert Carr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Deacon Napoleon McKinney.

Sherri & Albert Carr - December 16, 2025 at 11:43 AM

IM

“ Irene Moore sent a virtual gift in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney



Irene moore - December 12, 2025 at 08:06 AM

ST

“ McKinney family and friends, Sincere Heartfelt condolences to you, at this time of bereavements. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. Praying for comfort strength and peace today and the days ahead 🙏



Shirley Williams Thorn - December 11, 2025 at 11:18 PM

RF

“ Rev. Vernon And Dorothy Faulkner lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney



Rev. Vernon and Dorothy Faulkner - December 11, 2025 at 08:16 PM

JJ

“ Jackie & Ted Jenkins purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Deacon Napoleon McKinney.



Jackie & Ted Jenkins - December 11, 2025 at 03:45 PM

RB

“ Jerome, I am sorry to hear of your dad's passing. Thinking you classmate and your family, during this difficult time. Praying for you all. Britenum Siblings

Raquel Brown - December 11, 2025 at 12:58 PM

PS

“ Pastor Paul Smoot purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Deacon Napoleon McKinney.



Pastor Paul Smoot - December 11, 2025 at 08:54 AM

DW

“ Will miss your gentle voice and caring spirit. You always made me feel welcome whenever I came to Arkansas to visit. “You have fought a good fight, you have finished your course, you have kept the faith” RIH❤️



Debra Weaver - December 10, 2025 at 05:11 PM

KR

“ Kelvin Rhodes lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney



Kelvin Rhodes - December 09, 2025 at 12:06 PM

LW

“ Leodis Williams lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney



Leodis Williams - December 09, 2025 at 06:47 AM



“ Moniek Thomas lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napoleon McKinney



Moniek Thomas - December 08, 2025 at 10:47 PM



Sending my family condolences to the family. 🥹❤️🙏

Moniek Thomas - December 08, 2025 at 10:48 PM

DD

Thank you so muc Moniek!

DeVata Davis - December 10, 2025 at 07:35 PM

DD

“ *DeVata Davis lit a candle in memory of Deacon Napolean McKinney*



DeVata Davis - December 07, 2025 at 11:15 PM

DD

Dad, I'm sad that you are gone, but I'm so happy that you are forever healed and rejoicing in the presence of our Lord Jesus. I love you. Mom is ok. We'll take good care of her. You're home now. We are rejoicing for you!

DeVata Davis - December 09, 2025 at 10:31 PM



I will see later uncle BOY. Bug 🐛

Author Witherspoon - December 15, 2025 at 01:00 AM