

**MINISTER WILLIAM JOSEPH JENKINS** was born in Sumter County, Georgia on September 10, 1948, to the parentage of the late Rev. M. C. Jenkins and the late Mrs. Reatha Mae Harvey Jenkins. He received his education in the public schools of Sumter County and was a 1967 graduate of Sumter High School. He received an associate degree in Fine Arts from the Art Institute in Pittsburg, PA. He joined the United States Army serving 10 years active duty and 10 years reserve and in the Vietnam War. He was employed as a steel worker in Pittsburg, PA; he also worked at the Lee County State Prison and was a bailiff at the Sumter County Courthouse. Throughout his career, he was a freelance photographer and Fashion Designer with Jenkins & Baldwin Fashion Designer.

He was married to the late Mrs. Annie Doris Burney Jenkins. He is preceded in death by his siblings: Mike C. Jenkins, Ruby D. Jenkins Smith and Eddie Rene Williams.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his son, Mr. William Joseph Jenkins, Jr. of Aliquippa, PA; his daughter, Ms. Latessa Gordon, Americus, GA; four sisters: Ms. Mary Butts, Mrs. Martha (Ray) Johnson, all of Americus, GA; Minister Valerie (Rahman) Grimes, Savannah, GA and Minister Jennifer (Reco) Dawson of Tuscaloosa, AL; three grandchildren: Qualin D. Golden, Jasmine S. Golden and Xavier D. Golden; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, other relatives and friends, including a devoted friend, Elder/Chaplain Warren Tex Wilson, Sr. of Killeen, TX and his 1967 classmates of Sumter High School also survive.