



Sergeant First Class Roderick Dukes

January 11, 1951 - March 11, 2018

Retired Sergeant First Class Roderick Dukes, was born Thursday, January 11, 1951 in Bennettsville, South Carolina to the late Decoy Pigatt and Rosa Nell (Young A.) Dukes Williamson. He departed this earthly life Sunday, March 11, 2018 in Columbia, South Carolina.

Roderick accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior at an early age. He joined and was baptized at Saint Michaels United Methodist Church. He attended the public schools of Marlboro and Richland Counties and was Drum Major for his alma Mata, C. A. Johnson High School. After high school, he worked as a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) and Mental Health Specialist (MHS) for Providence and Crafts-Farrow Hospitals.

“Slim”, as he was affectionately known, shared forty-six years in Holy Matrimony with Barbara Tiller Dukes, and to this union a son was born.

Wanting better for his family, Roderick enlisted in the United States Army where he served his country honorably for twenty-one years. He retired as Sergeant First Class Dukes who was decorated with many achievements and medals to include: Non-Commissioner Officer Academy School, three Pay Development Ribbons, Army Good Conduct Medal, Overseas and Army Service Ribbons, a National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, an Aircraft Crewman Badge and Army Achievement Medal. SFC Dukes

matriculated through the military in the following manner: Utility Helicopter Repairman, Primary Leadership CRS, NBC Defense CRS, BTC CRS, BSEP CBS, Advanced Non-Commissioner Officer Development CRS and the Communication Language Program. As a civilian, Roderick drove trucks long-haul until his desire and family needed him to be home.

“Rod”, as he was affectionately known by his wife, was a generous, wonderful, caring and loving husband and family man who would assist anyone. He was best friend and brother to all and was very determined to encourage others to achieve their goals. He loved to assist family members further their education and had an opened mind and heart but, didn’t mind chastising you to keep in order. Roderick was a “jack of all trade” and historian who liked to work on cars as a “shade tree mechanic”. He loved his mother-in-law’s biscuits and loved to dress in style. He even had to wear his three piece suit and Stacy Adams to the table to eat his chitterlings on New Years Day.

Sergeant First Class Dukes was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Printiss and Michael Crosland; two sisters, Regina Ross and Doris Moon; a father-in-law, Jesse L. Strong and a brother-in-law, Jesse Tyrone Strong.

Left to cherish precious memories are: his devoted wife of forty-six years, Barbara T. Dukes; a son, Roderick Michael Dukes; three grandchildren, Jerry, KeeKee and Mark Dukes; two sisters, Shicasulyn (Harmon) Williamson-Simon and Annie Jean Cochman; mother-in-law, Addie Beatrice Strong; favorite nephew, “NuNu” Adam Williamson, special from Charles Blakley, and a host of other nephews, nieces, cousins, loving relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Road
Columbia, SC 29229

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

A. A. Dicks Funeral Home Sullivan Chapel
6400 North Main Street
Columbia, SC 29203
(803) 254-4673

Graveside Service

MAR 16. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Road
Columbia, SC 29229

Tribute Wall

EF

“ We are saddened to hear about Roderick and praying for your strength and comfort. We loved him and always enjoyed being in his presence.



Elaine, Demetrius, Michael, and Jessica Strong

Elaine Strong and Family - March 15, 2018 at 08:22 PM

RC

“ To The Dukes & Williamson Families. So sorry to hear the passing of our dear cousin. Sergeant First Class Roderick Dukes. Know that you all are in our prayers. Our heartfelt Condolences. Jimmy as we called him will be dearly missed. Such a beautiful person. May God give All Of You his strength and peace during this time of bereavement. Praying for the Family. Cousin, Rose Simmons Townsend (Greet) & Family Bennettsville, South Carolina SIP Cousin

Rose Simmons Townsend cousin - March 14, 2018 at 06:14 PM

RC

“ Rose Simmons Townsend Cousin sent a virtual gift in memory of Sergeant First Class Roderick Dukes



Rose Simmons Townsend cousin - March 14, 2018 at 06:01 PM

RT

“*Rose Simmons Townsend lit a candle in memory of Sergeant First Class Roderick Dukes*



Rose Simmons Townsend - March 14, 2018 at 06:00 PM



“*Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Sergeant First Class Roderick Dukes.*



March 13, 2018 at 06:00 PM