



Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson

October 6, 1933 - January 21, 2025

Benford Hayes Masterson, a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, passed away peacefully at his home in Decatur, Alabama on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at the age of 91.

Funeral Services will be Monday, January 27, 2025 at 1:00 PM at Shelton Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Curtis Sampley and Pastor Steve Smith officiating. The family will receive friends for visitation on Sunday, January 26, 2025 from 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM at the Shelton Funeral Home Chapel.

Mr. Masterson was born on October 6, 1933 to Alvie and Laura Dawson Masterson in Lawrence County, Alabama. He received his Master's Degree in Education and served 36 total years as an Educator. Throughout his career Mr. Masterson was an Elementary School Principal at Somerville Road Elementary and Francis Nungester Elementary in Decatur; and Cowart Elementary in Athens, where he retired after 33 years.

Mr. Masterson was a member of Beltline Church of Christ, where as a beacon of faith and compassion, he blessed the lives of so many serving as the Deacon of Education for many years. He was also a gifted pianist and played in many Gospel Quartets. His greatest joy and source of pride, however, was his family. He shared 67 beautiful years of marriage with his beloved wife, Reba, building a life filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories for their

family. He loved his family and his grandchildren! His kindness and love will endure in the hearts of all who knew him. Although we mourn his passing, we take comfort in the hope of knowing that he has been reunited with his loved ones in the embrace of God's eternal peace.

Mr. Masterson was preceded in death by his parents; and two brothers, Royce Masterson and O'Neal Masterson.

Mr. Masterson is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Reba Masterson; son, Marc Masterson (Mecca); three grandchildren, Savannah Masterson; Caroline Robertson (Dillion); and Raegan Masterson; one great-grandson, Benford Hayes Robertson; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **26**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Shelton Funeral Home Chapel
2105 Beltline Road SW
Decatur, AL 35601

Funeral Service

JAN **27**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Shelton Funeral Home Chapel
2105 Beltline Road SW
Decatur, AL 35601

Tribute Wall

AW

“ Reba.. I am so sorry for your loss, I knew nothing about until now. I hope one of these days you will read back on these special memories and find a friend (me) from long, long ago. Remembering your sweet smile and the memories working together in our younger years. Love you Mrs Reba

Ann Worley - April 02, 2025 at 10:27 PM

JR

“ Mr masterson was the principal at Somerville Rd. Ele were I attended grade school He was the sweetest man and I have never forgotten him .My sympathy and condolences to the family of this fine gentleman .Rip Mr Masterson

Janova Reid - February 22, 2025 at 08:11 PM

VK

“ Vessie and Ray, Tammy and Kent purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.



Vessie and Ray, Tammy and Kent - January 25, 2025 at 04:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.

January 25, 2025 at 10:53 AM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.



January 25, 2025 at 10:53 AM



“ To his family,
In the 1970s, I had the remarkable privilege of meeting and spending time with this wonderful man at Sommerville Road Elementary School when my first child entered 1st grade and I was involved with helping at the school and with the PTA. I am to this day impressed with him. The kindness and personal interest in the children he showed like you don't see much of anymore. A shining example of a kind, loving, gentle and wise caring gentleman with the heart of a father. He was an excellent administrator with the admiration and respect of everyone at that school, but his purpose there was clearly evident: to set an example and give love, direction, and personal attention to every child he was there to oversee as they set their course for life. He knew the name of every single child and called them by their name! That meant a LOT to those little children. It gave them worth and let them know they mattered. It's been decades since I've seen Mr. Masterdson but the memory and impression he left with me as well as my young children will remain for life. Well done sir! You were the epitome of the fruit of the Spirit to those children you were around daily, in living form! I am blessed to have known him,
Cindi Clark



Cindi Clark - January 24, 2025 at 11:03 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.*



January 24, 2025 at 10:09 PM



“ *Jim & Nicole Lanier purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.*



Jim & Nicole Lanier - January 24, 2025 at 04:27 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.*



January 24, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ *Some of my earliest memories were of my Uncle Benford and Aunt Reba making me laugh and taking care of me. I remember how much fun they were and how kind Benford was. He was such a wonderful person and full of life and happiness. We'll miss you but know you are in a better place. Love to Reba and family,*

Amy Marie Alarcon - January 24, 2025 at 08:37 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.

January 24, 2025 at 08:30 AM



“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.



January 24, 2025 at 08:30 AM



“ So sorry to hear of your loss Reba, but at the same time I find comfort in knowing that one day you will share the JOY with him in Heaven. I learned all of this by being your next door neighbor for many years. My prayers are with you. Love to all. Lucy Ferguson

Lucy Ferguson - January 23, 2025 at 12:26 PM



“ I did my student teaching under Mr. Masterson at Somerville Road many moons ago. I remember him as being a kind, helpful man. I'm sorry for your loss. Connie Teague

connie teague - January 22, 2025 at 11:38 AM



“ Tha Bois planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.

Tha Bois - January 21, 2025 at 05:28 PM

TB

“ *Tha Bois purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Mr. Benford Hayes Masterson.*



Tha Bois - January 21, 2025 at 05:28 PM