



Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice

May 23, 1970 - April 22, 2025

And he said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I shall return.” The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord.” (Job 1:21, ESV)

On May 23, 1970, Bruce entered life as the last child born to Eddie and Rosa B. Perry-Rice in Oktibbeha County of Starkville, MS. His earthly life ended on April 22, 2025.

He was preceded in death by both parents; two brothers: Eddie Rice, Jr. and Tommie J. Rice; two brothers-in-law: David English and Willie D. Nichols; and a sister-in-law, Jeannette Nichols-Rice.

Growing up in Starkville, he attended Starkville Public schools. He graduated with the Class of 1989. While attending high school he learned the skill of carpentry under the teaching of the late Mr. John Moore, who spoke of his craftsmanship. After finishing high school, he worked as a carpenter with various contractors, which included Stuart Davis Construction and Parker & McClelland (Starkville, MS), and Chet Gregg (West Point, MS). Bruce loved fishing and sports.

He was an avid fan of the Starkville High School Yellow Jackets, the Mississippi State University Bull-Dawgs, and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord”, and believe in your heart that God raised Him

from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9 NIV)

Bruce believed, declared, and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

In his early life, he

attended Second Baptist Church (Starkville, MS). In his most recent adult life, he worshipped at

Vibrant Church (Columbus, MS) and Riverside Chapel Baptist Church (West Point, MS) through

his temporary stay at the Mission Men of West Point, MS. While there, he received many

certificates for completing courses such as, Life’s Healing Choices for Christ-like Character, the

Mastermind Study of John C. Maxwell’s book, High Road Leadership, Developing the Leader

within You, Coping with Anger Management, and Certificate of Graduation from the Christian

Men’s Job Corps. He was blessed with the opportunity to travel on many mission trips, providing

services to others. He enjoyed various social gatherings, which included fellowship dinners in

churches and homes, attending MSU games, and fishing. He loved his extended family within

the Mission as well as his biological family. He often said “I Love You or Y’all” at the close of a

conversation.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. (Matt. 5:4 ESV)
He leaves to cherish his memories a son, Bruce Alandro Rice of Heflin, AL; a daughter, Rosa-Briana Rice of Bremen, GA; four grandchildren: Kingston Crowder, Kiersten Rice, Kinsley Echols and Kelso Echols of Bremen, GA; Four sisters: Helen Rice-Nichols, Julia Rice-Gillespie, Hazel Rice-English all of Starkville, MS, Rosa Rice of Long Beach, CA; Two brothers: James (Ibia) Rice of Ackerman, MS, Elbert (Diann) Rice of Starkville, MS; Two special nieces: Dana (Bruce) Jefferson and Kayla Rice; Five special nephews: Jarvis Roberts, Reginald Nichols, Alex Rice, Elbert Rice, Jr. and Chad Rice, all of whom were like siblings; His surrogate families: close cousins from his late uncle & aunt (Sammie and Nylene Perry), Ms. Bertha Yarbrough and family; And, a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends, especially the Mission Men.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going.”

John 14:1-4 NI

Visitation: May 2, 2025, from 1pm until 5pm at Hairston - Hairston Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral Service: 2pm, May 3, 2025, at Springhill M.B. Church in Starkville, MS.

Interment: Springhill M.B. Church Cemetery

Cemetery Details

Springhill M.B. Church Cemetery

1643-1699 Old Hwy 25
Starkville, MS 39759

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - Starkville
112 Earnest H Jones Jr Dr
Starkville, MS 39759
(662) 323-5854

Funeral Service

MAY 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

Springhill Missionary Baptist Church
Old Hwy 25 South
Louisville Street
Starkville, MS 39759

Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Janice Hogan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice*



Janice Hogan - May 03, 2025 at 08:52 PM

LH

“ *May God comfort your hearts. Sending love and prayers to the family.*

LaKezia (Rice) Ham - May 03, 2025 at 11:40 AM

PR

“ *RIP - condolences to family*



Peggy Rogers - May 03, 2025 at 08:47 AM

LO

“ *The family has my deepest sympathy and prayers*



Lucretia Orr - May 03, 2025 at 08:42 AM

FC

“ *May the Lord bless and comfort you during your time of sorrow!*

Freeman and Allie Clark - May 02, 2025 at 10:15 AM

HG

“ *Helen Glenn lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice*



Helen Glenn - May 01, 2025 at 07:23 PM

RJ

“ *Rita Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice*



Rita Jones - May 01, 2025 at 06:50 PM

DS

“ *Dr. Willie Earl & Carrie Thomas, Sr. sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice*



Dr. Willie Earl & Carrie Thomas, Sr. - May 01, 2025 at 11:45 AM

LW

With our Deepest Sympathy we are 🙏🙏🙏 the Family Strength doing this Difficult Time.

Lula watson - May 02, 2025 at 09:06 PM

CR

“ Cynthia Robinson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice



Cynthia Robinson - May 01, 2025 at 10:09 AM

LC

“ Lois Childs-O'Neal sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice



Lois Childs-O'Neal - May 01, 2025 at 09:12 AM



“ 67 files added to the album Life Tributes



Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - April 30, 2025 at 02:35 PM

CP

“ My deepest condolences to the Rice family, his siblings, children, nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and uncles. Significant other. To all relatives, I will be praying 🙏 for comfort and strength to get through this sad occasion. RIP Bruce!



Cheryl Poole - April 29, 2025 at 07:14 PM

UH

“ Unteria Ward Hargrove lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice



Unteria Ward Hargrove - April 29, 2025 at 03:46 PM

BH

“ BARBARA WILLIAMS HILL sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice



BARBARA WILLIAMS HILL - April 29, 2025 at 02:17 PM

LB

“ With our Deepest Sympathy... We're 🙏🙏🙏 the Family Strength doing this Difficult time. 🌹



Lula Billups,Watson - April 29, 2025 at 11:46 AM

LB

“ *Condolences and Prayers for the family!* 🙏🙏
🙏



Laketia Brooks - April 29, 2025 at 10:45 AM

LO

“ *LENETRA Outlaw lit a candle in memory of
Mr. Bruce Elliott Rice*



LENETRA Outlaw - April 29, 2025 at 03:47 AM

AF

“ *Annette Frazier lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Bruce Elliott Rice*



Annette Frazier - April 28, 2025 at 09:22 PM