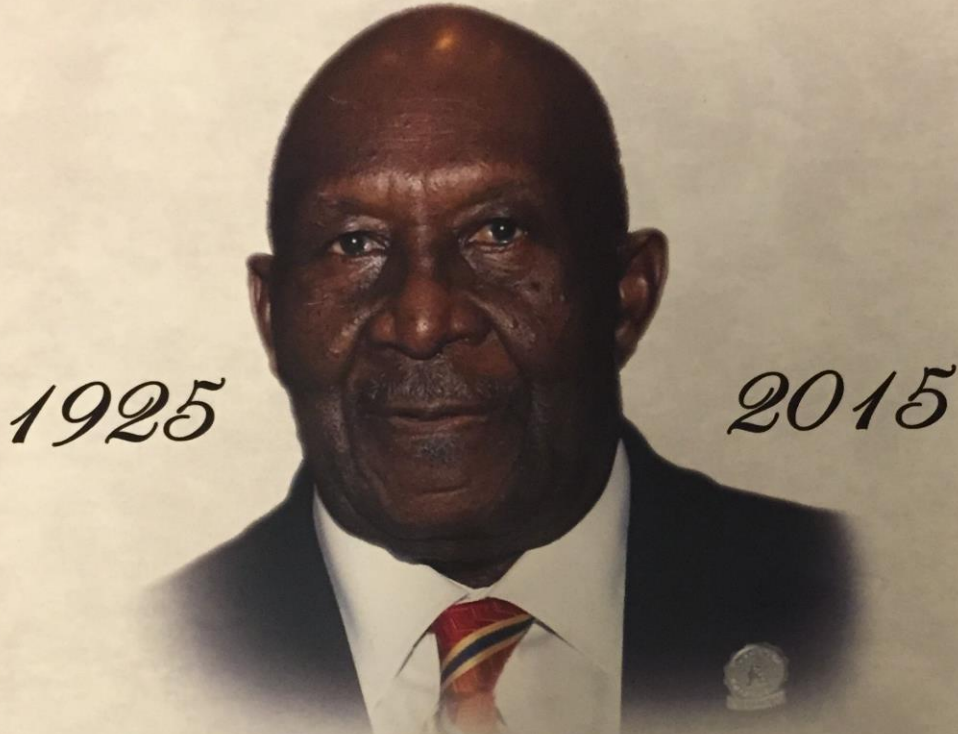


Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015

The Homegoing Celebration Honoring the Life of
Robert L. Dickerson



“Coach Dick”

Thursday, June 18, 2015
11:00 am

First Baptist Church Kingston
4240 9th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35212

Reverend T. N. Miller, Officiating

Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015

Obituary

Robert L. (Coach Dick) Dickerson was born June 24, 1925, in Jasper, Alabama to the late Rev. George and Julia Nash Dickerson. He was the ninth of eleven children and accepted Christ at an early age. In 1939, the family moved to Birmingham after his father was called to pastor First Baptist Kingston. He joined First Baptist Kingston under the leadership of his father, who pastored there for thirty-four years. Robert remained an active and dedicated member, until his passing, on June 11, 2015.

Robert attended A. H. Parker High School, until World War II interrupted his high school studies. He enlisted in the US Navy, serving his country in the US Submarine Services. At the end of the war, he enrolled at Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University, where he met his future wife, Mildred Thompson. They were married on December 9, 1950 and to this union were born three loving children: Robert (Bob), Jr., Glenn and Vernetta.

His coaching career began as a student at Tuskegee Institute, where he served as Assistant Coach under the legendary Alabama Sports Hall of Famer, Coach Cleve Abbott. Coach Dickerson emulated many of Abbott's practice techniques and drills, and developed his own ability to motivate athletes while still at Tuskegee Institute.

The eighty-nine years that he lived, bore a legacy of dedication to the success of others. Coach Dickerson focused on the education of young people. This is reflected in the scores of students that he was instrumental in assisting with their college education. Although he coached baseball and basketball, Coach Dickerson was most noted as an exceptionally successful high school football coach. Teams coached by Coach Dick were known to be tenacious, aggressive and extremely difficult to defeat.

During his high school coaching career, Coach Dick was named Coach of the Year four times, led an undefeated team and coached a Parade Magazine All-American recipient. Coach Dickerson was able to take teams with inferior uniforms and facilities to championship levels. He also officiated in the Southeastern Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

After retirement in 1984, he remained active, selling insurance, being involved in a sickroom supply company and most notably, supporting the Tuskegee University Alumni Association. Two of his many awards and accomplishments include being inducted into the Tuskegee University Athletic Hall of Fame and receiving the Tuskegee University Merit Award. Robert loved First Baptist Kingston and served as Chairman of Men's Day for over 15 years. The love for community was dear to his heart, as he organized community Little League Baseball and Pony League Baseball in the Roosevelt area. It was Coach Dick who organized the first Roosevelt Area Community Reunion.

After battling several illnesses, our loved one was called home June 11, 2015. He is survived by his devoted wife, Mildred Thompson Dickerson; two sons, Robert Jr. and Glenn (Angela) and one daughter, Vernetta; two sisters, Catherine Smith (East St. Louis, MO) and Lorene D. Walker (San Francisco, CA); one brother, George Jr. (Olivette) (Indianapolis, IN); six grandchildren, Robert, Kyra, Allyson, DeAndrea, Jasmine and Glenn Harold; one great-grandson, Kolby; two sisters-in-law, Evelyn Smart (Boston, MA) and Doris Bush (Cleveland, OH); one brother-in-law, John D. Thompson (Debbie) (Siler City, NC); and a host of other relatives and friends.

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Order of Service

Prelude.....Soft Music

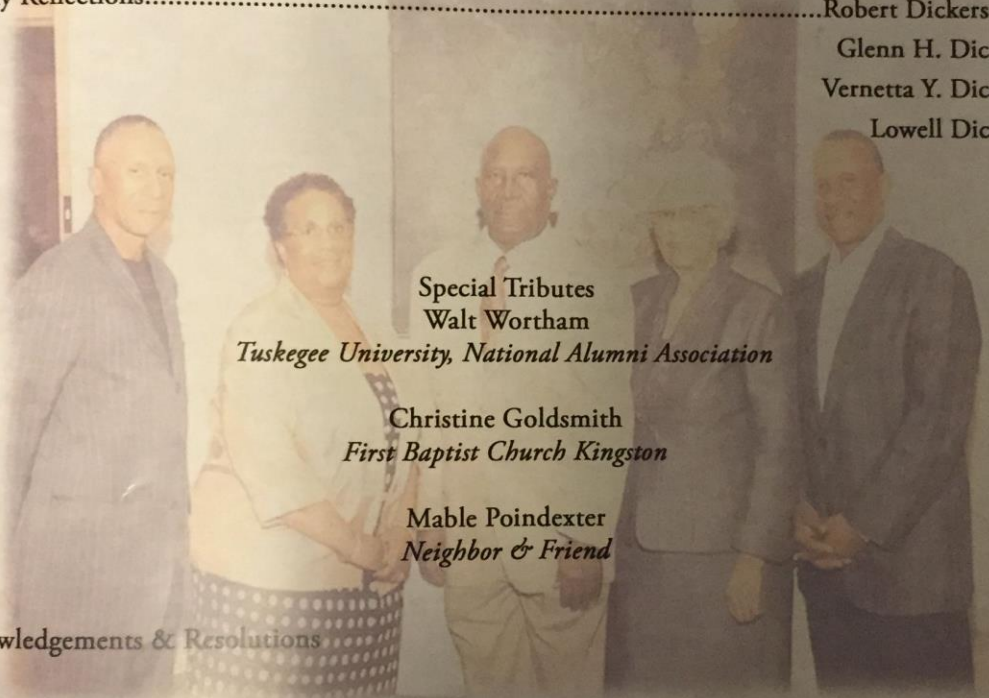
Processional.....Clergy and Family

Scripture Reading
Old Testament.....Rev. David Craig
New Testament.....Rev. Donna Erskine

Prayer.....Rev. R. L. Coats

Music.....First Baptist Kingston Choir

Family Reflections.....Robert Dickerson, Jr.
Glenn H. Dickerson
Vernetta Y. Dickerson
Lowell Dickerson



Special Tributes
Walt Wortham
Tuskegee University, National Alumni Association

Christine Goldsmith
First Baptist Church Kingston

Mable Poindexter
Neighbor & Friend

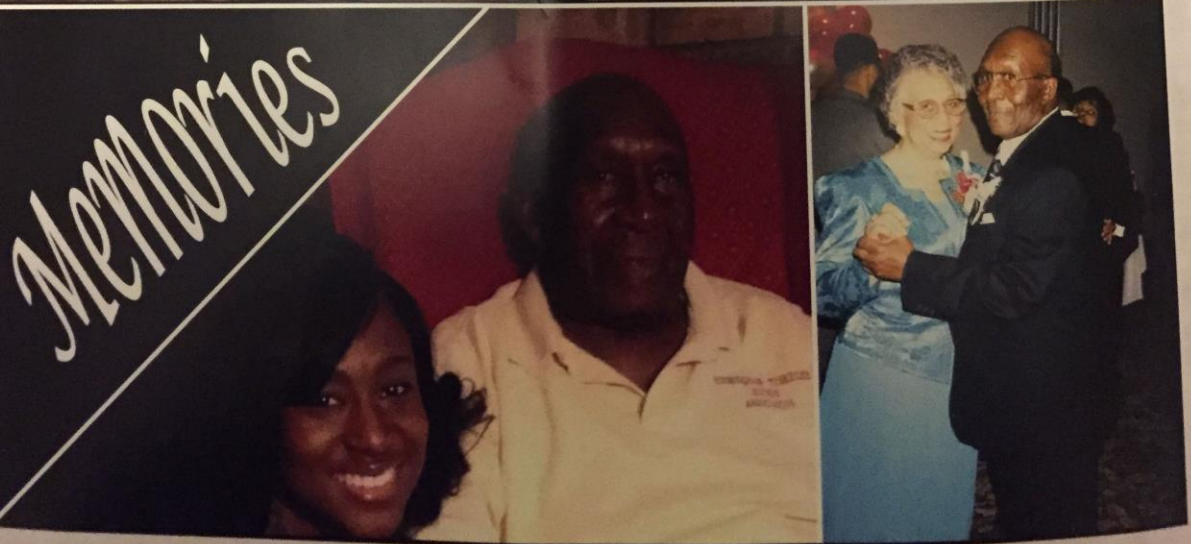
Acknowledgements & Resolutions

Solo.....Frankie Smith

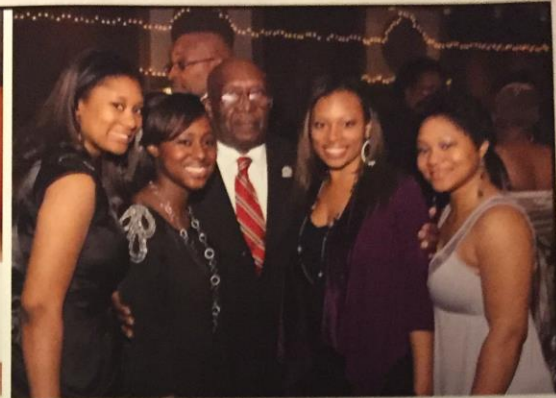
Eulogy.....Rev. T. N. Miller

Recessional

Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015



Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015



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Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015



Memories



Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015



Memories



Coach Robert Dickerson
June 24, 1925 - June 11, 2015

Active Pallbearers

Charles Barren
Darryl Bender

Michael Clisby
Willie Ford

Michael D. Mitchell
Ernest Sykes, Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers

Lowell Dickerson
Christopher D. Smart
Jerome D. Smart

Jimmy Smith
Alfred Terry
John D. Thompson

Charles White
Hosea Daniel Carr
Michael Johnson

Flower Bearers

Former Students of:

Roosevelt Junior High School
Westfield High School
Wenonah High School

Jackson-Olin High School
Hayes High School
J. S. Abrams High School

Interment

Elmwood Cemetery

Family Acknowledgement

We, the family of Robert L. (Coach Dick) Dickerson, will always remember and forever cherish the kindness of your many expressions of sympathy, your prayers, messages, flowers and timely courtesies so graciously extended. A very special thank you to Shauntese Seay and Gentiva Home Health Care for the loving care provided. May God bless each of you.

Final Arrangements Entrusted to:



Smith and Gaston Funeral Services, Inc.
102 6th Ave. S. W.
Birmingham, AL 35211
(205) 322-3581