



## Jesse Alfred Meekins

June 17, 1932 - September 18, 2019

### Reflection of The Life Of Jesse Alfred Meekins

Jesse Alfred Meekins, 87, of Providence Forge, Virginia departed this life on Wednesday, September 18, 2019. Jesse was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse J. and Grace Meekins. He leaves to cherish his memory a loving and devoted wife, Helen Marie Meekins; daughters, Valerie Meekins, Wilnette Wiley, Yvonne Alston (Derrick), sons, Chester and Jesse Meekins, Kevin Crawford (Molly); 10 grandchildren, seven great grand. children, two great t-great-grandchildren: sister, Bertha Carroll; 2 brother in laws, Robert Williams (Betty), Charles Williams; aunt, Ellen Johnson and a host of other relatives and friends.

### Military and Civilian Career

Jesse enlisted in the United States Army in January 1953 and quickly became one of the most renowned Command Sergeant Majors of all time. He served with many units and in several capacities. He was the first African American Sergeant of the Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, and the Second Command Sergeant Major of the African-American descent of the Third United States Infantry Regiment, as Command

Sergeant Major of the Old Guard at Fort Meyer, Virginia. He served with several different units including service with the Joint Security Forces at Panmunjom, Korea and Dewitt Arme y Community Hospital at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He served in the 97th Military Police Battalion in Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam from 1969 to 1970 during the TET 1969 Offensive.

He retired from the United States Army in November 1982 culminating a distinguished career of twenty-nine years of service to a grateful nation.

Following his retirement from the service, he took on a second career as Service Officer for the Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs. As Service Officer, his job was to make sure veterans and their dependents received their just benefits. After service as Service Officer for one year, he was promoted to Regional Manager where he supervised eight field offices. He was recognized for many accomplishments and named Employee of the Year during his employment with the Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs. After twelve years of service, he retired in 1995.

# Cemetery Details

## Second Liberty Baptist Church Cemetery

8140 George Watkins Road  
Quinton, VA 23141

# Previous Events

## viewing

SEP **23**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Second Liberty Baptist Church  
8140 George Watkins Road  
Quinton, VA 23141

## Celebration of Life

SEP **23**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Second Liberty Baptist Church  
8140 George Watkins Road  
Quinton, VA 23141

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jesse Alfred Meekins*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *RIP to a great, kind and loving friend who will be greatly missed. Thank you for your service to our country and for all the good times our families have shared.*

*Thoughts and prayers to the family.*

*Love,  
Tim and Barb*

**Barbara Anderson** - September 23, 2019 at 11:14 AM



“ *The Sundays purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Jesse Alfred Meekins.*



**The Sundays** - September 21, 2019 at 09:20 AM



“ *<3 purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Jesse Alfred Meekins.*



**<3** - September 20, 2019 at 12:19 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

---

**March Funeral Homes** - September 19, 2019 at 08:11 PM