



Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.

July 23, 1937 - January 26, 2026

Mr. Leo Richardson, Jr., beloved family patriarch, husband, father, brother, uncle, and friend, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 26, 2026 at the age of 88 years old. Born on July 23, 1937 in Huger, South Carolina, he was the seventh child of thirteen children born to the late Reverend Joe Leo Richardson, Sr. and the late Mary Brown-Richardson.

Although Junior was born as Joe Leo Richardson, Jr., his parents gave his first name, “Joe” to his elder brother, Woodrow, at an early age, and later in life both brothers had their names legally changed as we know it today. Called “Junior”, “Big Junior”, and “Uncle Junior” by his family and “Leo”, “Rich”, and “Slippery Snake” by his friends, he always required that everyone else call him, “Mr. Richardson” or “Mr. Leo”.

As a life-long member of Stewart Chapel Church, Junior gave his life to Christ at an early age. Like his parents, siblings, and family, he enjoyed going to church and learning the Word of God. He loved gospel music, singing in the choirs with his family over the years, and singing in a local gospel quartet in his younger years. He was also a faithful member of the church’s “Men On The Move and the Men’s Coalition”. While Junior loved hearing his family sing, most of all, he loved the Lord!

While attending Cainhoy High School in 1953, Junior left Huger and joined

several of his elder siblings in Baltimore to find employment to help support his parents and younger siblings. During this new chapter in his life, he met Helen Ruth Newkirk, who became his life-long best friend for 71 years, and his wife of 67 years. Together, they had five daughters.

In his early years in Baltimore, Junior worked on many construction projects with his father and brothers. He later worked as a career employee of Baltimore City Public Works Department for over 30 years as a Truck Driver / Mechanic where he received many accolades for his job performance through the years. In addition to working his "9 to 5" job, he worked long hours as a Taxi Cab driver. An entrepreneur in his own right, he established a business with his brother and friends, and a mechanic business in his local community. He was so good as a mechanic that everyone wanted him to work on their vehicles. Several of his daughters even became his full-time auto mechanic assistant much to the chagrin of Helen.

Junior was a prideful and strong-willed man who was a firm believer in taking care of and providing for his family. He always wanted the best for them. The Lord blessed him with many gifts. Two gifts that he had were his ability to relate to and communicate with people. He really loved talking to people. Everyone knew that once he sat down, leaned back, and crossed his legs and started talking, you knew that was it and you would be there for a minute or two. Junior always gave sensible life advice whether you accepted it or not and he never, ever, held back the truth. He believed in hard work and that you could accomplish anything, male or female, that is if you put your mind to it and did the work. He made his daughters work just as hard as, if not harder than, any man. He did not believe in excuses! His motto was "Be Strong! Be a "MAN" even though he had ALL GIRLS!

A jack of all trades and a great orator, Junior used his talents to establish a wired CB-network connection from home that enabled him to communicate

with other Truck Drivers across the country. Under his renown CB handle, Slippery Snake, Junior spent hours establishing friendships with thousands of Truckers driving across the country. In appreciation for his years of expertise, hundreds of Truckers from across the country came to Baltimore and presented him with the Lifetime Trucker CB Handler Award. Prior to going back home to Huger to live out his retirement, Junior signed off his CB radio for the last time, "Breaker, Breaker, This is Slippery Snake, Finally going home, Slippery Snake out...". During his senior years, Junior continued to enjoy going to church, singing on the choir, fishing and hunting, as well as spending time with his family. Most of all, Junior remained rich in spirit and stood fast in his faith.

Junior leaves to continue his legacy and cherish his memory, his devoted wife, Helen Ruth Newkirk-Richardson, their five daughters, Sandra (Ian), Sheila (Anthony), Barbara (Emmitt), Laverne (Cyrus), and Nina (Michael); his daughters: Janet (Levi), Yowanda (Ronald), and Felicia; 13 grandchildren: Larry (Karen), Michael, Jr., Shelena, Sable, Marcus, Jasmin, Shannon, Derrick, Alex (Victoria), Krystle, Devon, Rachel, and Kevin; 12 great-grandchildren: Diante, LaShay, Isaiah, Emmanuel, Charity, Jayden, Katelyn, Xavier, David, Payton, Derrick Jr., Dylan; Jady, and Aubry; three great-grandchildren: Maziyon, Charm, and Zy'Aire; three siblings: Sarah, Sammie (Emily), and David (Victoria); two sisters-in-law: Myrtle and Rose and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Junior was preceded in death by his beloved siblings, sisters-in-law, and brothers-in-law: Sonnie, Texanna (Mose), Annamae (Herman), Nelson (Neather), Johnny (MaryJane), Rosetta (Cleveland), Woodrow (Alberta), Arthur (Shirley), Abraham, David Crawford, and Elsie.

"Celebration of Life Service - Maryland for Leo Richardson, Jr. - February 21,

2026", <https://webcast.funeralvue.com/events/viewer/119931>

Public Viewing

Friday, February 27, 2026

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Rev. Bryan McNeal, Sr. Memorial Chapel

4129 Highway 17 N. - Awendaw

Celebration of Life Service

Saturday, February 28, 2026

11:00 AM

Stewart Chapel United Methodist Church

2469 Cainhoy Road - Huger, SC.

Interment

Lavance Cemetery

Huger, SC

The Repast will be held following the funeral services at A & B Event Community Center, 1762 Toomer Lane, Huger, SC 29450.

Cemetery Details

Lavance Cemetery

Huger, SC 29450

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Stewart Chapel United Methodist Church
2469 Cainhoy Road
Huger, SC 29450

LIVE STREAM VIEWING

FEB 28. 11:00 AM.

Smith-McNeal - FACEBOOK PAGE

Tribute Wall



“ *Laverne Frazier sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.* ”



Laverne Frazier - May 24 at 12:13 PM



D-A-D-D-Y!!!!

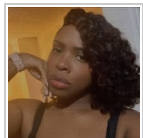
Laverne Frazier - May 24 at 12:14 PM



“ *Laverne Frazier sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.* ”



Laverne Frazier - May 15 at 05:52 AM



“ *Sending condolences from the Johns Family* ”



Naia Johns - February 28 at 11:01 AM

EM

“ Our deepest condolences to the Richardson family. May the goodness of the Lord comfort you, and may His loving presence soothe your hearts and ease your pain. For the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of sorrow will end.

Elder Terry & Mother Francine McRae - February 27 at 08:43 PM

DR

“ Big Junior, we will miss all your encouraging words, the kisses on the cheek, the love you gave to all of us. May you find Rest in Paradise. Family may God bless you for all the time you cared for your dad and husband... Remember that "Weeping May Endure for a Night but JOY comes in the Morning."



David & Ann Richardson - February 27 at 03:08 PM

BC

“ Bennye Clay purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr..



Bennye Clay - February 27 at 01:12 PM

LA

“ Uncle Jr. I will forever cherish the many memories we shared. From you and my dad yelling across the yard, getting a cold soda everytime we would visit and you're encouraging words and jokes. You will be missed and thank you for the significant role you played in my life.



Lacey - February 26 at 02:04 PM

CI

“ Uncle junior I remember when my granny was leaving from this earth you were at her bedside on your knees crying and praying until her last breath. I'll never forget that. Thank you for you wisdom and talks I will miss you dearly, Take your rest

cierra - February 25 at 01:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr..

February 25 at 12:45 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr..



February 25 at 12:45 PM

BW

“ BIG JUNIORRRR!!! The one who ALWAYS had something to say or a story to tell. I know your brothers and sisters and Ma are sooooo happy to see you. Get your rest. We will love and miss everything about you!

Briana Walker - February 24 at 08:55 PM

NB

“Daddy, I’m missing you so much.💔 This is so hard because you have always been ‘right’ here. I miss all the phone calls, hugs/kisses, your facial expressions 😊, the laughs and crazy long stories. Just fixing a cup of coffee is hard these days but I know you’re with GOD now and have no more pain and suffering. I will love and miss you forever.
Your Baby Girl 😊
Nina

Nina Bryant - February 24 at 04:20 PM



“I miss you so much, granddaddy. I miss hearing your voice. Love you so much, little Michael.



Michael Bryant - February 24 at 04:12 PM

SM

“Sandra McLean lit a candle in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.



Sandra McLean - February 24 at 07:45 AM

LF

“Daddy, missing you so much!!!! I will always be a Daddy's Girl!!!!

Laverne Frazier - February 24 at 05:33 AM

HR

“ Junior, the Love of My Life, miss you so much!!!!

Helen Richardson - February 24 at 05:30 AM

HR

“ Helen Richardson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.



Helen Richardson - February 24 at 05:29 AM

LF

“ Laverne Frazier lit a candle in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.



Laverne Frazier - February 24 at 05:27 AM

LA

“ Laverne lit a candle in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.



Laverne - February 24 at 05:26 AM

HR

“ *Helen Richardson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.*



Helen Richardson - February 24 at 05:25 AM

HR

“ *Helen Richardson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.*



Helen Richardson - February 24 at 05:12 AM

HR

“ *Helen Richardson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.*



Helen Richardson - February 24 at 05:12 AM

HR

“ *Helen Richardson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr.*



Helen Richardson - February 24 at 05:11 AM

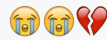


“ 8 files added to the album Program



W M Smith-McNeal Funeral Home & Chapel - February 23 at 03:25 PM

SF



Sheila Floyd - February 25 at 10:30 PM

GC

“ Geraldine and Cheryl Carson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr..



Geraldine and Cheryl Carson - February 23 at 08:12 AM

TF

“ The TSC Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mr. Leo Richardson Jr..



The TSC Family - February 19 at 03:49 PM