

## OBITUARY

Joseph Lawrence Baylor departed this life on April 6, 2000. He was born in Newport News, Va. on March 23, 1920. He was the second child born to Charles and Louise Davenport Baylor.

Joseph attended the public schools of Newport News, Va. and graduated from Huntington High School in Newport. After which he served his country as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II. He then went on to graduate from Hampton University, Hampton, Va. He has attended workshops and summer classes at Tuskegee Institute, A&T University, Tennessee State University, University of Tennessee, and East Tennessee State University.

Joseph worked several jobs before beginning his teaching career. He worked as a shipbuilder, as a rigger and iron cutter. He also worked for the U.S. Postal Service as a mail carrier.

In 1950, Joseph moved to Kingsport, Tennessee and began his teaching career at Douglas High School. After intergration he was transferred to John Sevier Middle School. During his tenure at these two schools he taught Math, Chemistry, and Industrial Arts. During the summer months he was employed as a drafts person at Tennessee Eastman. In 1983, he retired from Kingsport City Schools after 33 years of service.

Joseph was very active with Boy Scouts during the 1950's. He was an Advisory Board Member of the Riverview Boys Club and a charter member of South Kingsport Optimist. He was also a member of American Legion Post and the Merrymakers, Inc.



Shortly after coming to Kingsport Joseph joined Central Baptist Church. He was a very faithful and supportive member up to his illness. He has served in the church as a Trustee, a Sunday School Superintendent and for 40 years a Sunday School teacher.

As requested by the President of Hampton University, Joseph had the honor of representing Hampton University by participating in the Academic Processional at the Inauguration of President Thomas R. Norris at Emory and Henry College, Emory, Va.

Joseph was preceded in death by his father Charles Baylor, mother, Louise Davenport Baylor, and sister Gertrude Baylor Walker.

Survivors: Devoted wife of 24 years Peggy Welker Baylor, Brothers: James (Violet) Baylor, of Hampton Va. Thomas Baylor, of Richmond Va. Nephews: James Baylor Jr., of Williamsburg, Va. Kenneth (Valerie) Baylor, of Hampton, Va. Brian Baylor, of Hampton Va. Great niece Keisha Baylor, of Hampton, Va. Brother-in-law Roosevelt Welker. Three sisters-in-law Margaret Harris, Betty Beattie, and JoAnn Buchanan all of Knoxville Tn.

Niece - Brenda Baylor, Hampton, Va.

So live that when thy summons comes to join  
The innumerable caravan, which moves to that  
mysterious realm, where each shall take  
His chamber in the silent halls of death,  
Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night  
Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

William Cullen Bryant