



## REV. SHOLE JORDAN

July 10, 1922 - February 24, 2016

Rev. Shole Lee Edward Jordan was born July 10, 1922 to Leland and Maltilda Jordan in Ruleville, Mississippi. He was the youngest of eleven siblings. After accepting Jesus as his personal savior, he was baptized and later accepted his call into the ministry. Rev. Jordan was ordained an Elder and was elevated by the Late Bishop Goldsberry to the position of State Evangelist at Faith Temple COGIC. Reverend Jordan also traveled with Bishop Goldsberry to the Continent of Africa to establish missions in Africa.

Rev. Jordan enlisted in the U.S. Navy during WW II shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he was honorably discharged in 1944. Rev. Jordan worked as a welder for General Motors and retired after 30 years. Grandpa Jordan was affectionally known throughout the community as an avid farmer whose vegetable garden yielded the best annual harvest.

Rev. Jordan met the love of his life, Doris Brown, and was united in Holy Matrimony on July 10, 1945. They were blessed with over 66 years in Holy Matrimony. From their union he became the proud father of eight children; Vurnice, Shelly, Lonnice, Edward (deceased), Denise, Paul (deceased), Jimmie, and Elizabeth. Additional children that were adopted into the family were Robert Ellington-Snipes, Leon Snipes, Ephsanna Martin, and Mary Caver. Rev. Jordan raised his nephew Roosevelt Brown as his own son. Affectionately called "Uncle Ed," Rev. Jordan served as the

patriarch of the Jordan family reunions, his favorite notable quotation during our annual family reunion was "Family First!"

Rev. Jordan enjoyed baseball and served as a little league coach in Markham, IL before moving to Momence in 1970, one of his little leaguers was Dr. Rodney Alford. Rev. Jordan was a member of the United Auto Workers until his retirement, and a former member of the AASR Masons. Rev. Jordan believed that if a man doesn't work, he doesn't eat. As a farmer, Reverend Jordan raised a variety of livestock and planted crop on his 60 acre farm. Everyone remembered that most stubborn bull that he loved and affectionately named Bully. He taught many young men how to farm, how to raise a family, and how to be fathers. He was called Rev. Jordan by some, Dad Jordan by many and Granddaddy by everyone else.

Rev. Jordan and his wife, Doris, opened their home to many children and families and became affectionately known as "Granddad" and "Granny". After farming during the week, Rev. Jordan and Mrs. Jordan held prayer meetings on Saturday mornings, however he knew that there was more that God wanted him to do. During one of the Jordan's seasons of fasting and praying, God gave Mrs. Jordan a vision of praying hands in a garden. Thus, Garden of Prayer Deliverance Center was birthed. Rev. Jordan converted an old chicken coop into a small chapel and began to pastor. Not only did he grow crops through farming, he grew the body of Christ by harvesting souls for the Kingdom. Rev. Jordan was an entrepreneur and established a farmer's market, fish market, and a Christian summer camp. Following in the footsteps of her parents, Vurnice founded Garden of Prayer Youth Center in 1995. Today, Garden of Prayer Youth Center is the only African American Licensed Child Welfare Agency in Kankakee County. Garden of Prayer Youth Center has over 40 employees operating out of five sites. The youth center is dedicated to keeping families together while keeping the Jordan family legacy alive.

Rev. Shole Jordan made his transition on February 24th, 2016. He leaves to cherish his memory, his children, Vurnice and Franklin Maloney of Momence, IL, Shelly and Barbara Jordan of South Holland, IL, Lonnice Jordan and Ray Graves of Country Club Hills, IL, Denise and Robert Alexander of St Anne, IL, Roosevelt and Jackie Brown of Gary, IN, Robert Ellington Snipes of Kankakee, IL, Jimmie and Teresa Jordan of Seattle, WA, Larue Snipes of Dixon, IL, and Elizabeth Love of Peoria, IL; his numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Jordan, two sons, Edward Leon Jordan and Paul Jordan, his parents, and his 10 siblings.

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ So sorry for the loss of a great man. I pray that God continues to strengthen this family through this dark time. He lived a long life, and for that we should be thankful. Amen

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**Carolyn Hester** - March 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

J&

“ To Robert Snipes and the Jordan Family you have our condolences and you are in our prayers. May the LORD continue to comfort you in this season of your lives.

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**Jeannie Hunt Randle &Family** - March 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ I knew Reverend Jordan through my job at Riverside Medical Center. I was Cashier there for 15 years and met Rev. Jordan a short while before his wife died. I assisted him for several years with his bills & he was a real gentleman and so sweet. I will miss

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**Mary Birr** - March 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ PRAYING GO OUT FOR THE FAMILY

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**ROBERT WASHINGTON FAMILY** - March 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM