



Heister L McKenzie

October 10, 1958 - February 1, 2025

Heister Lamar McKenzie's extraordinary life has left an indelible mark on the hearts of all

who knew him. Born on October 10, 1958, in Chickasha, OK, to Richard and Dorothy

McKenzie, Heister's remarkable journey was marked by his unwavering faith, compassion, and dedication to serving others. As a devoted pastor, law enforcement

officer, and family man, Heister's legacy continues to inspire and uplift all those whose lives he touched.

At the age of 8, Heister united with Shepherd St. (Disciples of Christ) Christian Church

under Reverend John B. Holmes. While living in Chickasha, Heister accepted his call to

ministry at Miles Brown Chapel C.M.E, serving as pastor assistant to Morris Blakes. He

went on to become pastor at Austin Chapel C.M.E. in El Reno, OK, and assistant pastor

at Holy Divine Baptist Church under Pastor Richard Colbert. His final position was

assistant pastor at Mt. Triumph Baptist Church in Oklahoma City under James Dorn. On

January 5, 1981, Heister began his law enforcement career, becoming certified and joining the Chickasha police force. He eventually became the first Black Chief of Spencer, Oklahoma, serving from 1984-1986. Heister continued his law enforcement career with the Choctaw Police Department from 1986-1987 before returning to Chickasha, OK, where he concluded his career from 1987-1998 as a patrol officer, field training officer, radar instructor, and D.A.R.E officer. Heister attended Chickasha High School, where he excelled in various sports, including basketball, baseball, football, and track. He achieved state championships in baseball and basketball, along with multiple district championships during his high school tenure. Moreover, he received numerous awards, such as the Delbert Rayes Award and the Joe David Foley Award, among many other accomplishments. Many of Heister's hobbies and interests involved coaching and working with youth, commencing with his role as a baseball and football coach for 10–12-year-olds from 1984-1997. His most significant joy was coaching the Chickasha Hornets softball team alongside Pastor Morris Blakes from 1992 to approximately 2000. Family was the cornerstone of Heister's existence. He took immense pride in his roles as a husband, son, brother, uncle, father, and especially as a

grandfather and friend. His influence was profoundly felt by many. Heister's faith remained steadfast throughout his life. He approached each day with grace, courage, and unwavering trust in God's plan, serving as an inspiration to all who crossed his path. He placed complete trust in God and sought divine guidance daily. His selflessness was evident as he lived to honor God, allowing Him to direct his journey. Heister's life stood as a powerful testament to the strength derived from a deep relationship with God. He exemplified what it meant to follow God, and there is no doubt that his legacy continues in Heaven. As he would often say, this is not a farewell, but rather a temporary parting. Heister was preceded in death by his father, Richard Russell McKenzie, as well as two brothers, Kevin Michael McKenzie and Richard Darnell McKenzie. He also lost three uncles: James Mozell Johnson, Willie B. Daniels, and Walter J. Daniels, along with one aunt, Ewilder Holloway. Heister's family brought him immense joy. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife, Deborah McKenzie; his children, Howard McKenzie, Essie Lynch, Kevin McKenzie, Amy McKenzie, and Matthew McKenzie, all from Oklahoma City, OK. His mother, Dorothy McKenzie also resides in Oklahoma City. He is survived by two sons-in-law,

Troy Colbert and Raymond Lynch, as well as four brothers: Justus Eugene McKenzie from Sacramento, CA; Ronald Erwin McKenzie from Oklahoma City, OK; Travis Bernard McKenzie from Mustang, OK; and Wallace Lee McKenzie from Oklahoma City, OK. Additionally, he leaves behind four sisters: Patricia Yvonne McKenzie from Fresno, CA; Karen Lavonne Buckner from Mansfield, TX; Leatrice Marie Phillips from Oklahoma City, OK; and Dorothea Faye McKenzie from Oklahoma City, OK. He is also survived by one brother-in-law, Larry Buckner from Mansfield, TX; two sisters-in-law, Ernestine McKenzie from Sacramento, CA, and Angela McKenzie from Mustang, OK; one aunt, Wilma Jean Hicks from Roswell, NM; and one uncle, Russell D. Wright from Roswell, NM. He is remembered by 24 grandchildren: Christopher, Makeiliana, Paisley, Ryder, Kade, Briar, Jace, Keyanna, Camaya, Jayonna, Aziyah, Montreal, Markell, Haley, Makayla, Isaiah, Kyleigh, Avery, Karis, Koryn, Mazie, Natalia, and Aniya Kennison. He also leaves behind six great-grandchildren: Wells, Winnie, J'ream, Kha'lari, Meela, and Zayland, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family members

Previous Events

Memorial Services

FEB 13. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Mount Triumph Baptist Church
1716 Abram Ross Ave
Oklahoma City, OK 73117

viewing & visitation, Friday, February 14, 2025

FEB 14. 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Brown Funeral Home
401 SOUTH 1ST STREET
Chickasha, OK 73018

Celebration of Life

FEB 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church
324 West Colorado Ave
Chickasha, OK 73018

Tribute Wall



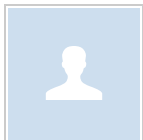
“ *What can I say you were a man I looked up to for your conviction of life you believed they could be saved your family was the way of life for you but most of all the fun we all shared playing ball talking to each other as friends do Bear enjoyed being coach and I love doing the score keeping and getting to know your wife’s and family I love you Heater even being an angel 😇 you’re a star Taquita and I miss our summer friends 💕🙏💕😇💕👍*

Mary Nieto - February 13, 2025 at 08:33 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Heister L McKenzie.*

February 13, 2025 at 02:39 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Heister L McKenzie.*



February 13, 2025 at 02:39 PM



“ *Thaddeus Young planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Heister L McKenzie.*

Thaddeus Young - February 12, 2025 at 11:37 AM

TY

“ *Thaddeus Young purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Heister L McKenzie.*



Thaddeus Young - February 12, 2025 at 11:37 AM

CB

“ *Class of 77 brothers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Heister L McKenzie.*

Class of 77 brothers - February 11, 2025 at 08:43 AM

CB

“ *Class of 77 brothers purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Heister L McKenzie.*



Class of 77 brothers - February 11, 2025 at 08:43 AM

FM

“ *Pastor McKenzie was my mentor in the word. If I ever had a question, he would be quick to answer my questions and give me something to think about for the week ahead till the next meeting at church. His smile was genuine and the brotherly love he showed was always welcoming. I will miss you Pastor McKenzie.*

Fred Maxwell - February 10, 2025 at 01:49 AM

NL

“ Hester was my cousin when we were young we were always together when came ti visit from New Mexico, I will miss him I know that his in God's hands his aunt is my mother and she sends her love

Norma lane - February 09, 2025 at 06:50 PM

TC

“ God bless the McKenzie family
Love Tana Carter

Tana Carter - February 08, 2025 at 07:02 PM

BK

“ Heaster would come by the fire station and hang out with us sometimes. Loved listening to his stories, could have been a comedian.

Bryan Karns - February 06, 2025 at 04:34 PM

DB

“ Heister was a great friend and a great guy. He will be missed. He always had a smile when I met him and a great laugh.

Douglas Black - February 06, 2025 at 02:09 PM

AB

“ My Deepest Sympathy to the Family of Reverend Heister McKenize. God Bless the Family with the Comfort, Peace, Understanding and Strength you need today and the days ahead. Rest In Heavenly Peace my Friend Mr. Heister.



Angelia Blunt - February 05, 2025 at 03:36 PM

AM

“ I recall one evening before leaving from the hospital, Keyana had her daughter at the hospital HL's great granddaughter before praying he told her to Lay her down in the bed on his arm. His great granddaughter ,before we started to pray reached up and grabbed my finger, Keyana was surprised HL and I, told she knows she's, safe in Grandpa's Arms . Proverbs 22:6 God is Good! I'll cherish that moment for the rest of my life . Thank you Lord for your presence 🙏.

Asst Pastor Travis b Mckenzie - February 05, 2025 at 02:59 PM

FH

“ So sorry to hear of Heister's passing. My late husband worked with him on the police department years ago. Heister was always so upbeat and happy. He always had a kind word for me and our daughter.

Frieda Hauger - February 05, 2025 at 02:06 PM

RT

“ *It is never easy when someone you loves passes; even harder when that person has been a part of your life for 58 years. My first memories of Heister are from Little League baseball (he was a Cardinal, I was a Dodger). We were teammates through junior high and high school. We played in the same football backfield and in the same outfield during baseball. His smile and laugh were a constant source of hope and reassurance. When I got married two years ago he honored me by praying for me and my new wife at our wedding. When I last saw him two weeks ago he commented on how gray my hair had become.*

The photo below is from May of 2021. Pictured are 3 of my longest friendships: James Dorn (also a former teammate), Heister, and Terri Carlton Evans who passed just 1 year ago.

Heister, you will be missed but I rejoice that you are now in the presence of our Lord.

Rockey Talley - February 04, 2025 at 10:18 PM

GM

“ *I am so honored to speak about Pastor McKenzie The angels are rejoicing in heaven because they receive a faithful and good servant. Pastor McKenzie was truly a servant of God. I recall he checked on me continuously when my husband passed away. He mentor my son and encourage him to be his best and to do his best. Pastor McKenzie you will truly be missed.*

Ginger Moore and Family

Ginger Moore - February 04, 2025 at 07:33 PM

PS

“ *heister was a good man. always smiling. i knew him from the hospital as i was a nurse and him a policeman. our paths crossed often. my husband bill schwenk was his baseball coach. never a problem with him. always doing his best. prayers for the family.* ”

pat schwenk - February 04, 2025 at 06:41 PM



“ *My bro was a loving husband ,father ,grandfather ,he was no stranger to anybody he met he would take you in like one of his own kids he was a child of God missing you brother but god got a angel that knows the word keep watching over us love you* ”

Kathy Galbraith - February 04, 2025 at 05:34 PM

DW

“ *Heister and I were softball teammates for a number of years. We were playing a tournament in Anadarko. He was not known for hitting homeruns, but line shots down the first base line. We'll this particular tournament he got hot and hit probably 4 or 5 homeruns. He was so excited! You hit a homerun this time bubba fly high!* ”

David walker - February 04, 2025 at 05:20 PM

KH

“ *Kathy Henderson lit a candle in memory of Heister L McKenzie* ”



Kathy Henderson - February 04, 2025 at 05:16 PM

KH

“ *My Classmate always had a smile my Condolences to the family I pray for God to give you strength.*

Kathy Henderson - February 04, 2025 at 05:11 PM