

## I Am Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I am following the path God laid for me,  
I took His hand when I heard Him call,  
I turned my back and left it all,  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work, or pray.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way.  
I found that peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with time of sorrow.  
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I've savored much.  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's  
touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me.  
God wanted me now, He set me free.

### LOVING MEMORIES

Your gentle face and patient smile  
With sadness we recall  
You had a kindly word for each  
And died beloved by all.  
The voice is mute and stilled the heart,  
That loved us well and true.  
Ah, bitter was the trial to part  
From one so good as you.  
You are not forgotten loved one  
Nor will you ever be,  
As long as life and memory last  
We will remember thee.  
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,  
As time goes by we miss you more.  
Your loving smile your gentle face,  
No one can fill your vacant place.

## Pallbearers

Ricky Pirtle Christopher McGwan  
Donald Pirtle Melvin Pirtle  
Charlie Bailey, Jr. Wesley Taylor

## Flowerbearers

Ushers

## Acknowledgments

To all our relatives and neighbors  
who opened their hearts to us.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat  
quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent  
a floral tribute, if so, we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest  
words, that any friend could say.  
Perhaps you were not there at all,  
just thought of us that day.  
Whatever you did to console our  
hearts, we thank you so much,  
whatever the part.

The Family

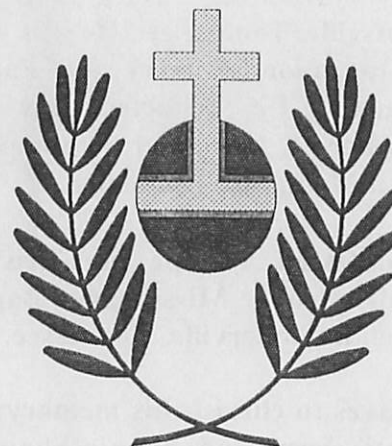
## Interment

Russell Grove Cemetery  
Somerville, TN

## Arrangements

*Rawls Funeral Home*  
36 South Jackson Ave.  
Brownsville, TN 38012  
Phone: 901-772-1472  
Fax: 901-772-9285

**In Loving Memory Of**  
**Jerry Dewayne Shepard, Jr.**  
November 16, 1975 - December 11, 1996



"A Young Man Of Great Character  
And Depth,  
Who Will Be Remembered In Life  
And In Death  
By All Who Knew Him"

### *Funeral Services*

Saturday, December 14, 1996  
11:00 am

Russell Grove MB Church  
Somerville, TN

Reverend Bobby Champion, Pastor  
Officiating

## The Obituary Of

Jerry Dewayne Shepard, Jr.

November 16, 1975 - December 11, 1996

Jerry Dewayne Shepard, Jr. was born November 16, 1975 in Brownsville, Tennessee. He was born into the union of Jerry and Fannie Shepard. He departed this life, December 11, 1996, at 1:50 pm at the Med in Memphis, Tennessee.

He confessed a hope in Christ at Russell Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Somerville, Tennessee.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his parents, Jerry and Fannie Shepard, both of Somerville, TN; his grandfather, Gurney Champion of Somerville, TN; two sons, Jevonte and Jontavius Shepard, both of Memphis, TN; Janice Harper (a dear friend) of Memphis, TN; three brothers, Chris (Lawanda) Shepard and Shcorey Shepard, both of Brownsville, TN; Terry Settles of Memphis, TN; four sisters, Sherry Shepard of Bolivar, TN; Veronica Shepard, Doria Holmes and Tiffany Worles, all of Somerville, TN; six aunts and six uncles; and a host of nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

## Order of Service

Processional...

Hymn of Soft Music...

Scripture & Prayer.....Reverend Giles

Hymn.....Russell Grove MB Church

Words of Comfort.....Friends & Relatives  
(Two minutes, please)

Solo.....Sister Tina Harper

Obituary.....Read Silently.....Soft Music

Solo.....Sister Lorine Champion

Eulogy.....Reverend Bobby Champion

Recessional...



Do not shed a tear because...  
"... the day dawns and the  
morning star rises..."  
(2 Peter 1:19)

## Always With You

Although your heart is aching  
For the loss of one so dear,  
Let memories of a special love  
Keep him forever and always near.

It's not for you to understand  
Why so suddenly he is gone,  
But realize the love you shared  
Was the bond that made you one.

Let the many happy times you had  
Be the memories to carry you through,  
And accept that this is the way of God  
To keep him always there for you.

I can't tell you not to cry or hurt  
For his presence no longer to see,  
Just know he will have eternal life,  
Cause in your heart he will always be.

NaNandi

To the "Shepard" Family  
With all our love,  
Billy and Andrea Shepard

✠✠ Jerry Shepard was ✠✠

*a good man;  
May he rest  
in the peace of Jesus.*