



## John Berlin Kelly

February 23, 1936 - April 7, 2025

Mr. John Berlin Kelly was born on February 23, 1936 in Carthage, NC to Mr. William Berlin Kelly and Mrs. Nancy Dover Kelly Clegg. He went home to be with the Lord on April 7th , 2025. He was affectionately known as “JB’ or “Kelly” by many. Kelly is preceded by his two sisters Willette Mathis and Pecolia “Pete” Marie Hennigan. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Willie Ellen Kelly. Kelly attended Pinckney High School where he graduated in 1953. He then attended Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC from 1954-1958. During his time at Johnson C. Smith he served as the Vice President of the NAACP and was involved in football, intramural basketball, softball, French club, Sigma Honor Society, University Band (JCSU’s first band), Economics Club, and S.C.A. Kelly graduated number one in his major (Social Science). Upon graduation, Kelly was drafted into the United States Army where he served his country. After discharge, he briefly attended Seton Hall University to pursue a degree in law. Kelly started his employment at General Motors. Next, he became an entrepreneur where he owned and managed Kelly’s Deli in Brooklyn, New York as well as Yogi Bear in Charlotte, NC. He then began his career at the United States Postal Service where he retired after 20 years. After retirement, he worked for IBM, First Union, and Allied Barton Security. In his personal time, he enjoyed watching sports -- namely, baseball, basketball, golf, football, and tennis. He also enjoyed music. Kelly was a man of God. He was involved in the church and various school activities. He believed in serving his immediate, extended, and adopted family.

Kelly was a husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother, mentor, and friend. He was known for his infectious laugh, wisdom, and comforting voice. He leaves to cherish his memories: his children Rhonda T. Moone (Wesley), Howard L. Terry Jr (deceased), Raynard C Terry (Carella), and Johnatha K. Camp; his 12 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Salisbury National Cemetery

501 Statesville Blvd.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 14. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

A.E. Grier & Sons Funeral and Cremation, LLC.  
2310 Statesville Avenue  
Charlotte, NC 28206  
(704) 377-4243  
info@aegriersonsfcc.com  
<https://www.aegriersonsfcc.com>

## Celebration of Life Service

APR 14. 12:00 PM (ET)

A.E. Grier & Sons Funeral and Cremation, LLC.  
2310 Statesville Avenue  
Charlotte, NC 28206  
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## Interment

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APR **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Salisbury, NC 28144