

*Mr. Joe Hampton, Jr.* was born in Sumter County, Georgia on June 30, 1931, to the parentage of the late Mr. Joe Hampton, Sr. and the late Mrs. Jessie B. Hooks Hampton. At an early age, he joined the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Joe only had a grade school level of education, but it was so amazing how he could count money in his head. He didn't need paper and pencil nor a calculator. Maria, his fourth daughter, would be so nervous whenever she worked with him because she wanted to use pencil and paper to add the items. He would say, "You mean to tell me I'm sending you to school and you can't add in your head. You don't need that pencil and paper."

In order to support his family, Joe started cooking chicken at the New Frontier in Desoto, Georgia on the weekends while also employed full-time at Reeves Construction. He later started cooking chicken with his uncle, Willie Wise, at Wise Bird Lounge. Joe later ventured out on his own and started Tracy's Chicken, where he affectionately became known as "Mr. Junior" and "The Chicken Man". "Mr. Junior" enjoyed fishing and barbecuing. He was a hard worker and believed in "you had to work for it". Joe definitely left behind a legacy for his children to carry out.

Joe is preceded in death by a daughter, Ms. Delores H. Brown.

Joe leaves to cherish his memories: his devoted wife of 59 years, Mrs. Mary Singleton Hampton, Americus, GA; two sons, Mr. Rick (Carolyn) Hamilton and Mr. Rodney Hampton, all of Americus, GA; six daughters: Mrs. Stephanie (Darryl) Turner, Jacksonville, FL; Ms. Tracy Hampton, Ms. Maria Black, Mrs. Deborah (Gerald) Johnson, Ms. Anita (James) Crew, all of Americus, GA; and Mrs. Lillian (James) Coleman, Albany, GA; a sister-in-law, Ms. Catherine Singleton, Savannah, GA; seventeen grandchildren, seventeen great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, including a devoted cousin, Ms. Jewel Wise, Americus, GA also survive.