



JESSE CLYDE BRANHAM  
*Grand Master*

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Jesse Clyde Branham was born in Camden, South Carolina, on February 22, 1917, the only son of Sylvia Alice Croft and Jesse Edward Branham (deceased). He was educated in the public schools of South Carolina and through Army Extension Courses.

He is married to Catherine Ducker Sigwald. They have a son, two daughters, and four grandchildren. He resides at 13 Tynte Street, Charleston, South Carolina.

Brother Branham is retired from Branham & Scott Floor Covering Company. He is listed in *Who is Who in Freemasonry*, the *Dictionary of International Biography*, and *Personalities of the South*.

He served his country with the U. S. Army in the Pacific Theater for 5 years, being relieved from Active Duty in 1945. He served for 22 years in the U. S. Army National Guard, retiring in 1976 with the rank of M/Sgt., E-8. He received many decorations including a Presidential Citation, the Bronze Star, the honor of being the Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer in the S. C. National Guard in 1950, the Honor Ring for being the Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer in the Washington Light Infantry in 1951, and the Honor Ring for being the Outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer in the Sumter Guards in 1975. He is also Past President of the Non-Commissioned Officers Club and the Chevron Club.

Brother Branham is a member of St. Peters Episcopal Church, where he is licensed to Lay Read and Administer the Chalice. He has served on the Vestry of his church for over 20 years. He also has served his church for 9 years as Senior and Junior Warden.

He served on the Advisory Board for the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls for 10 years, 5 years as Chairman and in 1964 he was invested with the Grand Cross of Color, which is the Order's highest award.

Brother Branham was elected Knight Commander of the Court of Honor, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1969.

He was elected a 33rd Degree Honorary, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1975.

He was awarded the Honorary Legion of Honor — Order of DeMolay in 1982.

Brother Branham was awarded the Albert Gallatin Mackey Medal in 1984. He is a member of:

- South Carolina State Guard
- Washington Light Infantry
- Sumter Guards
- Charleston Chapter #28 — National Sojourners
- Charleston Chapter #28 — Heroes of 76
- Square and Compass Club — Charleston Air Force Base
- Masters and Wardens Club — 1st and 2nd Masonic Districts
- Omar Temple, Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine
- Omar Temple, Ritualistic Divan
- Omar Temple, Past Master's Unit
- Carolina Chapter #1 — Royal Arch Masons
- Enoch Council #1 — Royal and Select Masters
- South Carolina Commandery #1 — Knight Templar
- Delta Lodge of Perfection, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite
- Buist Chapter Rose Croix, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite

Bethlehem Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
Dalcho Consistory, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
South Carolina Council #20 — Knight Masons U. S. A.  
The Royal Order of Scotland  
Palmetto York Rite College #70  
Charles Towne Chapter #195 — Allied Masonic Degrees  
National Federated Craft #136  
All Saints Conclave — Red Cross of Constantine  
South Carolina College S. R. I. C. F. (Societas Rosicruciana In  
Civitatibus Foederatis)

He is an Honorary Member of Washington Lodge #5, LaCandeur Lodge #36, Strict Observance Lodge #73, Landmark Lodge #76, Etiwan Lodge #95, Chicora Lodge #366, Dorchester Lodge #369, James Island Lodge #396, Old Fort Lodge #420.

Brother Branham was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on March 4, 1950, in Strict Observance Lodge #73.

He is a Charter Member, Life Member, and Past Master of Fellowship Lodge #400.

He is a Charter Member and Past Patron, Jessie Belle Shonk Chapter #269, Order of the Eastern Star.

He is Past Sovereign Master, Charles Towne Chapter #195 Allied Masonic Degrees.

He is Past Venerable Master, Delta Lodge of Perfection and Past Wise Master, Buist Chapter Rose Croix, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Brother Branham has served the Grand Judge as Junior Grand Deacon, Senior Grand Deacon and District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District.

He is presently serving the Grand Lodge as Grand Representative of the State of Minnesota near the Grand Lodge of South Carolina.

He is presently serving as Treasurer of Fellowship Lodge #400, Eminent Commander, South Carolina #1, Knight Templar, King, Carolina Chapter #1, Royal Arch Masons, Principal Conductor of the Work, Enoch Council #1, Royal and Select Masters.

Brother Branham was elected Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge A.F.M. of S. C. April, 1979. He was elected Senior Grand Warden April, 1981. He was elected Deputy Grand Master April, 1983, and was elected Grand Master on April 26, 1985, and again April 25, 1986.

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## *Two Hundred Forty-Ninth Annual Communication*

OF THE

## Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina

### GREENVILLE

APRIL 24 and 25, A.L. 5986, A.D. 1986

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PRESIDING

M. . W. . BRO. JESSE C. BRANHAM  
Grand Master

ELECTED

M. . W. . BRO. JESSE C. BRANHAM, Grand Master  
Charleston

M. . W. . BRO. H. DWIGHT McALISTER, P.G.M., Grand Secretary  
Columbia

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*Columbia, S. C.  
The R. L. Bryan Company*