



Pastor D. Hankins

June 17, 1939 - January 31, 2012

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7 (KJV) Birth to Eternity Rev. Willie D. Hankins went from labor to reward January 31, 2012. He was born June 17, 1939 in Tuscumbia, Ala. the oldest child of the late Novella Horrison and the late Harry D. Hankins. He gave his life to Christ at an early age and joined the Cave Springs Missionary Baptist. His songs of praise echoed and ministered through-out the Muscle Shoals area with various choirs and quartets. Called to Serve Willie D "Nan", spent his childhood and young adult life in Muscle Shoals Alabama, where his walk with God began. He attended Elementary, Middle and High School in Alabama. He made the decision to serve his country at the age of 17 and enlisted in the United States Army in 1956 and was honorably discharged in 1959. The calling Willie D. had on his life led him to Michigan. He united with New Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, where he served in leadership under the direction of the late Rev. M.T. Thompson Sr., as Male Chorus Director, Sunday School Teacher, Trustee, and Deacon. While serving faithfully in ministry he was called to preach the gospel. The Lord gave him a vision and he started a small mission at his home. The vision he birthed manifested itself along with a handful of faithful members to 1210 N. 9th Street; later was named the Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church. Pastor Hankins was elevated to "Emeritus" status due to illness, after serving for 28 years at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church. In 1987, he was elected President of the Saginaw Valley Baptist District Congress of Christian Education where served

for 10 years. He also served as Vice Moderator of the Saginaw Valley District Congress. He was employed at General Motors, Malleable Iron retiring in 1989 after 25 years of service. "The measure of a man is the fruits he bears and the legacy he leaves." He married Ellen Crawley in 1961, his soul-mate and friend for 51 years. Rev. Hankins is the father of four children, Shelaine Parrish, Deloris (Charles) Jarmon, Cynthia Brackett, and Michael Hankins. Six grandchildren, Ariese Trice, Keawna Douglas, Ronald Parrish Jr., Vincent Hankins, Tiffanie Jarmon and Charles Jarmon Jr. and six great grandchildren, Kayla Trice, Essence Napier, A'yanna Trice, Clint Douglas Jr., Chloe Pitts and Demari Kellem. Maternal sibling: Sadie Mae Horrison, Andrew Horrison, Waco Horrison, Donnie Horrison, Bonnie Thompson, Margaret Allen, and Angela Horrison-Collier. Paternal sibling: Annie P. Hankins, Kitty Hankins, Dora Hankins, Rebecca Hankins, Charlie (Annie) Hankins, Grover (Christine) Hankins, Larry (Renee') Hankins and Walter (Michele) Hankins. Others, who celebrate his memory, are aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, and cousins. Also, Pastor Robert Harris (special friend) and The Mt. Sinai Church Family, Pastor Marvin T. Smith and The Mt. Olive Church Family, and numerous friends he touched throughout the years. Also, a very special cousin, Henrietta Warren. He was predeceased by his parents, two sisters, Sadie M. Horrison and Margaret A. Allen. Special thank you to, the Staff at Aleda VA Medical Center, and Covenant Cooper ICU and 3rd Floor Staff.

Tribute Wall

SG

“ *To the Hankins and extended family:*

We the members of the New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church Welcome Ministry extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family in the loss of one of God's great Preacher, great Singer and Great Man. We share in your sorrow and we know that God's is in control of it all. We are praying for you.

*Humbly Submitted,
NMC Welcome Ministry
Rev. R. E. Donald, Pastor*

Sylvia George - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ *To the Hankins family: May God be with you through your time of sorrow. My heart go out to all of you and know that God will never leave you. Your father, husband and grand father was such a greater leader and I will always rememeber him.*

God Bless

Sister Newton

June M Newton - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *May the peace which comes from the memories of love shared, comfort you now and in the days ahead. Although no words can really help to ease the loss of Uncle Wille D., a longing for just one more day, one more sermon, one more touch, we may not know the reason why you left or why we weren't ready to say goodbye, but little by little we begin to remember not that you died, but you also lived. So I say to my family now, just know that you are in every thought and prayer. Love B, C and D. I will always remember the times when I was around you, you called me Lynn. These are the times I wish my children would have known. These are memories.*

Belinda Mayes - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ *To be absent from the body is to be present with God! Family, God is our strength!!!*

Angela Horrison-Collier - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *God saw you growing a little tired and a cure was not to be. So he put his arms around you and whispered "Come with me". Although we loved you dearly, we knew we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, a hardworking servant at rest. Although you can not see past the sorrow, may looking back at the memories help to heal for tomorrow. To my sister I say I love you and God will see you through this and the times ahead. I am here for you day or night. Mildred.*

Mildred Crawley Mayes - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ We extend to the family our condolences. We want you to know that Pastor Randolph and the Gethsemane MBC family will be praying for you. We will also be awaiting your call if there is anything that we can do. Weeping endures for a night, but joy comes in the morning. God can and He will supply all of your needs.

Pastor Terry Randolph - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Sister Hankins, Chelaine, Cynthia, Michael and family; we celebrate with heartfelt thanks to God the life of Pastor Hankins. He, through his awesome teaching and preaching the Word of God, has built a foundation of faith in our lives that is unshakeable. Truly he is a blessing to us. You are to be commended for the way you stood together and cared for him. We believe if he could say anything to you, Pastor Hankins would say--

*I've had some good days
I've had some hills to climb
I've had some weary days
And lonely nights
But when I look around
And I think things over
All of my good days
They out weigh my bad days
I WON'T Complain.
We love you*

Rev. James and Doris Jones - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Ellen, Shelaine, Cynthia, Michael,
I am praying that you find peace during these trying times. I know you loved "Willie D" but God loved him best. He is now looking down on all of us and is at Peace in the arms of the Father of us all. Take comfort in knowing that "Willie D" wouldn't have it any other way. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. May God Bless Pastor Hankins and may He Bless us all. Love to you all.

Sue Surles McDole - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Ellen, Shelaine, Cynthia, Michael,
I am praying that you find peace during these trying times. I know you loved "Willie D" but God loved him more. He is now looking down on all of us and is at Peace in the arms of the Father of us all. Take comfort in knowing that "Willie D" wouldn't have it any other way. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. May God Bless Pastor Hankins and may He Bless us all. Love to you all.

Sue Surles McDole - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ A loss is life's non-negotiable side. It is the time when we learn unconditionally that we are powerless when our love one's life is lost.

To the Family of Rev. Hankins.

A very great person and pastor. Surely he will be missed. God saw fit to call him in. He is now resting in peace. May God continue to give every one of you strength to keep on going on. We offer you our condolences and will continue to pray as you go through this sorrow. Just know that God is still with you all.

Jackson & Jasper Family - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I wish this poem was an arm around you which could comfort you.*

I wish this poem was a room with a glowing fire in it so that you could curl yourself up.

I wish that this poem was so much more for you.

REMEMBER that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Stand fast in the faith and Be Strong.

Thought for Today: <http://www.urnalone.com>

January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry about your loss Rev. Hankin fought a warriors. Battle with dignity sadly missed but never forgotten. God's peace be with you. Humbly submitted Alberta&Gerald Palmer/family*

Gerald & Alberta Palmer - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *MAY THE MEMORIES HELD DEEP WITHIN YOUR HEART HELP SOOTHE YOUR SPIRIT AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME. TO ELLEN AND YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS, YOU'RE IN OUR PRAYERS. GLADYS HAMPTON MASTIN*

MR. & MRS. BENNIE J. &GLADYS HAMPTON MASTIN. - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Shelaine and Family, we would like to express our sincere condolences to you and your family. Praying God will continue to strengthen and comfort you all.*

Kenneth and Lorraine Bond - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ *Our prayers are with you in the lost of your love one. May God comfort your hearts and give you peace. Pastor Hankins touched so many lives. He will be missed. We pray the family continue to hold to your faith and know that God cares and love you. The joy of the LORD is your strength.
Much love to your family.
Carolyn and Elbert Hunter
Midland, Michigan*

Carolyn Agee Hunter - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *You are a dear friend and our hearts go out to you in your time of sorrow. Gain solace and comfort from our lord knowing your father has served well and forever dwells in paradise ! If there is anything you need dont hesitate to call.*

Stevenson and Bernice Pride - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *I will always remember Uncle Nan as having a sincere and genuine interest in myself and the rest of our family. I was always entertained by his stories and his kind heart. He may be gone for this earth but not forgotten. My prayers and thoughts are with our families. May God continue to bless and strengthen us with each passing day. Love and Strength to All.*

Edward Crawley - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ To the Hankins family our hearts are filled with sorrow but we know that God makes no mistakes. For where we see conclusion Jesus sees a beginning.

Joe and Shirley Jones - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ To Ellen & children. Have hope in tomorrow, have faith in GOD, and take comfort in the love of friends and family, that you'll be never alone GOD PROMISED HE will never leave us or forsake us Love , Tim & Frankie

Mr & Mrs Timothy Vinson - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ My prayers are with the family during this time.

Natalie Pride - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ May God be with in your time of grief. With Love Always. Tina, Lee, Lesley, and Stevi'

Tina M. Pride-Williams - January 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM