



Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.

October 2, 1943 - March 10, 2025

Pastor Thomas L. Hicks, Jr. was a faithful husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and pastor over the course of a life that spanned 81 years. He was called home to be with the Lord on Monday, March 10, 2025.

Born on October 2, 1943, to Rev. Thomas L. and Elrean (Bell) Hicks, Sr. in West Helena, Arkansas, he was the oldest of their 14 children. Starting at the age of two, he was raised in West Helena, Arkansas by his maternal great-grandparents, Mr. Add Lee and Mrs. Mandy Moore. He was reunited with his mother and father in Robbins, Illinois at the age of 12 and finished high school at Dwight D. Eisenhower High School. Thomas was very mechanical and loved to work with his hands, finding good, and sometimes creative, ways to make things work or put things back together. Fittingly, after high school, Thomas began his career as a laborer having worked for a number of companies, including Moore's Wrecking Company and Alden's Catalog Company. Along the way, Thomas met and married Frankie (Erby) in 1964, with whom he shares five children: Michael B. Hicks, Sr., Thomas L. Hicks III, Anthony A. Hicks, Sr., and Myron D. Hicks, Sr. In 1969, Thomas relocated his family to Saginaw, Michigan where he began work for Saginaw Steering Gear until his retirement in 1999. Upon retirement from General Motors, Thomas, who was not one for sitting idle, began work for Westchester Retirement Village where he was a beloved maintenance man for ten years until retiring

again in 2009.

Having grown up in the Progressive Baptist Church, Thomas found personal faith in Jesus Christ at Good Shepherd, C.O.G.I.C., which was pastored by the late Supt. Theodore Monroe. He was Superintendent of Sunday School and President of Y.P.W.W. In 1975, Thomas was called into Ministry and had the opportunity to serve under the guidance of Bishop Bailey and Supt. Roger Jones who oversaw his ordination into Ministry. Like Theodore and his other mentors, Thomas embodied a deep love for the Scriptures, diligently studying, teaching, and preaching them so that others would have a deeper understanding of them. In time, Thomas was sent from Good Shepherd to Garden of Gethsemane C.O.G.I.C. His outgoing nature served him well as he went door-to-door evangelizing and inviting people into what became a small but bustling neighborhood church. His relatable, kind, and caring spirit sustained his ministry as he called on parishioners to encourage them, even on days when he'd just worked an overnight shift. His teaching and preaching filled the sanctuary with the Gospel message as he guided parishioners into abundant life in Jesus Christ. Thomas would take on numerous leadership roles, having served under Bishop A.M. Smith, Bishop Isaac King, Jr., and Bishop John Sheard, Sr. He also served as the Chairman of the Saginaw Ministerial Alliance from September 1996 to December 1998. Thomas served as the Lead Pastor of Garden of Gethsemane until his retirement from ministry in 2018.

As a father, he was stern but kind, patient, and even a little competitive. Thomas loved basketball having played regularly with his sons and their friends in their backyard. After hanging up his gym shoes, he watched basketball with his sons and, eventually, his granddaughter, Tierra Marshall, cheering for one of three teams: the Detroit Pistons, the Chicago Bulls, and the Los Angeles Lakers (before Lebron). When he wasn't watching basketball, he watched action movies and Westerns, Steven Seagal and John Wayne

being amongst his favorite actors. He loved food, never letting his wife's cooking, including her chocolate cakes and sweet potato pies, go to waste. He enjoyed long and peaceful days on the lake fishing with parishioners and friends. Thomas was adventurous, always willing to explore parks with his kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids. He both loved and embodied truth, which made him not only an avid reader of the Scriptures but also always willing to repent when he would err a true hearer and doer of the Word.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Frankie Hicks; as well as his four sons; 20 grandchildren including two special grandchildren, Tierra Marshall and Kyesha Hicks; 32 great-grandchildren; siblings, Beola, Clarence (Wilma), Willie, Mitchell (Candy), George, Alfred (Georgelynn), and Cleotis (Pam).

Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Elrean Hicks; daughter, Alfreda G. Hicks; grandchildren, Anthony and Alexis Hicks; siblings, Dorothy Robinson, Lee Hicks, Jessie Hicks, Elvira Gosa, Marvin Hicks and David Hicks.

Family hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. Friday, March 21, 2025 at Greater Love Ministries COGIC, 3829 Lamson St., Saginaw, MI 48601, with the funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m. Pastor James Snead will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington, Saginaw, MI 48601. Visitation will take place from 9:00 a.m. until the time of service.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 21. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Greater Love Ministries
3829 Lamson Street
Saginaw, MI 48601

Family Hour

MAR 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Greater Love Ministries
3829 Lamson Street
Saginaw, MI 48601

Funeral Service

MAR 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Greater Love Ministries
3829 Lamson Street
Saginaw, MI 48601

Tribute Wall

SH

“ *Sam&Kim Harrold*



Sam&Kim Harrold - April 26, 2025 at 10:43 AM

CS

“ *Connie Sanders sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Connie Sanders - March 31, 2025 at 08:04 AM

EM

“ *From the Entire Monroe Family. We Love You and Praying for the Hicks Family. ❤️ ❤️*



EV Monroe - March 25, 2025 at 02:35 PM

EM

Elder Hicks was truly a loyal preacher at Good Shepherd our families are tied together forever. Pastor Hicks is truly missed

EV Monroe - March 25, 2025 at 02:38 PM

MP

“ *Mrs. Ann M. (McKether) Patrick lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Mrs. Ann M. (McKether) Patrick - March 24, 2025 at 02:44 PM

ES

“ *Earlean Shepard lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Earlean Shepard - March 22, 2025 at 05:46 PM

MF

“ *Ms. Earlean Shepard & Family lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Ms. Earlean Shepard & Family - March 22, 2025 at 05:43 PM

TM

“ *Tiffany Martin lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



tiffany martin - March 22, 2025 at 03:14 PM

JC

“ Sending heartfelt condolences & prayers to the family of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr. Pastor & Sis. Robert Corley, & Family



Jannis Corley - March 21, 2025 at 10:00 AM

SF

“ Stephanie Ford sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Stephanie Ford - March 21, 2025 at 03:25 AM

M?

“ Mary Hannibal, Fort Worth, Texas 🇺🇸. sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Mary Hannibal, Fort Worth, Texas 🇺🇸. - March 20, 2025 at 08:13 PM

JS

“ Jackie Sanders sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Jackie Sanders - March 20, 2025 at 07:09 PM

CF

“ *Culpepper Family*



Culpepper Family - March 20, 2025 at 05:41 PM

MC

“ *Margaret Culpepper lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Margaret Culpepper - March 20, 2025 at 05:40 PM

SF

“ *Stephanie Ford sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Stephanie Ford - March 19, 2025 at 08:33 PM

LE

“ *Sincere Condolences To The Family of Pastor Thomas Hicks. Praying Comfort and Strength During This Difficult Time. Love This Family Because GOD IS LOVE!!!*



LUCY Erby - March 19, 2025 at 03:02 PM

CJ

“ Carol Roger Jacksom lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



carol roger jacksom - March 18, 2025 at 06:08 PM

SH

“ Shunda Haygood lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Shunda Haygood - March 18, 2025 at 01:45 PM

MD

“ Prayers & Condolences to the Hicks family.



Miss'y Kathryn Dukes - March 17, 2025 at 05:38 PM

JS

“ Jerrold Rance Sr. lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



jerrold rance sr. - March 17, 2025 at 08:57 AM

ES

“ Mother Earlean Shepard and family 🙏🏾👤



Earlean/Marlene Shepard - March 17, 2025 at 08:48 AM

TR

“ So sorry for family loss in my prayers



Tan Rogan - March 15, 2025 at 05:24 PM

T¹

“ Our condolences from Walter & Tammy Brown from 415 27th st back in the day & 🙏 to the Hicks family.



Tammy Brown ¹ - March 15, 2025 at 04:17 PM

T¹

“ Our condolences



Tammy Brown ¹ - March 15, 2025 at 04:15 PM

JW

“ *Juanita WALKER lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Juanita WALKER - March 15, 2025 at 07:11 AM

JW

LAVERN Hicks was my sister n law, more like my sister. Our children were the same age. We shared birthdays and events together. Her husband Pastor Thomas was always giving and sharing as an Pastor. Husband, father, and friend. He was one you could always count on. He will be truly missed by all who new him. Im sending prayer that our good Lord will comfort and take care of this family in his lost for he was a great man who loved the lord and his family with all his heart ❤️ and made sure they had everything they needed. Im sending prayers that our good Lord surrounds this family with comfort at this time of lost.

Juanita WALKER - March 15, 2025 at 07:53 AM

CH

“ *My condolences and prayers to the Hicks Family. I am so sorry to hear of Pastor Thomas Hicks passing. He will be missed by many... Love you all family.*



Catherine Hicks - March 14, 2025 at 10:54 AM

CP

“ *Cheryl Kay Payton sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Cheryl Kay Payton - March 14, 2025 at 08:29 AM

DA

“ Dwight/Shalanda Akins lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Dwight/Shalanda Akins - March 13, 2025 at 08:16 PM

LT

“ Sending my condolence to the Hicks family !



Lesia Jackson Turnage - March 13, 2025 at 10:54 AM

BP

“ Prayers for the Hicks family.



Barbara Payton - March 12, 2025 at 09:36 PM

CC

“ Clifford Carter lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Clifford Carter - March 12, 2025 at 04:28 PM

BW

“ Beverly Walker lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Beverly Walker - March 12, 2025 at 12:18 PM

BM

“ Bobby Myles lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Bobby Myles - March 11, 2025 at 06:18 PM

PJ

“ Pastor Herbert Morris Jr lit a candle in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Pastor Herbert Morris jr - March 11, 2025 at 04:44 PM

EJ

“ Sending my condolences to the hocks family



elaine Jackson - March 11, 2025 at 04:19 PM

CP

“ Heartfelt Sympathies to Frankie and your entire family. My thoughts and prayers are with you and entire family at this time.



Cindy Prottenger - March 11, 2025 at 03:20 PM

WH

“ Walter/Dorothy Harris sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Walter/Dorothy Harris - March 11, 2025 at 01:30 PM

LW

“ Louis Weems sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Louis Weems - March 11, 2025 at 12:39 PM

PJ

“ Purvis Carter Jr. sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.



Purvis Carter Jr. - March 11, 2025 at 09:06 AM

DH

“ *Deidre Hunter sent a virtual gift in memory of
Pastor Thomas Lee Hicks, Jr.*



Deidre Hunter - March 11, 2025 at 08:18 AM