

Obituary

Ronald James Phillips was born on January 31, 1951, in Gastonia, North Carolina to the late Marion and Bertha Hovis Phillips. Ronald peacefully transitioned into his eternal life on February 20, 2025, at Belaire Health Center, Gastonia, North Carolina. Ronald was a member at Pleasant Ridge AME Zion Church at an early age throughout his youth and teenage years.

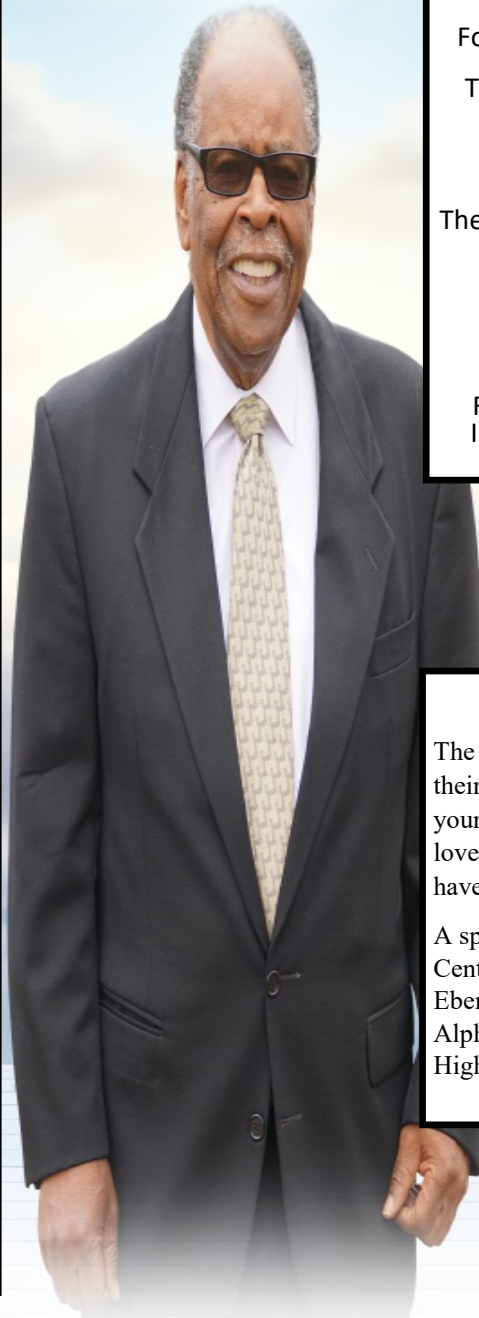
Ronald (Ronnie) excelled both academically and athletically at Hunter Huss. He and one other African American were the first to play Varsity Football at Hunter Huss graduating in 1970, then went on to North Carolina Central University College, earning B.A. degree in Psychology in 1974.

Later, Ronald decided to join United States Air Force in 1985 and served 12 years until retirement. 1st Lt. Ronald Phillips received a Certificate of Merit in recognition of outstanding performance of duties while serving with 91st Strategic Missile Wing, Strategic Air Command, Minot Air Force Base, N.D.

Ronald especially loved playing tennis, cooking his famous "Gumbo" for his family and friends, science fiction, and photography.

Preceding Ronald in death are his parents, Marion and Bertha Phillips; siblings: Bertha Sue Phillips Wright, George Ray Phillips, Edward Phillips, nephew Adrienne Phillips, niece Carmen Phillips, and his son, Ronald Anthony Houser.

Remaining to cherish Ronald's memories: a sister, Marilyn (Frank) Williams of Kings Mountain, NC; Sister-in-law, Anita Lathan, Grandchildren, Darrien Houser, Dakato Houser, and Donovan Houser of Gastonia; nieces, Francina Meeks, Kings Mountain, NC, Yolanda Wright, Huntersville, NC; Persephone Phillips, Lancaster, SC; nephews, Maury Williams (Monica), Kings Mountain, NC, Tracey Williams (Alisa) Gastonia, NC, Lee Wright (Faye) Charlotte, NC, and Timothy Wright (Shamika) Charlotte, NC. Special Sister-in-love, Sharon Knox. Host of Special cousins, great nieces, great nephews, other family members and friends who love and care for him. Special nephew, Darryl Davis and special niece, Denise Anderson.



Till We Meet Again

In this dark hour, where tears freely fall,
For the life that's flown, we cherish it all.
A heart now still, a presence so dear,
For the love you gave, our thanks we hold near.

Though the pain is deep, the memories bright,
A guiding star, shining through the night.
For laughter shared, for moments so true,
We thank you, dear one, for all you did do.

The warmth of your smile, the touch of your hand,
A legacy left, in this precious land.
In every kind word, in every gentle deed,
Your spirit lives on, a love we will heed.

So as we grieve, with hearts filled with pain,
We whisper our thanks, till we meet again.
For the life you lived, the love you bestowed,
In our hearts forever, your memory will glow.

**Pall Bearers and Floral Bearers
Family and Friends**

Acknowledgements

The family of Ronald James Phillips wishes to express their sincere appreciation and gratitude to all of you for your prayers, presence, calls, and all other expressions of love. Your support and kindness during this difficult time have been a source of comfort and strength.

A special thank you to Atrium Health Carolinas Medical Center (CMC Main) 9th floor, Bel Aire Health Center, Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, Sharron Jackson, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and 101 Black Men of Highland.

Arrangements Were Entrusted to:
Gregory Funeral Service, Inc.
601 North York Street
Gastonia, North Carolina 28052
704-867-4364
www.gregoryfuneralservice.com

A Celebration of Life for



RONALD JAMES PHILLIPS

Sunrise
January 31, 1951

Sunset
February 20, 2025

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church
1621 County Line Road
Kings Mountain, North Carolina 28086

Pastor, Dr. Paxton Hughes
Rev. Denorris Byers, Officiating Minister

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

Processional

Selection Markus Thomas

Military Honors

Ceremony Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

Call to Worship Dr. Paston Hughes/Rev. Denorris Byers

Musical Selection Allen Williams

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Charles McClain

Musical Selection EBC Ensemble/Men's Choir

Remarks (Limit 2 minutes please)

David Brown (Chair of GC Democratic Party)

Mary Smith

Christopher Stellmacher (VP of The Eta Mu Lambda, Alpha
Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.)

Obituary Reading Sis. Paulette Brooks

Musical Selection Sis Sabrina Zellars

Eulogy Apostle Tim Wright
(Pastor U. H. of Prayer for all People) Charlotte, NC

Prayer & Committal

Recessional I'm Free

