

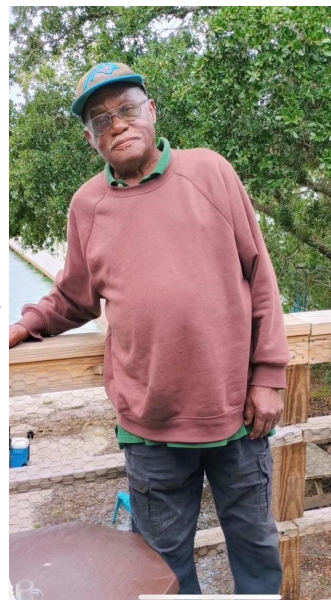
## Remembering Claude

Claude Thomas was born September 26, 1948 in York County, SC and died Saturday, October 11, 2025 in Horry County, North Carolina. He was the son of the late Mrs. Callean Grier Thomas and the late Mr. Robert Lee Thomas.

Claude retired from American Efird as a dyer. He was all about family. He loved his kids, grandkids, sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews with all of his heart. He was the biggest Panther fan. He loved to sing, dance, and fish. He pitched baseball for Oak Ridge Sluggers and Clover Hornets until he was 53 years of age. Claude was the life of the party and no matter; rain, sleet or snow, he would always say, "today was a good day."

He was preceded in death by his two brothers: Ernest Thomas and his fraternal twin, Clarence Thomas; two sisters: Bessie Brooks and Annie Mae Hampton; a son: Gerald Kendrick and one grandson: Nehemiah Jiggets.

Claude leaves precious memories to his wife: Sarah Kendrick Thomas of Gastonia, NC; three daughters: Zandra Rankin (Sonny) of Mt. Holly, NC, Mary Love (Rodney) of Gastonia, NC and Sharon Moss of Gastonia, NC; four sons: Eugene Moss of Gastonia, NC, Michael Thomas of Kings Mountain, NC Diquivious Hatten of Dallas, NC, Akeem Hatten of Mt. Holly, NC; one brother: Willie Lee Thomas, Sr. of Bessemer City, NC; four sisters: Noveline Johnson (Robert) and Mary Ann Thomas both of Gastonia, NC, Robin Moss (Alfred) of Charlotte, NC, Patricia Thomas Wilson of Gastonia, NC; fourteen grandkids: six great grandkids; special nephews: Danny Thomas, Lee Wilson, Willie Thomas, Jr., John Thomas and Rashun Thomas; special nieces: Brenda Hopper, Patricia Rodgers, Patricia Thomas and Amanda Leslie; Special friends: Phyllis Thompson, and Melvin Wilson; and a host of nieces, nephews, special friends, other relatives and other friends.



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## Order of Service

Processional	
Invocation	Dr. Benjamin Hinton
Congregational Hymn	
Scripture Readings	Rev. James Collins
Old Testament	
New Testament	
Prayer of Comfort	
Selection	Mrs. Sonja McDowell Currence
Remarks (2 minutes, please)	Patricia Rodgers
Words of Comfort	Dr. Benjamin Hinton
Selection	Mrs. Sonja McDowell Currence
Benediction	
Recessional	

Floral and Pall Bearers  
Family and Friends

Interment  
Liberty Hill AME Zion Church Cemetery  
York, South Carolina

## When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me  
Please try to understand  
That an angel came and called my name  
And took me by the hand  
The angel said my place was ready  
In heaven far above  
And that I would have to leave behind  
All those I Dearly love  
But when I walked through  
Heaven's Gates  
I felt so much at home  
When God looked down and  
Smiled at me, and told me  
"Welcome Home."  
So, when tomorrow starts without me  
Don't think we're far apart,  
For every time you think of me,  
I'm right there in your heart.



## NOTE OF THANKS

The family would like to thank everyone for your many acts of kindness given in calls, text, hugs and love shown during the passing of our beloved. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

ARRANGEMENTS WERE ENTRUSTED TO:  
Gregory Funeral Service, Inc. | 601 North York Street  
Gastonia, North Carolina 28052 | 704-867-4364  
[www.gregoryfuneralservice.com](http://www.gregoryfuneralservice.com)

Celebrating the Life of

*Claude Thomas*

SEPTEMBER 26, 1948 - OCTOBER 11, 2025



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025  
1:30 PM

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH  
519 WEST 19<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

DR. BENJAMIN HINTON, SENIOR PASTOR  
OFFICIATING

