

ORDER OF *Memorial Service*

VISITATION WITH FAMILY

1:00pm-1:30pm

PRELUDE

OPENING & WELCOME

Dr. Carolyn Dewberry

INVOCATION

Dr. Carolyn Dewberry

SCRIPTURE

Joshua 1:6-9

Rev Greg Floyd | Vestibule A.M.E. Zion Church

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 4: 1-8

Rev. Daisy Henry | God's Way Ministry

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Dr. Carolyn Dewberry

MUSICAL SELECTION/HYMNS

"There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place"

SHARED MEMORIES/TRIBUTES

Brief memory or tribute: (5-minutes)

Dr. Carolyn Dewberry-St. Stephens A.M.E Zion Church

Rev. Greg Floyd-Vestibule A.M.E. Zion Church

Rev. Daisy Henry-God's Way Ministry

Reida Sadler-Sister and Friend-Neely's Grove A.M.E. Zion

LIFE TRIBUTE OF MELBA

Petreana Lavon Anderson, Daughter

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Yes" | Song by Shekinah Glory Ministry · 2004

ALTAR CALL

Dr. Carolyn Dewberry

BENEDICTION

Dr. Carolyn Dewberry

RECESSIONAL

The Servant's Reward

She walked the path that the Savior led,
With faith in her heart and the Word she spread.
From the halls of Highland to the "God's Way" door,
She served with a spirit that sought to give more.
Her work in the vineyard is finished and done,
The battle is over, the victory is won.
Credentialed in Heaven, she's taken her place,
Wrapped in the light of His infinite grace.

The Anderson Family

Thanks each and every person who has been of service
to our family during my mom's diagnosis and
transition.

Special Thanks:

St. Stephen's A.M.E. Zion Church and entire Church Family

The Entire Staff of Courtland Terrace

Carolina Caring Palliative and Hospice Team

Gregory Funeral Service

Willie G. Boykins (Bonus Dad)

Rev. Greg Floyd

Reida Sadler (Sister/Friend)

Susan Milliken (Sister/Friend)

Rhonda H. Simmons

Da'Sha Leach

Ellen Clay



Arrangements Were Entrusted to:

Gregory Funeral Service, Inc.

601 North York Street

Gastonia, North Carolina 28052

704-867-4364

www.gregoryfuneralservice.com

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF

Minister Melba Jean Parker Anderson

SUNRISE: JUNE 7, 1948 - SUNSET: APRIL 18, 2026

"She finished her
course in the
afternoon light,
entering into His
eternal rest."



ST. STEPHENS AME ZION CHURCH
201 W. FRANKLIN BOULEVARD
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

SATURDAY; APRIL 25, 2026 AT 1:30 P.M.

REV. DR. CAROLYN DEWBERRY, SENIOR PASTOR

A LIFE WELL LIVED
A LEGACY *Remembered*



Obituary

MELBA JEAN PARKER ANDERSON
SUNRISE: JUNE 7, 1948 - SUNSET: APRIL 18, 2026



Melba Jean Parker Anderson, a devoted woman of faith and family, transitioned from this life on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at 2:15 p.m. at Courtland Terrace, Gastonia NC. Born on June 7, 1948, in Cleveland County, NC, she was the daughter of the late Mr. Hiawatha Parker and Mrs. Martha Duncan Parker.

Much of Melba's formative years were spent under the loving care of her grandparents, Estella Smarr Parker Williams and John Wesley Williams. She was raised alongside her aunts—the late Rebecca W. Dunlap, Equilla W. Barnett, and Ophelia W. Coulter—and is survived by her dear aunt, Lestina W. McDowell of Waco, NC. Melba moved to Gastonia during her junior high school years and lived with her father Hiawatha.

A proud student of the community, Melba attended Highland High School and later transitioned to Ashley High School. Following graduation, she entered the workforce and eventually met the love of her life, the late John Henry Anderson. Their union was blessed with one daughter, Petreana Lavon Anderson-Louisiana.

Melba's life was defined by her unwavering commitment to the Lord. As a dedicated member of the ministerial and outreach staff at God's Way Ministry, she was known for her active heart in outreach and service. Her calling was further recognized through her credentials with the ICCM-International Congress of Churches & Ministers until 2025 when she became ill and unable to serve in that capacity. Melba's service in the ministry was not just within the walls of an edifice. She shared her love for God and her healing words with the healthcare community at large for more than 30 years. She worked at Courtland Terrace and retired from employment in 2011. However, when she returned to Courtland as a resident she continued to share the gospel and pray for those who were in need. She never gave up an opportunity to minister.

Her legacy of love continues through her daughter, Petreana (James) Anderson, Jr. of Louisiana; her cherished grandchildren, Sidney Xzavier Gary of Gastonia and Lalah Simone` Anderson of Louisiana; and her great-grandson, Nolan M. Stroud-Gary of Gastonia, NC. She also leaves to cherish her memory two sisters, Mrs. Doris Parker Stockton of East Elmhurst, NY, and Betty Carolyn Parker McElroy of North Carolina, along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



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