

A letter to my Pawpaw

Dear Pawpaw:

You were the hand that I held throughout my childhood. You were the man who I looked up to. When I had troubles, I could run to you at anytime. Pawpaw, you were the shoulder I'd lean on, and even sit on your lap as a child whenever I needed comfort.

Pawpaw, you were a friend, not only a guidance, but the light in our family. You taught me family values, and how to hold my head up high.

Pawpaw, I would not have gotten this far without you. You taught me when times get tough, you get tougher. The love you provided and the way you would go out of your way to make sure I could have whatever I needed or wanted. I remember the long days you worked to come home to us still with a smile on your face and played with us. Your whistles, and your choice of words "I hear ya" to all of us will always be remembered. I thank you for the spoiled rotten moments, the hugs you provided, all the "I love you" word you gave, and the songs you use to sing. It's my most painful but treasured memory you. I am forever thankful for that final goodbye with you. I held your hand to the end, until we meet again.

Love you always Pawpaw, Love your Grandchildren

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family would like to thank each of you for the kind words of encouragement, the phone calls, meals, and prayers. Thank you for your gifts of love, the floral arrangements and your presence today. May the love of God continue to keep and bless you all.

Special thank you to all of the healthcare professionals: The Greens of Gastonia, the 6th floor staff of CaroMont Regional Medical Center, Palliative Care and Gastonia Hospice.

REPAST

Center Baptist Fellowship Hall following the Interment



2425 West Franklin Boulevard | Gastonia, North Carolina 28052
Telephone: 704-864-6787 | Fax: 704-864-6793
www.costnerfuneralhome.com



HOME GOING CELEBRATION
honoring the Life and Legacy of

Deacon
ROSSIE LEE CONNOR, JR.

MAY 21, 1934 - MARCH 20, 2024

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

3:00 PM

CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH
3301 SOUTH NEW HOPE ROAD
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

REV. DR. PIERRE J. CRAWFORD, TH.D., OFFICIATING

OBITUARY

Deacon Rossie Lee Connor, Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at The Greens of Gastonia, Gastonia, NC. He was born May 21, 1934 to Rossie L. Connor, Sr. and Kathleen Teresa Berry Connor Black.

Deacon Connor was united in holy matrimony to the late Deaconess Ophelia Barber Connor. He was a devoted husband for 51 years and a true friend to everyone he met.

Deacon Connor at an early age became a member of Burge Memorial United Methodist Church in Mt. Holly, NC. After marriage, and relocating to Gastonia, He joined Center Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC. At Center Baptist Church, he served as Athletic Coach, Boy Scout Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, a member of the Hymn Choir and Deacon Ministry.

Deacon Connor was educated in the Gaston County School System where he graduated from Reid High School, Belmont, NC. During his career, he worked at Massey Hardware , Burlington Industries, Adventure Knit and retired from Daimler Trucks America on December 14, 2000.

Besides his parents, he is preceded in death by his stepfather, William Monroe Black, Sr.; two sisters, Mary C. Walls, Shirley C. Moore; three brothers, John Wesley Connor, Sr., Joe Louis Connor, and William Monroe Black, Jr.

He leaves to cherish fond and loving memories: two sons, Deacon Keith N. Connor (Minister Mary Connor) of Gastonia, NC, and Deacon Durwon L. Connor (Schwester) of Bessemer City, NC; three sisters, Rev. Betty B. Brown (Thomas Jr.) of Dallas, NC, Pastor Marva C. Boyd of Gastonia, NC, and Mrs. Hattie Griffin of Charlotte, NC; sisters-in-law, Doris Barber of Gastonia, NC, Mary Barber of Gastonia, NC, and Alberta Connor Crawford of Mt. Holly, NC; grandchildren, Brittan Smith (Kelvin), Starkeisha Connor, Shannon Connor, Monet Marshall (Justin), Jerome Connor (Jennifer); four great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE

CALL TO WORSHIPREV. DR. PIERRE J. CRAWFORD, TH.D.

OPENING HYMN.....*"GUIDE ME O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH"*
CENTER BAPTIST HYMN CHOIR

OLD TESTAMENTPASTOR MARVA BOYD
LIVING WITNESS MINISTRIES, MT. HOLLY, NC

NEW TESTAMENTPASTOR BETTY BROWN
EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, DENVER, NC
MOTTS GROVES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SHERRILLS FORD, NC

PRAYER OF COMFORTPASTOR LESLIE DAVIS
MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, KINGS MOUNTAIN, NC

SELECTION.....CENTER BAPTIST MASS CHOIR

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....DEACONESS VERONICA MCELHANEY

REMARKS (2 M)INUTES).....BRO. DARRYL BARBER
BRO. HARRISON CONYERS

READING OF THE OBITUARY.....SILENTLY

HYMN OF PREPARATION
"WHAT ARE THEY DOING IN HEAVEN TODAY?"
CENTER BAPTIST HYMN CHOIR

EULOGIST.....REV. DR. PIERRE J. CRAWFORD, TH.D.
SENIOR PASTOR CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH, GASTONIA, NC

CLOSING SELECTION.....*"GOING UP YONDER"*
CENTER BAPTIST MASS CHOIR

RECESSIONAL

INTERMENT
CENTER BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

PALL BEARERS
DEACONS

FLORAL BEARERS
DEACONESS, NIECES, GRANDCHILDREN