

Order of Service

Reverend Michael Mackins, Sr., Officiating

Family Processional
Call to Worship
Invocation
Selection Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church Choir
“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”
Reading of Holy Scriptures
Old Testament Reverend Sharon Mackins
Psalm 23
New Testament Reverend Sonja Burns
Revelations 21:1-7
Prayer of Comfort Elder Joylette Hilliard
Selection Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church Choir
“Take a ride”
Reflections (2minutes Please) Tyrone Cathcart
Reverend Steven Wingate, Kenneth Richardson
Resolution Ms. Raven Sanders
Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church
Hymn of Preparation Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church Choir
Eulogy Reverend Michael Mackins, Sr.
Recessional & Benediction

Internment
Rose Hill Cemetery
Gastonia, North Carolina

Repast
Following Internment at Family Residence

Pallbearers

Epsilon Upsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Floral Bearers

Gastonia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc

Acknowledgements

The Richardson family wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude for the many expressions of love and kindness during this difficult time. Your Prayers and condolences have been a tremendous comfort as we celebrate the life and legacy of Melvin.

We would like to thank specifically White Oak Manor Nursing home, Carolina Caring Hospice services for their care and dedication to Melvin. We pray God’s richest blessings on you and your family.

DO NOT STAND AT MY GRAVE AND WEEP

Do not stand at my grave and weep;
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning’s hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft starts that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there, I did not die.



2425 West Franklin Boulevard | Gastonia, North Carolina 28052
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www.costnerfuneralhome.com

A Home Going Celebration

Honoring the Life and Legacy of



MELVIN RICHARDSON

DECEMBER 31, 1949 — OCTOBER 17, 2025

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025
1:00 pm

MT. PLEASANT AME ZION CHURCH
4945 YORK HIGHWAY
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

REV. MICHAEL MACKINS, SR., PASTOR

A collage of 18 photographs showing various moments in the life of a man, likely the subject of the obituary. The photos include: a young man in a suit; a man in a suit and tie; a woman smiling next to a man in a suit; a couple in wedding attire; a man and woman in formal wear; a couple standing together; a couple cutting a wedding cake; a group of people at a wedding; a man in a wheelchair wearing a red shirt; a man in a suit sitting in a car; a man in a white shirt; a group of people; a man in a blue jacket; a man in a purple shirt; and a man holding a baby.

YOU HAVE LEFT OUR LIVES, BUT YOU
WILL NEVER LEAVE OUR HEARTS.

