

"God Saw You Getting Tired"

Author Unknown

*God saw you getting tired
and a cure was not to be;
So He put his arms around you
and whispered,
"Come with Me."*

With tearful eyes we watched you fade away.
Although we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.

*A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands at rest.*

God broke our hearts to prove to us

He only takes the best!

-Unknown

*Mama ~ Miss Lottie Paul Said:
"Come Home Pee Wee"*

Acknowledgments

The family of Reverend Luther Thomas Curry, Sr.,
would like to express our heartfelt thanks and sincere
appreciation for all acts of kindness, prayers, calls, cards,
visits, food, flowers and every expression of love given to the
family during our time of Bereavement!

May God of Heaven and Earth Continue to Bless each of You!

Services Entrusted by Coster Funeral Home
2425 West Franklin Boulevard
Gastonia, North Carolina 28052



Scan QR Code to Access Family Photos

Celebration of Life Service

for



Reverend Luther "Luke" Thomas Curry, Sr.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1959 ~ SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

ST. STEPHENS AME ZION CHURCH

201 WEST FRANKLIN BOULEVARD ~ GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA 28052

REVEREND DR. CAROLYN DEWBERRY, OFFICIATING

REVEREND DR. CHARLES F. TILLET, JR., PRESIDING ELDER, LINCOLNTON DISTRICT



Obituary

A Legacy of Love

REVEREND LUTHER THOMAS CURRY, SR.

September 23, 1959 – September 14, 2026

Reverend Luther "Luke" Thomas Curry, Sr., affectionately known to his family as "Pee-Wee" exchanged time for eternity on Monday, September 14, 2026, at Iredell Memorial Hospital, Statesville, North Carolina. Reverend Curry had endured suffering for an extended period-of-time and God saw that he was tired and called him home to his Heavenly Mansion.

Reverend Luther Thomas Curry, Sr. was born on September 23, 1959 to the late Lottie Paul Thompson-Stringfellow and the late Mason Curry Jr. in Gaston County, Gastonia, North Carolina. He was lovingly raised by his Mother, the late Lottie Paul Thompson-Stringfellow and his Stepfather, the late Robert Stringfellow.

Reverend Luke Curry is a native of Gastonia, North Carolina. He attended Gaston County Public Schools and after graduating from North Gaston High School he began his undergraduate studies at North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina. While there he became a Member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Chapter, Fall 1980. He was honored to serve as President of the Fraternity Line. He graduated from North Carolina Central University in 1981 with a Baccalaureate Degree in Criminal Justice. Reverend Curry completed his Graduate Studies from both Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, NC and Gardner-Webb School of Divinity, Boiling Springs, NC. Upon graduation from NCCU, he returned to Gastonia and began his Professional career with the Gaston County Police Department where he served as a Sergeant and Detective. He also worked and served as the Former Director and Chaplain of Gaston Hospice and Palliative Care and Gaston Memorial Hospital, Gastonia, NC. and as a Chaplin with Amedysis Hospice of Morristown, Tennessee.

Early in his life, Reverend Luther T. Curry, Sr. accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. He was called into the Ministry and Preached his Trial Sermon on January 21, 1996 at Pleasant Ridge AME Zion Church, Gastonia, NC. under the Pastoral Leadership of Reverend Dr. David Williams. During his 30-year tenure as a Servant Pastor, he was honored to serve under the Episcopacy Leadership of The (Late) Right Reverend Bishop Cecil Bishop; The Right Reverend Bishop George W.C.Walker, Sr.; The (Late) Right Reverend Bishop George Edward Battle, Jr. and the current Bishop, The Right Reverend Bishop Darryl Brewster Starnes, Sr., Presiding Prelate, Piedmont Episcopal District and Senior Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. In 1999 Bishop Cecil Bishop appointed him as the Director of Christian Education for the Western North Carolina Conference. Additionally, Bishop George Walker appointed him as the first Faith Director of HIV/AIDS. He also served on several community boards for social justice and under-served populations.

Reverend Curry served faithfully at the following African Methodist Episcopal Zion Churches comprised of both the Western North Carolina Conference and the Blue Ridge Conference: Oak Grove; Bynum Chapel; Waddell Chapel; Neely's Grove; Myers Tabernacle; Slades Chapel; Young's Temple, Morristown, TN., Young's Memorial, New Market, TN.; St. John, Thomasville, NC. and lastly, he was honored to serve as the First Gentleman at Siloam AME Zion Church and Zion Chapel AME Zion Church, Statesville District. Preceding him in death were his mother, Lottie Paul Thompson-Stringfellow, his father Mason Curry, Jr. and step-father Robert Stringfellow and brother Nathan Bernard Curry.

Reverend Luther T. Curry, Sr., fondly, leaves to cherish his memory, his wife Reverend Mrs. Robin Williams-Curry of the home, Statesville, NC; his son-Luke Curry II (California) and daughter Erica Littlejohn (Arrington), Mount Holly, two stepchildren, a daughter, Desiree Faneite, Statesville, and son, Joshua Harrington, Statesville. Also forever cherishing his memory are his siblings—Mason Curry III (Gastonia, NC.) and his one and only beloved sister-mama, Paula Curry of Gastonia, NC; Sister-in-Laws, Ann Curry, Durham, NC., and Andrea Ross, Los Angeles, CA. Brother-in-Laws: William Merritt (Patricia), Atlanta, GA.; Sean Merritt (Keisha), Los Angeles, CA., Garrett Weaver (Rhonda), Hemet, CA. and Darrin Merritt, Los Angeles, CA. Last but certainly not least, he leaves to forever cherish his memory are his Grandchildren: AJ Littlejohn; Aleah, Littlejohn; Breytan Littlejohn; Emani Harrington; Ivionna Harrington; Kayden Durham; Alphonso Reid and Julian Harrington. He was honored to have had three-in law parents that embraced him with Wisdom and Love: Mr. Robert Foster, Statesville, NC and Mr. and Mrs. William and Ora Merritt, Statesville, NC. He also leaves to cherish his memory a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, colleagues, friends and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Brothers.

Finally, Curry's favorite scripture is what the Lord told Paul: "My Grace is Sufficient". Reverend Luther Thomas Curry, Sr. **2 Timothy 4:7-8** "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing."



INVICTUS

*Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
for my unconquerable soul.*

*In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.*

*Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.*

*It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.*

Cherished Memories



Celebration of Life Service

Reverend Luther "Luke" Thomas Curry, Sr.

The Order of Service

Reverend Dr. Carolyn Dewberry, Officiating
Reverend Dr. Charles F. Tillett, Jr., Presiding Elder, Lincolnton District

*"Well Lived
Well Loved
Forever
In Our Hearts"*

11:00 a.m.

Tribute by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity
The Honorable-Humble Vernon Jones

11:30 a.m.

Visitation with Family

12 Noon

Celebration of Life Service

Processional
Words of Assurance

Reverend Dr. Carolyn Dewberry, Pastor
St. Stephens AME Zion Church

Opening Hymn 47 "How Great Thou Art" Congregation

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament Psalm 23 Reverend Dr. Calvin L. Miller
Presiding Elder, Wonderful Winston Salem District

New Testament John 14:1-3 Reverend Dr. Herbert Grant
Presiding Elder, Asheville District

Prayer of Comfort Bishop Miquel Marion
Shekinah Fellowship of Churches

Solo Reverend Juan Smith
Church Resolution WNCC Reverend Dr. Carolyn Dewberry, WNCC Secretary

Remarks/Acknowledgements [Please Limit to Two Minutes]

Bishop Miquel Marion, Shekinah Fellowship of Churches
Reverend Dr. J. Elvin Sadler, General Secretary-Auditor [Childhood Friend]
Reverend Dr. David R. Baker, Presiding Elder-Statesville District
Reverend Dr. David McClean, WNCC CED Conference Director
Keith Saunders, NCCU Class of 1981
Odell Morton, New Market, TN [Brother]
Reverend Rodney Glover [Friend]

Tribute to Daddy Erica Littlejohn, Daughter
Luke Curry II, Son

Silent Reading of the Obituary

Introduction of Bishop Darryl B. Starnes Reverend Dr. Charles F. Tillett
Presiding Elder, Lincolnton District

Selection Carla Brown and Daughters

Eulogy Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Presiding Prelate and
Senior Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

Committal

Recessional

Interment Pleasant Ridge AME Zion Church, 910 Spencer Avenue, Gastonia, NC

Pall Bearers~Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Brothers

Floral Bearers ~ Statesville District

A Legacy of Memories with
Reverend Luther Thomas Curry, Sr.



HIS LIFE ♥ HIS LOVE ♥ OUR MEMORIES

A Legacy of Memories

Reverend Luther "Luke" Thomas Curry, Sr.



HIS LIFE ♥ HIS LOVE ♥ OUR MEMORIES