



PROCESSIONAL
MOMENTS OF VISITATION

Order of Service

OFFICIATING

REV. DR. EUGENE B. STURDIVANT

OPENING SELECTION

REV. IVAN STURDIVANT

THE SACRED SCRIPTURES

THE OLD TESTAMENT - REV. DR. KEVIN D. STURDIVANT

THE NEW TESTAMENT - REV. CARLTON J. STURDIVANT

THE PRAYER OF COMFORT

EVANGELIST BETTY ROSE STURDIVANT

MUSICAL SELECTION

REV. DONNA MCNEIL

FAMILY TRIBUTES - 2 MINUTES PLEASE

ELDER LIZZIE LEE, SISTER

DEACON HARRISON STURDIVANT, BROTHER

JACURA STURDIVANT, GRANDDAUGHTER

LEON H. STURDIVANT, JR., SON

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SMITH'S FUNERAL HOME

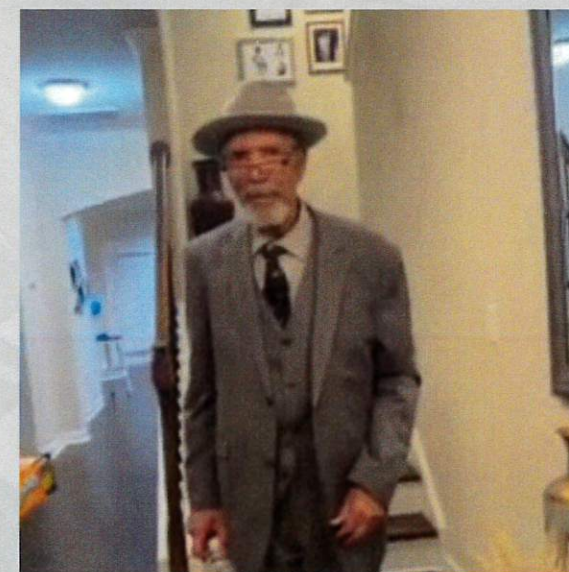
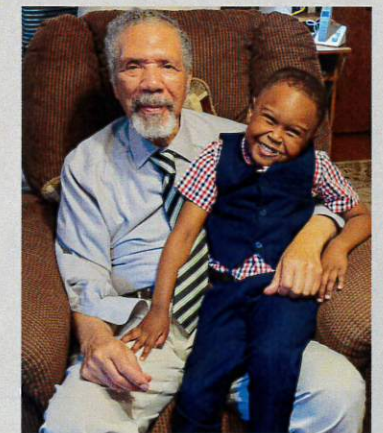
MUSICAL SELECTION

REV. ANTHONY LEDBETTER

THE WORD OF COMFORT

REV. DR. EUGENE B. STURDIVANT

RECESSIONAL



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

Acknowledgement

The family of Dr. Leon H. Sturdivant, Sr. wishes to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your loving sympathy, prayers and thoughtful expressions during this difficult time.

Your words, gestures and presence have been a source of great comfort during these difficult days. We have been encouraged by your thoughtfulness and strengthened by your prayers. Thank you.

Interment

WESTVIEW MEMORIAL PARK
4136 US-74 W
POLKTON, NC 28135

Repast

FAITH OF ZION CHURCH
599 THOMASVILLE ROAD
ANSONVILLE, NC 28007

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:
SMITH'S FUNERAL HOME
604 SALISBURY ROAD
WADESBORO, NC 28170



Doctor LEON HARLIE
STURDIVANT, SR.

SUNRISE: DECEMBER 28, 1946 SUNSET: APRIL 16, 2026

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026

12:30PM - VISITATION; 1PM FUNERAL

REV. DR. EUGENE B. STURDIVANT, OFFICIANT

Obituary

CONTINUED

In his later years, Dr. Sturdivant was appointed Deacon at the Faith of Zion Church in Ansonville, NC, the church his father, the late Rev. Harlie Sturdivant built and where Prophetess Lizzie Sturdivant, his mother, served as the first pastor. His role as deacon allowed him to serve his family and community with compassion and care visiting the sick and encouraging the downtrodden. He was an excellent Sunday School teacher. After COVID, he led a weekly Sunday School conference call on Monday evenings and people across the state would call in to glean from his wisdom and insight on scripture.

His service to the community continued as he would regularly host and teach free SAT prep classes to students who were preparing to go to college in Burnsville, NC and Reidsville, NC as well as VBS classes in Wentworth, NC. He also was owner and proprietor of Faith Home, Inc., a group home to provide assisted living for those with complex health needs. Each summer he would convene a summer camp for his grandchildren to prepare them for the upcoming school year. Affectionately known as "Grandad Camp," each one of his grandchildren still hold fond memories of times spent with their grandfather learning lessons and going on field trips to the movies, aquariums, and museums.

In his spare time, he also enjoyed traveling the world and making memories. His trips included visits to Canada, London, Paris and Alaska.

Later in life, after being diagnosed with Leukemia, he chose to be part of a clinical trial aimed at helping find new ways to fight the disease so that his legacy of science and learning may be a blessing to others. Dr. Sturdivant peacefully entered his eternal rest at age 79 on April 16th, 2026. He was preceded in death by his parents Rev. Harlie Sturdivant and Prophetess Lizzie Smith Sturdivant.

He leaves to cherish his memory and honor his legacy: 3 sons Leon H. Sturdivant, Jr. (Cassandra) of Greensboro, NC; Carlton J. Sturdivant (Denita) of Greensboro, NC; Kevin D. Sturdivant (Tiffany) of Knightdale, NC; 7 grandchildren JaCura Sturdivant of Greensboro; Kiara Sturdivant of Greensboro; Khara Sturdivant of Cary; Krista Sturdivant of Greensboro; Karmen Sturdivant of Greensboro; K. Joshua Sturdivant of Knightdale; Kristofer Sturdivant of Knightdale; one great-grandson Myles Sturdivant of Greensboro; 6 siblings Eugene Sturdivant (Betty Rose) of Chadbourn; Lizzie Lee (Robert) of Ansonville; Treamenda Caple (Marshall) of Ansonville; Harrison Sturdivant of Whitsett; Susie Harris of Norwood; Jeanette Leak (David) of Ansonville; a an adopted sister Evelena Leak, a special niece Shemida J. Gill a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and students and a special friend Linda N. Hudson.

Obituary

DR. LEON H. STURDIVANT SR.

Educator. Administrator. Professor. Servant. Dr. Leon H. Sturdivant, Sr., was born December 28, 1946, to Rev. Harlie Sturdivant and Prophetess Lizzie Smith Sturdivant in Ansonville, NC. Leon was the oldest of seven children born to that union. His humble beginnings instilled in him a devoted work ethic and a love for learning. Leon graduated from Ansonville Colored High School in 1966. While in high school, it was his chemistry teacher, Mr. Wiley Little, who encouraged him to pursue a career in education and recommended him to receive a scholarship to college. After graduating high school, Leon was admitted to Winston-Salem Teacher's College (Winston-Salem State University) where he majored in Biology.

It was at Winston-Salem State University where he met and later married the former Deloris Gill. Together they had three sons, Leon Jr., Carlton and Kevin. After graduation, Leon accepted a role as science teacher at Nichols Middle School in Evanston, IL. After a two-year stint there, Leon and his young family relocated back to North Carolina where he taught earth science at Broadview Middle School in Burlington, NC. He and his family joined the First Baptist Church on Apple Street where he served as church clerk and sang in the church choir. In 1979, he received his Master of Education degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG).

In 1982, Leon was chosen as principal to lead High Rock High School in Yanceyville, NC. It was his brief term at High Rock that inspired him to continue his professional development and further his education. After High Rock, he then returned to Broadview and continued supporting and uplifting students as a science teacher and bus driver. In 1983, Leon received his Education Specialist (Ed. S.) degree from UNCG. In 1986, under Leon's tutelage, his Broadview Middle School students entered and placed second in the National Science League competition which is designed to test school-age student's knowledge in life, physical and general sciences.

In 1988, he left Broadview Middle School to become the Assistant Principal at Lincoln Middle School in Greensboro, NC. Five years later, in 1993, he achieved one of his educational goals by completing and successfully defending his doctoral dissertation from UNCG. His dissertation was entitled "An Assessment of Hands-On Activity-based Science for Summer School Remediation." His work provided a model for teachers to incorporate using a hands-on approach to better teach science to summer school students.

He later retired from secondary education after serving as Assistant Principal at Guilford Middle School in Greensboro, NC. Upon his retirement he still had a desire to continue to shape young minds, so we spent three years as a professor at his alma mater Winston-Salem State University where he directed the Youth Summer program. After that he spent three years as a professor in the Education Department at North Carolina A&T State University preparing students to take and pass the Praxis test. By his own estimates, Dr. Sturdivant was able to educate and inspire approximately 50,000 middle school, high school and college students over two states.

