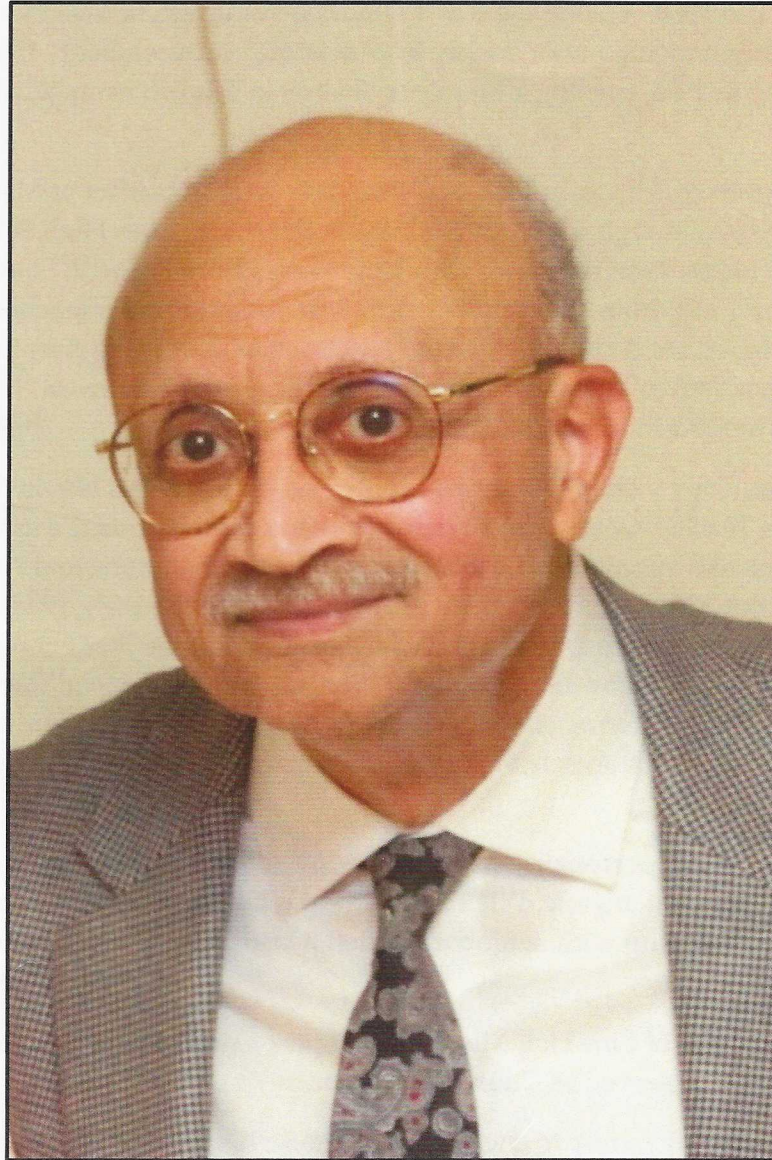


*Celebrating the Life of*  
Anthony ("Tony") D. Hairston  
October 8, 1946 - July 22, 2025



MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025  
3:00 P.M.

PINE HALL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
1416 POLE BRIDGE ROAD  
PINE HALL, NORTH CAROLINA

*Flower Bearers and Pall Bearers*

Family and Friends

*We Miss You*

We thought of you with love today,  
but that is nothing new.

We thought about you yesterday  
and days before that, too.

We think of you in silence  
We often speak your name.  
All we have are memories  
and your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake  
with which we'll never part.  
God has you in his keeping  
We have you in our hearts.

*With Love, Your Family*

*Expression of Thanks*

The Hairston Family extends our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness, prayers and expressions of love shown to us during this time of bereavement. Your support has brought us comfort and peace, and we are truly grateful.

*Services Entrusted to:*

Perry-Spencer Funeral Home  
402 Short Avenue  
Madison, NC 27025

# Obituary

Anthony "Tony" Del Hairston was born on October 8, 1946, in Pine Hall, North Carolina, to John L. and Ruth A. Hairston. In the early morning hours of July 22, 2025, he was called home to be with the Lord.

Education was a cornerstone of Tony's life. He graduated as Valedictorian from London High School in 1964 and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in English, graduating Magna Cum Laude from NC A&T in 1968. Among the many honors he received, he was inducted into Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education, on December 8, 1967. He completed his studies in 1975, earning a Master of Science in English from NC A&T, graduating Summa Cum Laude.

Tony began his career in education in 1968 as a 9th-grade English teacher at Madison-Mayodan Junior High. He later taught high school English at Madison-Mayodan High School from 1974 to 1979. After a brief hiatus from the classroom, Tony worked in sales with Southern Foods, Life of Georgia, and Liberty Life from 1984 to 1991. However, his passion for teaching brought him back to education. He returned in 1991 to teach middle school Language Arts in the Guilford County School System, first at Lincoln Middle School and later at Southwest Middle School, where he eventually retired in March 2011.

A true world traveler, Tony visited numerous countries throughout his life. In the early to mid-1970s, he served as a Teacher-Counselor, Campus Principal, and Regional Admissions Counselor with Scholastic International. He also worked as a Chaperone and Area Administrator with the American Institute for Foreign Study. In the early 1990s, he became a Delegation Leader and later Area Director with the People to People Student Ambassador Program. These roles allowed him to continue his love for teaching beyond the traditional classroom, mentoring and inspiring students as they explored the world. Tony cherished these experiences and often shared stories from his travels, especially his travels with People to People.

Tony had a warm, outgoing personality and an uncanny ability to strike up meaningful conversations with just about anyone. Whether chatting with staff at the grocery store, joking with his dentist, or catching up with neighbors, he left a lasting impression everywhere he went.

He was a devoted member of Pine Hall Missionary Baptist Church, where he sang in the male chorus for many years and served as Church Treasurer.

Tony leaves behind a loving family to cherish his memory: his beloved son, John A. Hairston and step-son, Adam Wall; his brother, John "Ted" Hairston (late Mary Jane) of Pine Hall, North Carolina; his sister, Mona L. Willis (Ray) of High Point, North Carolina; he is also survived by his nieces, Stephanie (Jason) Hawkins and Erika (Chris) Perry; his nephew, Byron Willis; one great-niece, Jasmine Hawkins; and two great-nephews, Christopher "Deuce" Perry and Myles Perry. He is also remembered fondly by a host of cousins, extended family, and friends.

Tony will be deeply missed by all who knew him – for his love of music, his animated storytelling, his passion for education, and the joy he brought to every conversation. A truly rich man leaves a legacy of love.

# *Order of Service*

Reverend Calvin Edwards, Officiating  
*Pastor, Pine Hall Missionary Baptist Church, Pine Hall, NC*

Processional

Statement of Purpose

Officiant

Selection

*"I'm a Pilgrim"*  
*Ms. Shekina Mitchell, Soloist*

Scriptures

Old Testament:

Rev. Michael King

New Testament:

Rev. Arthur Wadelington

Prayer of Comfort

Rev. Tony James

Reflections

Family and Friends

Acknowledgments & Resolution

Ann Price McBride

Obituary (Read Silently)

Selection

*"So Many Times"*  
*Ms. Shekina Mitchell, Soloist*

Eulogy

Rev. Calvin Edwards

Recessional

*Interment / Committal Service*

Pine Hall Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery  
Pine Hall, NC

