



Crossing Over

I'm crossing over now,
to a place of peace and rest,
Where every road is beautiful,
and every day is blessed.
I've laid my burdens down,
I've finished my earthly race,
And now I'm walking hand in hand
with my Savior, full of grace.
Don't cry because I've left you,
remember the love we shared.
Remember all the laughter,
and the many times I cared.
Remember me in the garden,
where I planted seeds with pride.
Remember me cutting grass
and flowers blooming by my side.
Remember my kitchen,
where good food filled the air—
Pinto beans, greens, cabbage,
and my ribs beyond compare.
Remember me on the golf course,
enjoying every swing,
And cheering for my Cowboys,
my favorite football team.
Remember me with family,

Those precious days and memories
are treasures to hold onto.
Though my journey here is over,
my love will never end.
I'll live within your memories,
in every heart I've touched as a
friend.
So when you feel you miss me,
look toward the heavens above.
I'm resting in the arms of Jesus,
surrounded by His love.
My earthly work is finished,
my journey has been crossed.
I've found eternal peace now—
and nothing here is lost.
I'm crossing over to glory,
where sorrow is no more.
I've crossed life's final river,
and reached the peaceful shore.
So celebrate the life I lived,
and the love I left behind.
For I am resting peacefully now,
and in God's hands, I am just fine.
I have crossed over.
I am home.
I am at peace.

by: Malinda Roberts Kemp

Acknowledgements

The family of Thomas MacArthur Roberts extends our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has shown us love, kindness, prayers, and support during this difficult time.

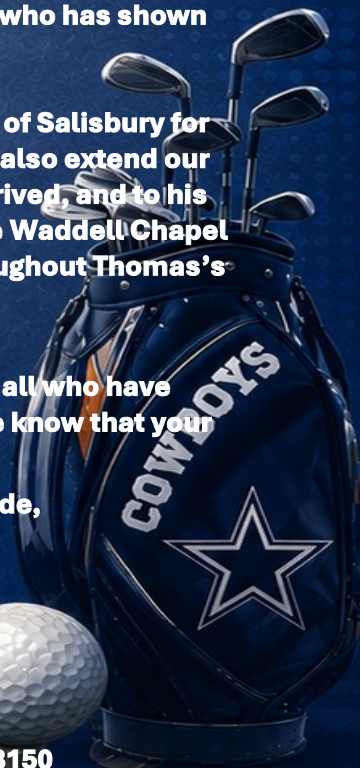
A special thank you to the dedicated staff of Dialysis Clinic, Inc. of Shelby and DaVita of Salisbury for the compassionate care and support provided to Thomas throughout his journey. We also extend our sincere appreciation to Dwight, who provided bystander CPR until the paramedics arrived, and to his wife, Carla, for her care and support of Mrs. Roberts. We are especially grateful to the Waddell Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church family for your prayers, love, spiritual support, and kindness throughout Thomas's life and during this time of loss.

To our family, friends, church family, golfing companions, neighbors, coworkers, and all who have reached out through calls, visits, cards, flowers, food, donations, and prayers, please know that your expressions of love have brought comfort to our hearts.

With heartfelt gratitude,
The Roberts Family

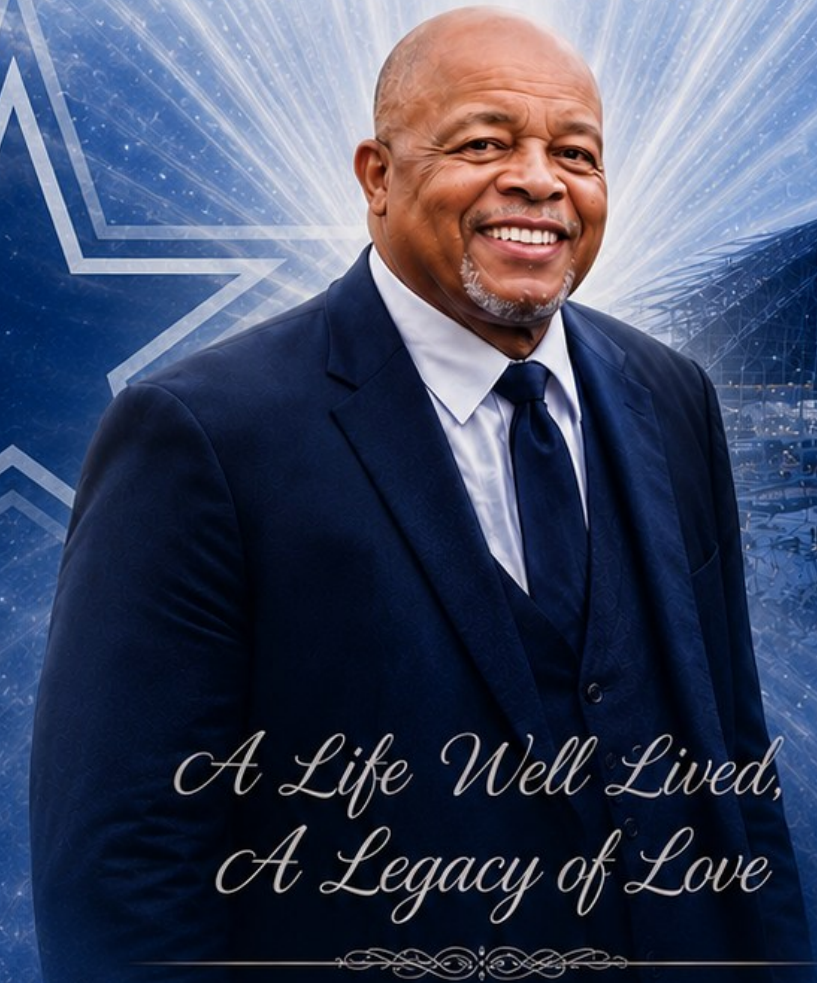
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A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Thomas MacArthur Roberts



*A Life Well Lived,
A Legacy of Love*

MARCH 29, 1945 - AUGUST 23, 2026

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026
11:30 AM

WADDELL CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA
REVEREND ANTHONY FARLEY, PASTOR



Obituary of Thomas MacArthur Roberts

Mr. Thomas MacArthur Roberts completed a life well lived and entered eternal rest on Sunday, August 23, 2026, at Presbyterian Novant Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was born on March 29, 1945, in Cleveland County, North Carolina, to the late Clarence and Kathleen Edwards Roberts. Thomas lived a life grounded in faith, family, hard work, friendship, and service. He was a man who found joy in the people he loved and in the things that brought him happiness—his family, his church, his friendships, golf, gardening, cooking, and, of course, his beloved Dallas Cowboys.

A Life of Faith and Service

Thomas was a devoted member of Waddell Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, where he faithfully served in many capacities throughout the years. His commitment to his church family was demonstrated through his service with the R.J. Harris Gospel Ensemble, Finance Committee, Steward Board, Lay Council, Church Van Ministry, and Usher Board. For Thomas, church was more than a place of worship. It was a place of fellowship, service, and family. He was always willing to lend a helping hand, share his time and talents, and do whatever was needed. His quiet dedication and willingness to serve left a lasting impression on his church family and community.

A Life of Hard Work and Determination

Thomas was a hardworking man who took great pride in providing for his family. He was employed with Hoechst Celanese for more than 20 years and later worked for PPG, where he remained until his retirement. Thomas was also a lifelong learner who believed in developing his skills and making the most of every opportunity. While working and raising his family, he returned to school and attended Cleveland Technical College, where he completed a course in masonry. His willingness to continue learning reflected the determination, work ethic, and perseverance that were hallmarks of his character.

A Man Who Loved the Land

Thomas had a special connection to the outdoors and took great pride in making things grow. He loved planting and tending to his garden, and there was nothing better to him than being able to enjoy the fruits and vegetables he had grown himself. He loved to cut grass, plant flowers, and landscape. Whether he was working in the garden, tending to his yard, or making his surroundings beautiful, Thomas took pride in his work. Gardening and landscaping were more than hobbies—they were things that brought him peace, satisfaction, and joy. Thomas also loved to cook and took great pleasure in preparing good food for his family and others. He could make a hearty pot of pinto beans, cabbage, turnip greens, and collard greens. But there was one dish that truly stood above the rest—his ribs. Thomas's ribs were his specialty, and those fortunate enough to taste them knew they were made with love, patience, and pride. Cooking was another way Thomas showed his love for the people around him. He enjoyed bringing people together around a good meal and creating memories that would last long after the plates were empty.

A Golfer, Cowboy, and Lover of Life

Thomas was an avid golfer and a true sports enthusiast. His love for golf began at a young age. He started caddying at 13 and began playing golf at 15. What started as a childhood experience grew into a lifelong passion. Thomas was a proud member of the Tee to Green Golf Association in Shelby, where he enjoyed the game, competition, fellowship, and friendships he developed over the years. Golf was never simply a game to Thomas—it was an opportunity to spend time with people, share a few laughs, and make lasting memories. And if you knew Thomas, you also knew there was another team that had a special place in his heart: the Dallas Cowboys.



Prelude
Processional
Visitation

Clergy and Family
11:00 AM-11:30 AM

ORDER OF SERVICE

Call to Worship

Reverend Anthony Farley, Pastor

Choral Selection

“It Is Well with My Soul”

Choir

Old Testament Scripture

Reverend Stephen Wingate

New Testament Scripture

Mrs. Donna DeGuzman

Prayer of Comfort

Reverend William Thompson

Musical Selection

Mrs. Marie Boykins-Bell & Mountain View Baptist Church

Reading of the Obituary

Silently

Tribute to Dad & Pawpaw

Mrs. Malinda K. Kemp & Grandchildren

Acknowledgements

Remarks *(Three Minutes Please)*

Ms. Loulena London, Church Family
Mr. James “Buck” Glenn, Tee to Green
Golf Association, Social Organization
Mr. Willie Stanfield, Family
Mrs. Debbie Smith, Esquire, Friend of the Family

Eulogy

Reverend Anthony Farley, Pastor

Musical Selection

Mrs. Marie Boykins-Bell & Mountain View Baptist Church

Recessional

“I’m Free”

Interment
Cleveland Memorial Park
Shelby, North Carolina

Floral Bearers - Nieces
Pall Bearers - Family & Friends

