

Mr. James William Miller, Sr., age 75, peacefully answered God's call on January 4, 2026. He was born on June 29, 1950, in Rutherfordton, North Carolina, to the late James Miller and Sarah Kate Miller, and was the eldest of four children.

James was raised in Rutherfordton before relocating to Detroit, Michigan, where he completed his high school education. A man of duty and discipline, he proudly served his country as a United States Army Veteran. Following his military service, James built a life defined by hard work and perseverance. He spent many years as a transfer truck driver, and later became a loyal and dedicated employee of Reeves Brothers of Rutherfordton, where he remained until his well-earned retirement.

Known for his strong work ethic and warm sense of humor, James was a man who could fix just about anything with his hands—and make you laugh while doing it. He found joy in fishing, cherished time with his family, and could often be found watching golf tournaments and classic westerns. Above all else, he was a provider, protector, and steady presence to those who loved him.

A faithful servant of God, James was a proud and devoted member of New Bethel A.M.E. Zion Church. There, he served faithfully on the Steward Board and lifted his voice in praise as a member of the All Male Choir. His commitment to church and community was quiet yet unwavering—he showed his faith through service, consistency, and love.

James was preceded in death by his sister, Mary Miller, and four children: James Miller III, Willie Miller, Carolyn Miller, and Shawn Moore.

He leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife, Allison Miller, of the home. He is lovingly remembered by his four daughters: Ivy Davis of Spartanburg, SC, Brittany Moore of the home, Leslie Hodge of Spindale, NC, Katelyn Miller of the home; he is also survived by his three sons: Onray Davis (Kim), of Forest City, NC. Chad Miller (Charlene), of Gaffney, SC, Desmond Miller, Sr. (Melissa) of Fayetteville, NC. James leaves behind two sisters, Karen Gaffney of Ellenboro and Nannette Camp of Georgia; three honorary sisters, Vabbs Lattimore, MaryAnn Littlejohn, and Anita Staley; and one honorary brother, Edward Staley.

His legacy continues through his 34 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and loved ones who will forever carry his wisdom, laughter, and love in their hearts.

The legacy James William Miller, Sr. leaves behind is one of faith, family, service, and strength. His life was a testimony to showing up, standing firm, and loving deeply. Though he has laid down his earthly burdens, his influence will live on for generations to come.



Order of Service

Processional:
Selection by Church Choir

Scripture Readings:
Old Testament – *Pastor Travis McEntire*
New Testament – *Elder Rodney Barner*

Prayer of Comfort:
Minister Ivy Davis

Selection:
Elder Lamont McDowell

Remarks:
Elder Karen Gaffney

Mason Rites

Silent Reading of the Obituary

Selection:
Robin McDowell

Eulogy
Pastor Keith Lipsey

Recessional:
"I Will Wear a Crown" (Musical)



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace
at the close of the day.

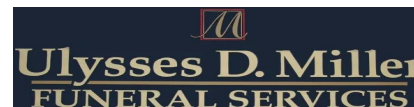
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times,
a loved one's tough.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me to now; He set me free.

Acknowledgement

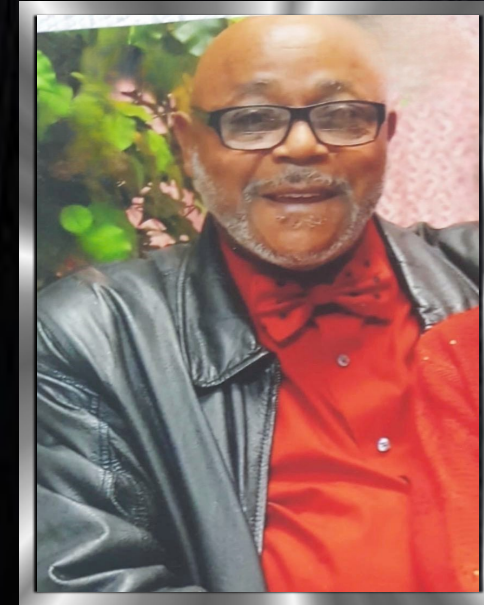
The family of James William Miller, Sr. would like to thank you for all the calls, texts, and visits from friends and family. May God forever bless you.



485 Poors Ford Road | Rutherfordton, NC 28093
Phone: 828-287-3800

"We Are The Voice of Comfort In Your Hour of Grief"

CELEBRATION OF LIFE Honoring the Life & Legacy of James William Miller, Sr.



SUNRISE
JUNE 29, 1950



SUNSET
JANUARY 4, 2026

SUNDAY
JANUARY 11, 2026
2:00 PM

New Bethel A.M.E. Zion Church
263 Forest Street
Forest City, North Carolina 28043

Pastor Keith Lipsey, Officiating