

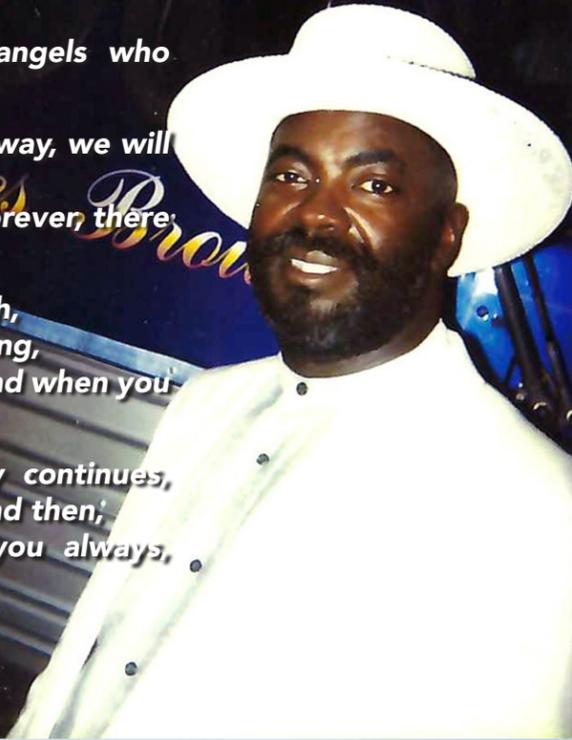
I am writing this from heaven, where I dwell with God above, I am here resting with angels who surround me with love.

Although I may seem far away, we will truly never part, For a part of me lives on forever, there, within YOUR heart

So, remember to have Faith, be courageous and be strong, Think of me with a smile, and when you hear my favorite song.

As life's beautiful journey continues, may you remember now and then, I will love and protect you always, UNTIL we meet again!.....

-Author Unknown



*Honorary Pallbearers*  
Men of International Longshoremen Association #1422

*Active Pallbearers*  
Nephews & Friends

*Acknowledgements*

The family would like to thank you all for every thought, prayer, or acts of kindness during the loss of our loved one. He will be missed, but we know to be absent from the body means he is now present with the Lord. Continue to pray for us as we transition to memories of our loved one. May God continue to bless each of you is our prayer.

Special Thanks to all of the medical staff of Medical University of South Carolina, John's Island Post Acute Nursing Home, HCA Healthcare Colleton Hospital, Agape Care Hospice, International Longshoremen Association #1422 and sister-in-law, Roseanna Berry Goodwin (The Cane Lady)

HONORING THE MEMORY OF



DEACON

*Thomas Alva*  
GOODWIN, SR.

JUNE 16, 1947 - DECEMBER 5, 2025



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025  
TWELVE O' CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

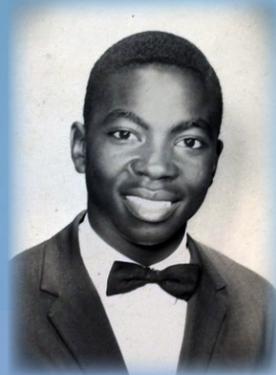
IN THE EDIFICE OF:  
CANAAN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
908 TRASK PARKWAY · SHELDON, SC 29941

REVEREND FRANKLIN RUTH - PASTOR



109 Yemassee Hwy.  
Yemassee, SC 29945  
843-589-2555  
youngfuneralhomesc.com

# The Testament of His Life



Deacon Thomas Alva Goodwin, Sr., a distinguished gentleman, a devoted husband, cherished father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, was a man among men and stood firm on what he believed and lived his life. Born June 16, 1947, in Eastover, South Carolina, he was the son of the late, Deacon Matthew B. Goodwin, Sr. and Evangelist Sarah A. Green Goodwin. Being raised in the Jonesville community of Yemassee, South Carolina, he received his early education from the public school system and was a proud graduate of Colleton High School Class of 1965.

During his high school years, Thomas found the love of his life, the former Ms. Shirley Ann Bobian. On November 27, 1966, the two became one as they were joined in Holy Matrimony. Together, they would begin to embark on life's journey as they relocated to New Jersey for a short while, and then over to New York and in 1972 they returned to South Carolina.

A man of a strong work ethic, he held down various jobs throughout his years. He often sold dress clothes. Most notably, in 1972, he became gainfully employed with the International Longshoremen Association Local 1422 of Charleston, SC. He would remain an active member and a hard worker until his retirement. He was also the proud owner of the prominent "Tom's Place", a social club he opened and maintained for several years.

At a young age, he sought the Lord and became a baptized member of the Mount Nebo Baptist Church of Yemassee, South Carolina. He later became a member of the Canaan Missionary Baptist Church of Sheldon, South Carolina. During his time of service, he accepted that God had a greater work for him and was ordained as a deacon. His duties also included serving on the missionary board, pastor's aide, male chorus and food bank ministry. Within his life, he was one who believed in "serving", whether it was his family, his job, his friends or even his community. He took part in many different organizations and roles to lend a helping hand where needed. He also played an active part in planning and organizing the Annual Jonesville Community Parade. When he wasn't doing something for someone else, you would often find him fishing, crabbing, or even in the garden with his okra, squash, or greens.



Affectionately known as "Tom", he was who he was. There was never a dull moment, and his character made you laugh or smile, even on your worst day. On Friday, December 5, 2025 at 5:30 P.M., while in the Colleton Medical Center, in Walterboro, South Carolina, our beloved Deacon Thomas Alva Goodwin, Sr. traded his time on earth for an eternity with his Lord and Savior. Preceding him in death along with his beloved parents are: infant son, Thomas Goodwin; two sons, Tyrone Chaplin and Jerry Bobian; sisters, Elizabeth Goodwin and Sarah Goodwin; and brothers, Charlie Goodwin, Anthony Goodwin, Clyde Green and Nathaniel Clark.

Left to embrace the fond memories of his legacy are: loving wife of fifty-nine years, Shirley Ann Goodwin; children, Nadine Goodwin, Minister Thomas Alva Goodwin, Jr., Michael Goodwin, Torrence Syphrett, Thomasina White and Lionel Williams; sisters, Overseer Bertha Williams, Isabell (Richmond) Ford, Mary Alice Blue and Donna Marie (McNeal) Smith; brothers, Lloyd (Eva) Goodwin, Matthew (Delores) Goodwin, III, Herbert Goodwin, Lester Goodwin, Donnell Thompson, Donald Thompson, Dennis Thompson and Robert Lee Byrd; aunts, Everlena Gadson, Elizabeth Green and Wilhelmenia Green; uncles, James Lee Goodwin and Nathan (Julia) Green; sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary Gantt, Richardean (Ronald) Mitchell, Gladys Bobian, Joseph Bobian and Clifford (Corrine) Bobian; twenty-two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, along with a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and caring friends.



## Order of Service

- The Prelude
- The Processional Viewing ..... Clergy & Family
- Opening Selection .....Voices of Praise
- The Scripture Reading(s):
  - Old Testament ..... Reverend Leon Byrd
  - New Testament..... Reverend Franklin Ruth
- The Prayer of Comfort..... Reverend Joseph Smalls
- Choral Response
- Expressions of Remembrance
  - From the Church..... Deacon Toby Alston
  - From the Family.....Herbert Goodwin, Jr.
- Solo.....Elder Albert Black
- Resolution..... Church Clerk
- Selection .....Voices of Praise
- Words of Comfort .....Minister Thomas A. Goodwin, Jr., Son
- Benediction
- Words of Appreciation
  - Reverend W. E. Young Priestler & Young Funeral Home
- Selection
- Recessional



Committal & Interment  
Church Cemetery