



Celebration of Life

Pastor Lacy Earl Ross

August 10, 1951 – November 21, 2023



November 27, 2023

12:00pm- Viewing 1:00pm- Service
Discovery Church
2201 Startown Rd. Newton, NC 28658
Reverend Gregory M. Floyd, Officiant
Pastor Michael Hill, Eulogist
Pastor Smith Sharpe, Host Pastor

OBITUARY

Lacy Earl Ross was born August 10, 1951 in Cumberland County to the union of the late Junious Thomas Ross and Gladys Ross Bryant. He was a graduate of Seventy-First High School and immediately moved to the Big Apple, New York City. After a brief stint in the city for a country boy, he returned to North Carolina and shortly met the love of his life, Rebecca Spinks. They were married May 8, 1971 in Asheboro, NC. To this union were born three daughters; Angela Ross-Ingram (Fernando), Gloria Diana Ross-Redmond-Deceased (Larry), and LaKeisha Ross-Johnson (Christopher). Later added to this union were daughters Shana Ross and Evelyn Pauley.

Lacy was a faithful member of St. Peter Baptist Church in Raeford, NC where he attended with his father. In addition, he also attended Reilly Road Church of God of Prophecy in Fayetteville, NC with his mother. After marrying Rebecca, he joined The Church of God of Prophecy on Cross Street in Asheboro, NC. Many great memories were made with friends and family, under the leadership of Bishop J.R Ricks. He was active in the singing and lay ministry, before accepting his first call as pastor in Bryson City, NC. Throughout his journey, he served in Ellerbe, NC, Lincolnton, NC, Greensboro, NC, and then back to Lincolnton, NC as his last call where he started an independent church- Lighthouse Praise & Worship Center.

Music and singing were a favorite pastime of Pastor Lacy. During his call in Ellerbe, NC he started the quartet group, The Spiritual Messengers. They were known all around the states of North and South Carolina, and recorded an album. He would often prelude his sermons with a serenade for the saints and postlude with, "I'm Going to Leave You In The Hands of The Lord." He served with the Coalition of Churches since its inception, and was currently serving as treasurer. Pastor Lacy concluded his journey with over 40+ years of pastoral leadership.

"Rev" as he was affectionately called also worked for Lincoln County Schools. Over the years, many looked forward to being greeted with a wave and smile while admiring his clean bus. During his time with the school system, he served as chaplain to athletic teams, assistant to the administrator, and mentor to any students who needed him. He was also active with the NAACP, and was always ready and willing to advocate for underrepresented communities. He retired from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction with over 34 years of service.

Loved ones who preceded him in death were his father; Junious, mother; Gladys, daughter; Gloria Diana, brothers; Johnny, Donald, Thomas, and Floyd, and sister; Catherine.

Left to carry on his legacy are his wife Rebecca and daughter Evelyn of the home, daughters; Angela (Fernando)- Kernersville, NC, LaKeisha (Christopher)- Hickory, NC, and Shana- Winston-Salem, NC, grandchildren; DeAngelo, Daniel (Gregory), DyAngeliz, Cha, Lacyna, LaTayvia, Jeremiah, Rhiley, Emerie, and Ephraim, great grandchildren; Jirah, Jacoya, Nahzir, and Nova, God-children; Andrae², Wanda, Carlos, Tony, and Robert, brothers; Pastor James-Hamlet, NC and Michael (Lynn)- Salisbury, NC, sisters; Carolyn (Frankie)-Fayetteville, NC and Gloria (James)-Marietta, GA, Bryant-extended siblings; Mae, Jane, Brenda, Wanda, Elaine, Lisa, Regina, Gracie, George, Jeffrey, Lorenza, Emery, and Kenneth, special sister-in-laws; Marie and Patricia, and a host of family members, foster children from over the years, loved ones, friends, colleagues, and acquaintances who all love and adore Pastor Lacy Earl Ross.

ORDER OF SERVICE



Processional	Ministers & Family
<i>Receiving of Family & Friends (12:30pm-12:59pm)</i>	
Prelude music	AV Ministry & Musicians
Call to Worship (1:00pm)	Reverend Gregory Floyd
Opening Song of Praise	
Scriptures	
Old Testament	Pastor Smith Sharpe
New Testament	Pastor Jarvis Saner
Solo	“Precious Lord” Reverend Robert Williams
Acknowledgments & Obituary	Daniel Kearns Pickett
Expressions of Love & Fond Memories	Minister Jessie Tuft Minister Billy Pore Reverend Jay R. Ricks Tinsley’s Barber Shop Dr. Mary Byers-Hall Deacon Leon Howell Reverend Rodney Courtney Laura Belle Davis DeAngelo M. Kearns LaKeisha Ross-Johnson
Solo	“Walk Around Heaven” Minister Patricia Covington
Eulogy & Preached Word	Pastor Michael Hill, Providence Missionary Baptist Church
Prayer	
Recessional	“Going Up Yonder”

The family will be fed first during the repast. You are welcome to greet them during this time. Please exit the sanctuary behind the family at the conclusion of service, clearing the sanctuary to allow for setup of the repast for the family.

'Do not stand at my grave and weep'

Mary Elizabeth Frye

Do not stand at my grave and weep

I am not there. I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.

I am the diamond glints on snow.

I am the sunlight on ripened grain.

I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush

I am the swift uplifting rush

Of quiet birds in circled flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry;

I am not there. I did not die.

The Ross family would like to express our heart felt gratitude for all of the visits during our loved ones illness leading up to his grand transition. He was truly in heavenly comfort, and you all played a part in that. All of your prayers have been felt, and we ask for your continued prayers as we adjust to living without this grand soul being a part of our everyday physical life.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Special Thanks:

- **Discovery Church** for your hospitality
- **Carolina Caring** for amazing and thoughtful palliative care
- **Tinsley's Barber Shop** for treating him like a King & Final Hair Cut
- **Lincoln Family Medicine** for treating him like royalty at each visit
- **Pastor Larry Roseboro** for releasing your ministers to assist at the Lighthouse Praise & Worship Center
- Rev. Robert Williams (Musical leadership & Friendship), Earl Vernon (Guitar), Frank Cauthen(Drums), Drew Grounds (Discover Minister of Music & AV)

Final Arrangements Have Been Entrusted To Ebony & White's Funeral Services- Lincolnton, NC.

Ms. Frances thanks for being a great family friend and colleague in service with "Rev."

*****Graveside Service & Interment will be**

Tuesday, November 28 @ 1:00pm

Mt. Calvary Cemetery- Asheboro, NC

Bishop Harold Williams Officiating***

Ebony & White's
Funeral Service

