



Floral Bearers
Granddaughters
Nieces

Pall Bearers
Grandsons



In Gratitude

We are filled with gratitude for your outpouring expressions of love and concern.

To those of you who have traveled miles to share in this Eulogistic Service, WE THANK YOU.

To those of you who have participated in this service, WE THANK YOU.

To those who extended support during the illness of our loved one, WE THANK YOU.

For the flowers, the cards, the telephone calls, the food, the visits, your concern, and your prayers, THANK YOU.

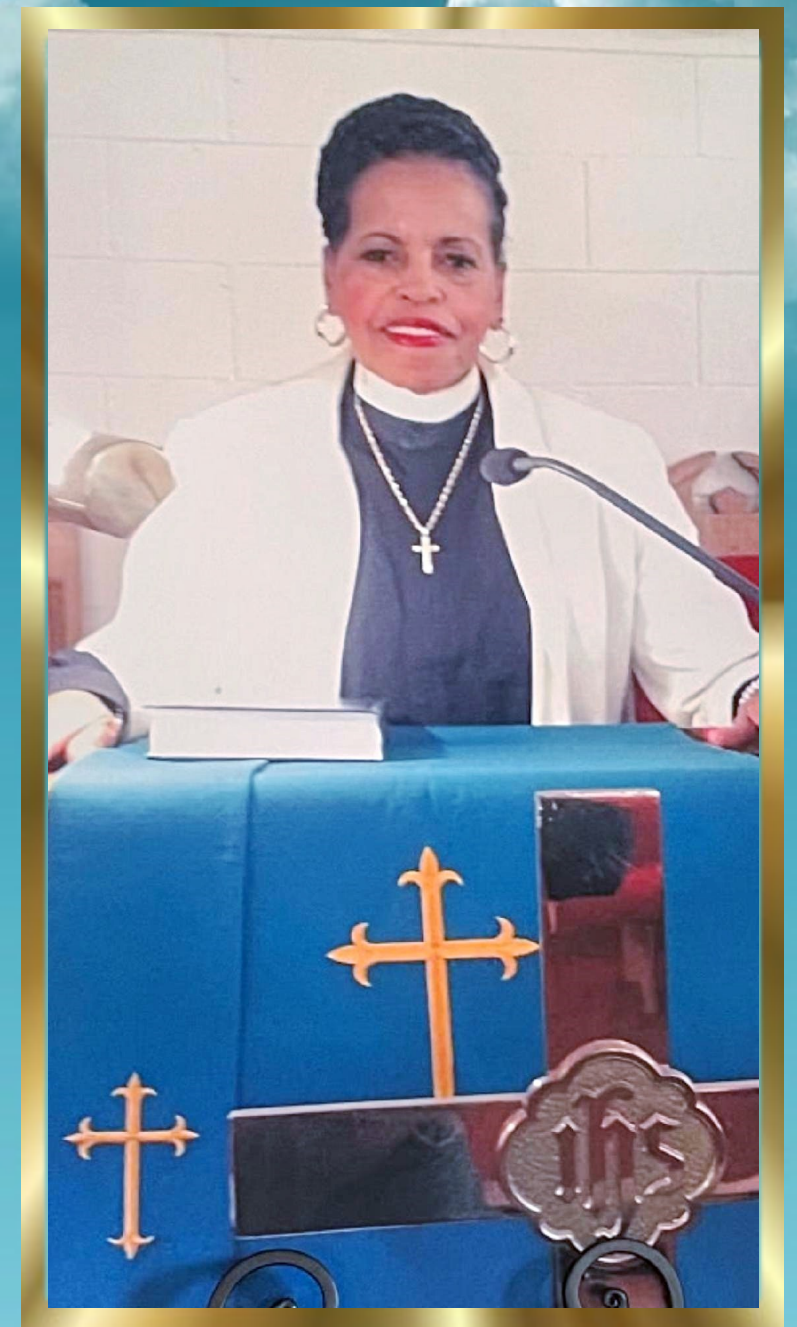
For each act of kindness shown, may God richly bless you all!

Special Thanks to Covenant Church and Mt. Vernon A.M. E. Zion Church.

—The Easter Family—

Service of Comfort Provided by:
EBONY & WHITE'S FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.
1139 E. Pine Street | Lincolnton, NC 28093
Phone: 704-732-1041
"Dedicated To Those We Serve"
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Celebration of Life for Rev. Gloria Maddox Easter



Friday, October 17, 2025
2:00 PM

Covenant Church
Lincolnton, North Carolina

Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr., Eulogist
Presiding Prelate of the Piedmont Episcopal District
and the Senior Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church

The Family Visitation

Processional
Moments of Sharing

Ministers & Family
1:00 – 2:00 PM

Order of Service

Rev. Michael Hester, Officiating Pastor
Coulter’s Grove AME Zion Church
Newton, North Carolina

Call to Worship/Invocation	Rev. Michael Hester
Selection	Mt. Vernon AME Zion Church
Old Testament	Rev. Roger Hunter, Sr.
New Testament	Elder Mildred Maddox
Prayer of Comfort	Pastor Michael Hill
Selection	“Lord It’s In Your Hands” Prophetess Ivey Robinson
Obituary Reading	Silently
Resolution	Rev. Dr. Carolyn Dewberry
Remarks	Presiding Elder Charles Tillett Rev. Betty Stinson Haywood Easter, Jr.
Selection	Mt. Vernon AME Zion Church
Presentation of the Bishop and Remarks	Rev. Dr. David R. Baker Presiding Elder of the Statesville District
Eulogy	Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr. Presiding Prelate of the Piedmont Episcopal District and the Senior Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church
Recessional	“I’m Free” Choir

Committal/Interment

Coulter’s Grove A.M.E Zion Church Cemetery
4513 Startown Road
Newton, North Carolina



I’m Free

Don’t grieve for me for now I’m free,
I’m following the path God laid you me
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found peace at the close of 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 for you the sunshine of tomorrow
My life’s been full, I’ve savored much,
Good friends, good times, my loved one’s touch

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don’t lengthen it now with undue grief
Lift up your hearts, “Peace To Thee”
God wanted me now, He set me free!

Life Reflections

Rev. Gloria Easter made a peaceful transition on October 13, 2025, at Atrium Health in Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Gloria was born in Atlanta, GA on September 16, 1946, to the late Elder Prince Oscar and Eva Farley Maddox. She was a member of Coulter’s Grove AME Zion Church. Gloria was a graduate of Newbold High School, Class of 1965. She received her Bachelor’s in Biblical Studies and her Masters in Biblical Studies from North Carolina College of Theology in Wilmington, NC. She was the Pastor of Mt. Vernon AME Zion Church in Statesville, NC. She began her career as a Pastor presiding over Mt. Olin AME Zion Church in Newton, NC from June 1997 through June 2014; she was then appointed to Links Chapel AME Zion Church in Iron Station, NC and served from June 2014 through June 2025. Her last appointment was June 15-2025, at Mt. Vernon AME Zion Church in Statesville, NC. Gloria loved Jesus, her family and serving her community.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband Haywood Easter, Sr., a sister Hattie Ruth Collins; three brothers Tommy “Honey” Maddox, Herbert Maddox and Oscar Maddox, Jr. and a grandson Chris Easter!

Those left to cherish fond and wonderful memories are her children Melissa (George) Hillyer of Shelby, NC; Andre Easter of Orlanda, FL; Wendy Easter of Stanley, NC; Haywood, Jr. (Jacqueline) Easter of Lincolnton, NC and Daryl Easter of Charlotte, NC; three sisters Doris (Roger) Hunter, Charlotte, NC; Betty Stinson, Maiden, NC and Barbara Maddox, Hickory, NC; two brothers Tony and Perry Maddox, Lincolnton, NC; 9 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

May those whose hearts are broken find comfort in knowing that this angel has departed and has returned to Him who gave her true life, and I know that she can make it because the storm is over now.