

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 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've found that 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
If my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

In Gratitude

The family of James Calvin Phelps wishes to express our deepest gratitude for every act of kindness shown during our time of bereavement.

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"
www.ebonyandwhitesfuneral serviceinc.com

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS
CELEBRATION OF LIFE



JAMES CALVIN PHELPS

OCTOBER 20, 1944— MARCH 22, 2026

Monday
March 30, 2026
3:00 PM

White's Family Chapel
Lincolnton, North Carolina

Rev. Nellie P. Kirkland, Pastor
Oak Grove A.M.E. Zion Church
Cherryville, North Carolina

Life Reflections

JAMES CALVIN PHELPS

James Calvin Phelps made his transition on Sunday, March 22, 2026 at Frye Regional Medical Center, Hickory, North Carolina. He was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina on October 20, 1944 to the late Henry Phelps and Elsie Mae Gardner Phelps.

James attended public school at Newbold High School. He retired from Shuford Mills.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by five brothers, Grady Lawrence, Benny Lawrence, James Leonard Phelps, Moses Henry Phelps and Rufus Phelps.

He leaves to cherish his memory three brothers, Kenny (Mamie) Phelps of Cherryville, NC; Frank (Eva) Phelps, Willie Tyler (Ressie) Phelps all of Lincolnton, NC; one sister, Velmon (Joe) Patterson of Iron Station, NC; his companion of forty years, Jean Ellis of Hickory, NC; Jean's children, Penny Tipps, Sheila Reinhardt, Lori Lail, Anthony Haus, James Haus, special nephew, J.J. Patterson, several other loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Memories By JJ

My Uncle James enjoyed a simple life, and he lived it with so much quiet pride. I remember how he took care of my grandmother, taking her to doctor's appointments and to church. Although he would sometimes complain, he always did what needed to be done. I remember sitting with him outside the doctor's office, how he would tell jokes or help pass the time by watching and talking about the water tower being built, turning something boring into a special memory. He showed me that love often looks like small, everyday actions that most people don't even notice.

I remember how he rescued me from those long, all-day Primitive Baptist church services and took me outside with him, giving me a little break and a chance to breathe. I remember how much pride he took in the way he looked, and how I used to tease him that he combed his hair so much he wouldn't have any left when he got old. I can still see him sitting with me in his red Nova, listening to his 8-tracks, completely at peace in his own world. These memories may seem simple, but to me they are priceless. They are the pieces of Uncle James I get to carry with me forever, proof of a good man who loved his family in quiet, steady ways that will never be forgotten.

James had a kind, giving and loving heart. He was willing to help anyone. He will be sorely missed.

VISITATION

Prelude
Processional
Receiving of Family & Friends

Ministers & Family
2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Rev. Michael Hill, Officiating Pastor
Providence Missionary Baptist Church
Lincolnton, North Carolina

Call to Worship	Rev. Michael Hill
Selection	Combined Choirs
Old Testament Scripture	Rev. Nathaniel Craig
New Testament Scripture	Rev. Dr. Roger Fuller
Prayer of Comfort	Rev. Maurice Allen
Selection	Combined Choirs
Family Reflections	Nephews
Selection	Robin Dillingham
Eulogy	Rev. Nellie P. Kirkland
Recessional	

COMMITTAL/INTERMENT

Pine Grove Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery
Lawndale, North Carolina

FLORAL BEARERS

Nieces

PALL BEARERS

Nephews