

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Elder Harrison Burruss

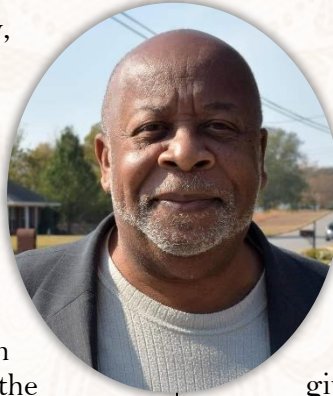
November 24, 1951 - September 17, 2021



THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF *Elder Harrison Burruss*

November 24, 1951 - September 17, 2021

The native son of Madison County, born of a humble beginning, **Elder Harrison Burruss** began his journey of life on November 24, 1951 born to the late parents namely Herbert Burruss and Ethel Booker Burruss. As he grew into his teen years, he experienced a revelation after attending a funeral of a loved one where the preacher preached a sermon of fire and brimstone leaving with the thought that he did not want to go to hell where he would spend eternity without God. He urgently confessed hope in Christ on July 23, 1967 and united with the St. Andrew Primitive Baptist Church under the pastorship of Elder Willie Holman. He continued on at his home church and remained a faithful member under the pastorship of Elder George Franklin.



He obtained his high school diploma from the Trinity High School in Athens, Alabama in 1970. He later attended the Drake State Technical College of Huntsville, Alabama where he obtained a certification in Automotive Repair. After time spent serving in the United States Army, he began a lifelong career with Sears as a mechanic and retired in 2007 with 38 years of dedicated service.

The rubber now meets the road. On August 26, 1984, **Elder Harrison Burruss** accepted his calling into the ministry under the pastorship of Elder George Franklin, Sr. and licensed by Indian Creek P.B. Association on May 4, 1985. He would then go on to receive his ordination on May 1, 1987. He continued to hold membership with the St. Andrew Primitive Baptist Church of Madison, Alabama until he received his final call.

Elder Harrison Burruss was appointed to serve as interim pastor of the St. Elizabeth Primitive Baptist Church in Elkton, Tennessee from 1988

until September 1989. The church elected him pastor on the 1st Saturday in December of 1989 and he was installed on the 4th Sunday in April 1990. Under his pastorship there has been many accomplishments that has benefited both the church and community. He poured everything into his flock that the Lord had given him through aggressive teaching and giving to the Lord through tithes and offering. He practiced what he preached and was likened to one of his favorite prophets Nehemiah. One that stood on the wall setting the standard and example for his family, church and community. He spearheaded numerous projects in and around Elkton, Tennessee which were a testament to his love for the church which spanned over 33 years.

The rubber stays on the road and St. Elizabeth was not his only passion. He had an enduring and abounding love for The Indian Creek Association where his journey would cover over 36 years of toiling. When pressed to stop and take a rest, without hesitation, he would state that he was like another one of his favorite prophets, Jeremiah. He was unique, fixated, and committed to whatever task the Lord laid on him to do. He was dogmatic and determined. God has blessed him to write and author such books as *"The History And Movement of Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association, 1870-1993"*; *"The History And Movement of Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association, 1870-2019"*; *"God's Guidance For Dealing With Thorns In The Church Body"*; *"God's Guide To Build"*; *"Chief Evangelist Roster"*; *"Vision From God"*; *"Ordination Study Guide"*; and *"Election Of Pastor with Script"*; *"The Mandate Of The Church"*; *"Wrote the Tabernacle and Association Auxiliaries History"* and a *"Simple Funeral Guide."* He made revisions in the 1933 Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Discipline.

~Pastor~



During his tenure with the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association, he served as Chairman of the Trustee Board of the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association from 1995 until 2007 under the leadership of Moderator Eugene Lewis. He began serving as Chairman of the Developmental Fund Committee in 1995 and held that position until he received his eternal call. His love for Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association was demonstrated in his talk of how the Lord gave him the plan for the Tabernacle and how he would one day stake out the land where it sits today. He spearheaded the work to build the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Tabernacle under the leadership of Elder Eugene Lewis. In 2014 Moderator Mylon Burwell appointed him Historian of the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association, along with a committee to establish a Historical Room within the Tabernacle. The room was completed May 2015. Within the Historical Room are artifacts that he had acquired since 1985 and agreed to share with Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association. This was one of his greatest accomplishments and the writing is on the wall. The walls stand as a testament to inspiration and dedication that one could only stand in awe.

Elder Harrison Burruss was preceded in death by the following brothers and sisters: Brothers Terry Burruss, Roger Burruss, Phillip Wayne Burruss Pitts, Charlie Samuel Burruss, James Leo Burruss, Joseph Burruss, Ernest Burruss, Woodrow Burruss, O. C. Burruss and Ted Ray Burruss. The sisters preceding him in death are Edna Pearl Ayers, Dorothy Burruss Matthew, Ida Burruss, Addie Lee Burruss Lewis, Eliza Burruss Teague, and Corine Burruss Pickett.

He is survived by a **devoted wife**, Beverly Philon Burruss, where two hearts met in 1980, combined, and created a family structure. No gift compared to him gathering on Christmas Eve with the children and their families, imparting his words of

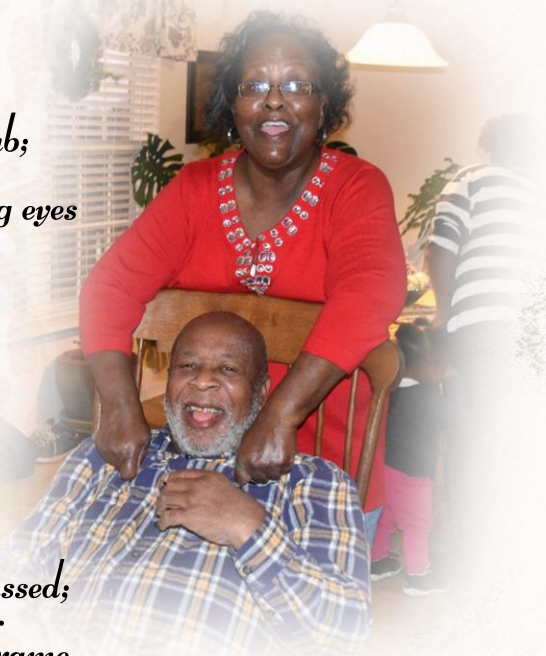
wisdom while listening to what has happened with them over the past year. The house was filled with joy and laughter and he cherished it. His legacy will remain in the hearts of **children**: Wanda McCoy, Huntsville, Alabama, Darice (*Lavorg*) Townsend, Meridianville, Alabama, Stephanie (*Jonathan*) Palmer, Clarksville, Tennessee, Damon (*Chrystal*) Washington, Harvest, Alabama, Michael (*Tamara*) Burruss, Raeford, North Carolina, Brian (*Jermeka*) Washington, Huntsville, Alabama, Jonathan (*Ashley*) Burruss, Harvest, Alabama; **grandchildren**: Lauryn Townsend, Leah Townsend, and LJ Townsend, all of Meridianville, Alabama, Jaylen Palmer and Jasmine Palmer, both of Clarksville, Tennessee, Damion Washington, Chyna Washington, Josh Salandy, and Zoe Salandy, all of Harvest, Alabama, Xavier Burruss, LaZabeon Burruss and Tyrone Throne, all of Raeford, North Carolina, AJ Washington, Caryn Washington, Brian Washington, and Brooke Washington, all of Huntsville, Alabama, Jamiah Burruss, Journee Burruss, and Amani Burruss, all of Harvest, Alabama; **sisters**: Della Ree Burruss of Madison, Alabama, Mary Burruss Doss of Nashville, Tennessee and Gloria Burruss Spann of Greensboro, North Carolina; **brothers**: Theodore Burruss of Madison, Alabama, and Henry Eugene Burruss, of Huntsville, Alabama; three brothers-in-law: Ollie Pickett of Huntsville, Alabama; James (*Mary*) Doss, Nashville, Tennessee and Harold Philon of Womack Hill, Alabama; **three sisters-in-law**: Louise Burruss; Betty (*Henry*) Burruss of Huntsville, Alabama; and Berda Law of Womack Hill, Alabama; **an uncle**, Willie Booker Nashville, Tennessee and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins other relatives, friends, and a very **special nephew**, Ronnie (Tina) Rice of Fresno, Texas.

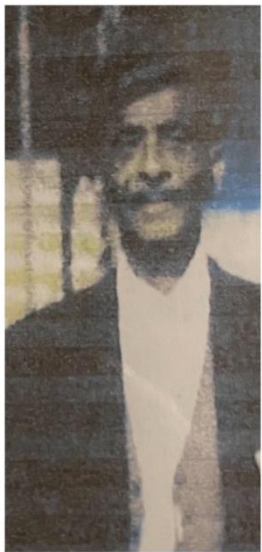
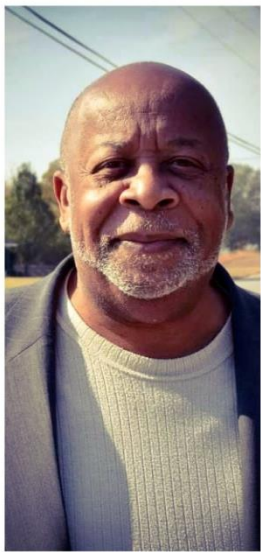
As it is reflected in his life's journey and the challenges and obstacles that stood in his way, know that he did not take the path of least resistance, but saw mountains in the distance that were reachable and achievable. On September 17, 2021, the Savior met him at the place where he cared so deeply. His work of 36 years was complete and the true servant of the Lord is now at rest.



*God saw the road
was getting rough,
The hill was hard to climb;
He gently closed those loving eyes
And whispered
"Peace Be Thine."*

*The weary hours,
the days of pain,
The sleepless nights have passed;
The ever-patient worn-out frame
Has found sweet rest at last.*







THE DASH

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning... to the end.

*He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears,
but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time they spent alive
on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.*

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the house... the cash.

What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left that still can be rearranged.

*To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.*

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...

remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

*So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash,
would you be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash.*

By Linda Ellis

Order of Service

Saturday, September 25, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Meadowlawn Garden of Peace

450 Mt Lebanon Road | Toney, Alabama 35773

Elder Dr. Mylon Burwell, Officiating



PROFESSIONAL

OPENING PRAYERDeacon Gary Gardner
St. Elizabeth Primitive Baptist Church
Elkton, Tennessee

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT.....Elder Mark Whigham
St. Mary Primitive Baptist Church
Birmingham, Alabama

NEW TESTAMENT..... Dr. Curtis Jordan
Pastor, Greater Mt. Carmel Primitive Baptist Church
Huntsville, Alabama

SOLO.....Mother Annie Kirby

REFLECTIONS

AS A FORMER CO-WORKER AND FRIEND.....Brother Danny Cook

AS A MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEEMother Laura Edwards

AS A FATHER AND FRIEND..... Brother Michael Burruss

SOLO..... Minister Reginald Lewis
Eagles Nest Ministries
Huntsville, Alabama

EULOGY.....Dr. Mylon Burwell
Moderator of the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association
Pastor of Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church
Huntsville, Alabama

SELECTION “May the Work I’ve Done Speak for Me”..... The William Brothers

COMMITTAL

Dr. Mylon Burwell

CLOSING PRAYER Elder Calvin Moore
St. Andrew Primitive Baptist Church
Madison, Alabama

MORTICIANRoyal Funeral Home, Inc.

BENEDICTION



Pallbearers

Grandsons

Flower Bearers

Granddaughters

Interment

MEADOWLAWN GARDEN OF PEACE
450 Mt. Lebanon Road | Toney, Alabama 35773

Acknowledgments

*The family of **Elder Harrison Burruss** cannot fully convey our gratitude for the sympathy and expression of love you have shown to our family during this time of bereavement. We simply say, "Thank you!" Your presence and willingness to aid in any way has been truly comforting. Our gratitude to the Elders of the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association, EMS workers, doctors, nurses, and all who assisted and stood by us while our loved one made his transition to rest in the arms of God.*

Please pray for our continued strength in the Lord.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO



Royal Funeral Home, Inc.

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"When only memories remain, let them be beautiful."