



Bishop Melvin Harper

June 9, 1941 - May 16, 2023

Bishop Melvin Harper was born on June 9, 1941, to the late Mr. Mercy Harper and Mrs. Rachael Shumake Harper. He departed this life on May 16, 2023.

Bishop Harper attended Lithonia City Schools in Lithonia Georgia where he was born and raised. He confessed Christ at an early age. He was a member at Saint James Holiness Church as a teen. He later joined United Pentecostal Church, Inc. (UPC) ministries where he met his bride, Shirley Ann Miller. He married the love of his life on May 24, 1959, spending the next 64 years loving her and their four children. He also was a member at Scott's Crossing Church of God in Christ (COGIC) in Atlanta, GA for many years. He was asked by his Mother-in-law Edna Miller to help her build Mt. Olive UPC. Bishop Harper took on a second job and gave that paycheck faithfully to the church in order to ensure that the church would succeed. After spending years at Mt Olive, Bishop Harper was called to preach the gospel. In 1980 he began pastoring New Jerusalem Outreach Ministries. He loved preaching the gospel. His first sermon, entitled Mind Pollution, would be his landmark sermon for his calling. He was Chaplain for Dekalb County, GA Jails, and a member of the Repairers of the Breach organization, which was an active member for the State of Georgia Prison System. Bishop Harper also did not mind erecting a tent somewhere to hold service, or having a yard service in front of someone's home. He loved people and wanted them to know the God he served and loved!

Bishop Harper was a stationary engineer by profession. He self-studied and passed the state of Georgia examination to become a certified professional engineer. He retired from Georgia Tech Institute of Technology where he worked as a Stationary Engineer from July 23, 1963 to January 31, 1994. He also worked simultaneously at Georgia Baptist Hospital as a Boiler Operator for many years. He graduated from Carver Bible College, and Luther Rice Theological Seminary with certificates in ministry. Bishop Harper was also a great cook, gardener, guitar player and guitar teacher. He loved going to the beach, enjoyed reading the Bible and most of all he he loved his family.

Bishop Harper is survived by his wife, Shirley Ann Harper, children Donette Harper- Mclarin, Connie Harper-Clark, Melvin Eugene Harper (Valerie) and Attorney Michael D. Harper. His grandchildren are Shatoria Mclarin (deceased), Erica Harper- Bolton (Mazi), Justin Mclarin (Christina), Courtney Harper-Douglas (Tranell), Monique Carter Harper, Shannon Harper- Ingram (Brain), Jeremy Mclarin (Malicha), Wes Michael Harper, Clark Craig J. Clark (Brianna), Gina Castell, Cassandra Evans (Armani), Christopher Roach, Shannon Roach and Sydni Roach. Bishop Harper had 20 Great Grandchildren and 6 Great-Great Grandchildren. He leaves his brothers Mercy Harper, Norris Harper (Lucy), Norman O Harper (Arabella), Rolly Harper (Brenda) and Otis Fretwell (Marion). He also leaves his Brother-In-Laws Andrew Miller (Karen), Sanders Miller (Patricia), Dennis Miller, Bishop Donoval Miller (Annie) as well as his Sister-In-Law Selena Miller. Bishop Harper has a host of additional relatives, friends and colleagues in the ministry.

Bishop Harper lived a full life. He leaves an admirable legacy. He will be dearly missed by all who were blessed to know him, but now we celebrate his life and know that he is free and with his Creator.

Cemetery Details

Resthaven Garden of Memory

2284 Candler Road
Decatur, GA 30032

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 22. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

South DeKalb Chapel
4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy.
Decatur, GA 30034
(404) 241-5656
info@levettfuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

MAY 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kelly Lake Church of God in Christ
2411 Whites Mill Rd
Decatur, GA 30032-6316
(404) 241-1810

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Bishop Harper was a Great General, he always kept a smile, always encouraged, never had a negative word to say. He was a preaching machine. Rest In Paradise Bishop, you will be missed 😊❤️❤️❤�



Stephanie Dunn - May 23, 2023 at 09:37 AM

DH

“ Derrick Hillman lit a candle in memory of Bishop Melvin Harper



Derrick Hillman - May 21, 2023 at 09:09 PM

WP

“ Wayne Peavy lit a candle in memory of Bishop Melvin Harper



Wayne Peavy - May 21, 2023 at 10:16 AM

WP

It was a 'Blessing' to have known this Great Man Of GOD! RIH

Wayne Peavy - May 21, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Bishop Melvin Harper.



May 20, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bishop Melvin Harper.

May 20, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *Bishop Donoval & Annie Miller* sent a virtual gift in memory of Bishop Melvin Harper



Bishop Donoval & Annie Miller - May 18, 2023 at 11:42 PM



“ *Sherry Garrison* lit a candle in memory of Bishop Melvin Harper



Sherry Garrison - May 18, 2023 at 05:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bishop Melvin Harper.



May 18, 2023 at 03:57 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Bishop Melvin Harper.

May 18, 2023 at 03:57 PM



“ Darlene Kendricks lit a candle in memory of Bishop Melvin Harper



Darlene Kendricks - May 18, 2023 at 01:09 PM



I thank God I got the opportunity to Meet & fellowship with this Powerful Man of God, Bishop Melvin Harper & family. Bishop Harper will always LIVE in our Hearts and the Harper family are always in our PRAYERS.

Darlene Kendricks - May 18, 2023 at 01:28 PM