



Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop

December 20, 1961 - January 23, 2024

Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop was born on Dec. 20, 1961, to the late Rev. Daniel L. Bishop Sr. and Mrs. Margaret Bishop-Davis in Tuscaloosa, AL.

Thomas accepted Christ at an early age at Mt. Carmel AME Church in Duncanville, AL. He was blessed with the prolific gift of piano, organ, and song and began playing for churches at the young age of 12 years old.

Thomas played for Mt. Carmel AME Church and Mt. Galilee Baptist Church in Northport, AL, and was a part of the music ministry at Bethel Baptist Church in Pratt City, AL. Throughout his life he was a part of the music ministry for many churches, with the last being Faith Temple First Pentecostal Church in Lithonia, GA where he was also ordained as a Deacon in January, 2022.

Graduating from Holt High School in 1979, Thomas was the Student Council President, Member of the National Honor Society, Member of the National Beta Club, a Major in Jr. ROTC, and represented Sen. Richard Shelby for the Presidential Congressional Council for High School Students in Washington, D.C. He was a member of the Mensa Intelligence Society and was an avid reader with special interest in Greek Mythology and Historical Fiction, and was a stylish dresser even then, known to wear slacks and dress shoes to school.

Following his families' legacy by attending the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa where he obtained a BS degree in Microbiology in 1983. He was initiated into his beloved Eta Chi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. in Fall 1981. During this time, Thomas became a member of Bethel Baptist Church, Pratt City where the choir recorded an album entitled "God Answers Prayer"

and he soloed on the song "God Never Fails". Thomas was a part of the "Bishop Family Singers" started by his father and performed at churches in various counties in AL. It was during college that he also began working at his uncle's famous original Dreamland Barbeque restaurant in Tuscaloosa. Although he majored in Microbiology, his real love was business which led him to a career in Automobile Sales at Adamson Ford Lincoln-Mercury in Birmingham, Al. There he was quickly promoted from sales to sales manager due to his skilled salesmanship and infectious personality. Thomas never met a stranger and with his quick wit, had the ability to make anyone he met feel like a longtime friend. Mentored by the General Sales Manager, Thomas began to dream about owning his own automobile dealership. The process involved attending the Ford Lincoln-Mercury Minority Dealership program which he completed early due to his vast sales and business experience. Thomas became Ford Lincoln-Mercury's youngest minority dealership franchise owner in 1988 when at the age of 25, he opened Cornelia Ford Lincoln-Mercury in Cornelia, GA. The dealership received numerous sales and service awards during its tenure and Thomas rekindled his love of travel through the sales bonus programs traveling throughout the United States, Caribbean Islands, and Europe.

His final career path was in Mortgage Banking where his keen business sense and analytical mind landed him contract work with many Fortune 500 companies in the residential and commercial mortgage industry. His career concluded in the field with Wells Fargo and SunTrust Banks.

Outside of work, Thomas loved playing the keyboard, attending his children's sporting and special events, and being with family and friends. He kept in close contact with his siblings and young grandson daily by telephone.

Thomas met his future wife, Felicia Means Bishop at Adamson Ford Lincoln-Mercury, and while conversing with her as a customer, he introduced her to his coworkers as his wife. They married in 1987 and to their union, they were blessed with Taylor Ann, Jared Thomas, and Chandler Felice. Thomas was a proud father and grandfather and related to his kids and their friends through

his hilarious sense of humor. He loved his kids dearly, but his grandchildren took that love to a new level.

Thomas was preceded in death by his father Rev. Daniel L. Bishop, Sr., and sister, Ruthie Bishop Truss. He will be remembered forever in the hearts of his mother Mrs. Margaret Bishop Davis, wife, Felicia Means Bishop; daughter, Taylor Ann Bishop; son, Jared Thomas Bishop; daughter, Chandler Felice Bishop; brothers, Clarence Bishop and Rev. Daniel L. Bishop, Jr. (Joyce); sisters Queen Bishop Catchings; Gwendolyn Bishop Hatcher (Ronald); LaHearne Bishop; Erma Bishop; Melinda Bishop, and Violet Bishop Hicks (Michael); grandchildren, Legend and Cori Ann; along with a host of beloved nieces, nephews, other family, and a plethora of friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Gregory B. Levett - Rockdale Chapel
1999 Hwy 138 SE
Conyers , GA 30013

Family Hour

FEB 2. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory-Rockdale
1999 Hwy. 138 SE
Conyers, GA 30013

Celebration of Life

FEB 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church
2394 Gresham Rd SE
Atlanta, GA 30316

Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Pastor John and Charlene Harris purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop.*



Pastor John and Charlene Harris - February 02, 2024 at 09:28 AM

SM

“ *Shenoria C. Mckinstry lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop*



Shenoria C. Mckinstry - February 02, 2024 at 09:26 AM

SM

Praying for the Bishop family during this difficult season. I will forever cherish my friendship with Thomas. I look forward to singing with him again. May our God continue to bless and keep this family is my prayer. Peace out my friend.

Shenoria C. Mckinstry - February 02, 2024 at 09:32 AM

JM

I KNEW MR BISHOP WHEN HE PLAYED PIANO FOR MT GALILEE IN NORTHPORT HE WAS KINHEARTED AND VERY MUSICAL AS HE WORSHIP GOD WITH HIS TALENT PRAISE GOD FOR THOMAS A BISHOP.PRAYING FOR THE FAMILY

Jimmy O'Neal MOORE - February 26 at 06:19 AM

NF

“ *Natalie, Anita, Ralph Jr. and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop.*



Natalie, Anita, Ralph Jr. and family - February 01, 2024 at 12:40 AM

RC

“ *Rose Felton Crayton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop*



Rose Felton Crayton - January 31, 2024 at 08:49 PM

RC

In times like these few words can take away the pain of losing someone as special as Thomas. Thomas was many wonderful things to so many, but I will choose to remember him as the friend who often made me laugh, readily engaged in spirited debate, and freely loved his family and friends.

Praying for God's richest comfort and strength on his family and friends in the days and years ahead. He will live on in each of us.

Rose Crayton - January 31, 2024 at 09:11 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop.*



January 31, 2024 at 08:47 PM

VP

“ Erma, know my thoughts, prayers, and condolences are with you and your family at this sorrowful time. God Bless! Vickie P. (SOAR)

Vickie Pruitt - January 31, 2024 at 12:36 PM

RH

“ Words can't express how saddened I was to hear about Thomas. I will keep the family in my prayers.



Renee Hall - January 30, 2024 at 06:34 PM

FF

“ From Your TBWA Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop.

From Your TBWA Family - January 30, 2024 at 01:24 PM

FF

“ From Your TBWA Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mr. Thomas Arthur Bishop.



From Your TBWA Family - January 30, 2024 at 01:24 PM

PH

“ Sending my condolences to the family.

Phyllis and Lucille Shanks

Phyllis - January 30, 2024 at 10:31 AM

MB

“ My condolences to family and friends. 🙏🙏🙏 The Byrd Family

monica byrd - January 29, 2024 at 08:55 PM

CF

“ After much prayer for your "healing" on this side, I realized that "healing" has come, but on the other side. Your friendship and infectious smile will always be remembered as well as your musical and singing gift; when you and I did that duet at Bethel Baptist Church, Pratt City, (New Life, John P. Kee), it opened up a brand "new life" for me. Your time here on earth was valued and appreciated by more people than you realized. Rest in the arms of Jesus my brother, your long time friend, Christine Flowers-Brewer.



Christine Flowers-Brewer - January 29, 2024 at 12:22 PM

SS

“ I was heartbroken to hear of the passing of my childhood friend and brother. Please know that you have my most heartfelt condolences. I am praying that God our father, will strengthen your hearts at this most difficult time. We don't know the why now, but we will understand it better, by and by! Cherish your memories with Thomas, and may they bring you comfort and peace. You will forever be in my thoughts and prayers.



Shelia Smith - January 29, 2024 at 09:33 AM