



**FLOWER BEARERS**

Nieces

**PALL BEARERS**

Kerry Anthony	Steve Anthony
Tyrone Anthony	Donald Denny
Mark Speas	Norman Speas, Jr.

**HONORARY ATTENDANTS**

Steve Robinson Michael Scott Julius Suiter

OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE

*Dear Friends,  
 Thank you for your prayers when his steps became slow,  
 For your support when the sick vigil we came to know,  
 For your friendship when abiding love meant so much,  
 For God's peace when we sensed the Master's touch.*

THE FAMILY

...And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms,  
 slowly and always irregularly. Spaces fill with  
 a kind of soothing electric vibration.  
 Our senses, restored, never to be the same,  
 whisper to us. They existed.  
 We can be. Be and be better.  
 For they existed."  
 -Maya Angelou



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**HOME-GOING CELEBRATION FOR  
 Mr. Alfonza Harris**

**"Big Al"**



*"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord:  
 And he delighteth in his way." Psalm 37:23*

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2015  
 3:00 PM**

**CENTER GROVE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH  
 7001 ZION CHURCH ROAD  
 TOBACCOVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

**REVEREND DR. TYRONE RIGSBY, PASTOR/OFFICIATING  
 REVEREND GEORGE ERWIN, EULOGIST**

## SAFELY HOME

Mr. Alfonza Harris, affectionately called **“Big Al,”** was born on September 30, 1948. He was the youngest of nine children born to the late Archie and Annie Bell Harris in Wilson, North Carolina.

The family relocated to Winston-Salem, North Carolina when “Big Al” was eleven years of age and he attended the public schools of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County. His high school years were spent at Atkins High School and he then enrolled at Forsyth Technical Community College.

Alfonza worked as a mechanic for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company for over thirty-seven years before retiring from the company. At the time of his retirement he was working as a mechanic at the company’s Tobaccolville Plant, where he had been a part of the start up team in 1986 when that plant was constructed and opened.

He was a faithful member of Center Grove A.M.E. Zion Church in Tobaccolville, N.C. where he served as Preacher Steward for more than 25 years.

In June, 2015, Mr. Harris’ wife of 41 years, Reverend Belinda S. Harris, was appointed as Pastor of Hickory Grove A.M.E. Zion Church in Clemmons, North Carolina. He then, proudly and lovingly, acknowledged her as his pastor and devoted his service to God as a part of that fellowship.

On Saturday evening, December 19, 2015, surrounded by his family at his home in Tobaccolville, Mr. Alfonza Harris quietly transitioned to his heavenly home.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Ruby-lene; a brother, James Marshall and his mother and father-in-law, Reverend and Mrs. Lester B. (Lillian) Speas.

His **“gentle-giant”** stature will always be lovingly cherished by his devoted wife, Reverend Belinda S. Harris; their sons; Alfonza Lamar (Sharita) Harris of Prince George, VA and Adrian Harris of Knoxville, TN; “Papa” was loved by his five grandchildren; Breyonna, Breynaiya, Brandon, Braylon and Zakhia; four sisters, Lillian Johnson, Beulah Hart, Ernestine Joyner and Barbara (Ed) Woodward; two brothers, William (Ramatha)Harris and John (Deloris) Harris; sister-in-law, Ann (Dr. Harry) Caldwell; brother-in-law, Lester B. Speas, Jr.; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Alfonza was the surrogate parent to several nieces and nephews, especially Alfred K. Leak, Jr., Crystal Glenn, Willie Frank Artis and Clifton Harris.

The Prelude Mr. Shipps Washington  
The Processional  
Gathering of Family and Friends 2:00 pm—3:00 pm

## CELEBRATION SERVICE

The Call to Worship Reverend Dr. Tyrone Rigsby  
The Invocation Reverend Bobby Smith  
The Hymn of Praise Choir/Congregation  
*“My Hope Is Built”*

### The Holy Scripture

Old Testament: Psalm 90 Reverend Jimmy C. Griffin  
The Glori Patri  
New Testament: I Corinthians 15:51-58 Reverend James R. Clyburn

The Prayer of Comfort Reverend Dr. Calvin L. Miller  
Presiding Elder, Winston-Salem District, AME Zion Church

The Choral Response

The Affirmation of Faith Reverend Johnny Ruff  
Solo Jordan Speas

Church Resolution Hickory Grove A.M.E. Zion Church  
Center Grove A.M.E. Zion Church, Mrs. Karatha Scott

### **Acknowledgements/Reflections**

The Neighbor - Mrs. Bonita Cleary

#### THE SONS

Selection The Grandchildren  
*“Take Me to The King”*

The Winston-Salem District Ministers Reverend William Speas  
Friendship Circle Mr. Julius Suiter

Solo Reverend Beverly McMillian

The Eulogy Reverend George Erwin  
Pastor, Torrence Chapel AME Zion Church, Cornelius, NC

The Recessional

Interment Center Grove AME Zion Church Cemetery

The Benediction



## “TO THOSE I LOVE AND THOSE WHO LOVE ME”

When I am gone, release me, let me go  
I have so many things to see and do.  
You must not tie yourself to me with tears,  
be happy that I have had so many years.

I gave you my love, you can only guess  
how much you gave to me in happiness.  
I thank you for the love each have shown  
but now it’s time I travelled on alone.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must  
then let your grief be comforted by trust.  
It’s only for a while that we must part  
so bless the memories in your heart.

I will not be far away, for life goes on  
so if you need me, call and I will come.  
Though you cannot see or touch me, I’ll be near  
and if you listen with your heart, you will hear  
all my love around you soft and clear.

Then when you must come this way alone  
I will greet you with a smile and  
welcome home.

-Mary Alice Ramisht

