

A JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF

A repast will be served for immediate family members in the lower level.

Palbearers

Ayenda Parks, Jeremiah Ayers, Jimmy Wright, Layden Porter, Rashad Barbour,
Trevon Porter, Rob Barbour

Expression of Thanks

We, the Family of Timothy Ayers, would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone for their prayers, phone calls, cards, food, visits and gifts during our time of bereavement. Special thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Jerry D. Fryar, the Gospel Lighthouse Church for your loving and generous commitment to the cares and needs of others. and The Grand of Dublin.

The Ayers Family

*“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory”
1 Corinthians 15: 51-54 NKJV*



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Timothy Ayers

SEPTEMBER 24, 1941 — JANUARY 2, 2026

Saturday, January 10, 2026 | 11:00 am

Gospel Lighthouse Church

600 Frebis Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43206

Dr. Jerry D. Fryar, Senior Pastor, Officiant

*Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather, Great-Great Grand Father,
Brother, Uncle, Colleague, Ferocious Fighter for Justice, Friend*

Obituary

Tim was the youngest child of five (5) children born to Deacon Samuel Ayers and Evangelist/Missionary Matilda McElroy Ayers in Chicago, Ill. He grew up within a joyful, Spirit-filled family. His father was a sanitation worker who grew fruit trees, grape vines, and huge gardens that fed the neighborhood as well as his family. During her missionary work in Haiti, Tim's mother established over a hundred churches, which continue to flourish! These joint sources of life and Spirit brought love to life in Timothy Ayers!

Tim loved people and music, looking sharp and having fun with others. A younger cousin from the Chicago McElroy Family Reunion Club shared that Tim always brought laughter with him. He attended every reunion until COVID and brought as many family members with him as possible. In her vows, Judith said a major reason she was marrying Tim was that he made her laugh. Even in his weakest, sickest moments, Tim was always teasing and joking, even if it was only a gesture or facial expression. Tim brought life, laughter, love and spirit into many venues, beginning with his extended family and the vital, diverse neighborhood called the BeeZark where he grew up.

From a young age, Tim loved babies. He loved having his nieces with him. Infamously, he took baby Tibby with him to the local bar and set her up on the counter while they visited with his friends. Tim spent quality time with his young cousin Peanut, eventually introducing him to boxing to get him out of fights at school. He loved hanging out with his children. He took them with him almost everywhere. He was a loving husband, father, brother, and Uncle Tim to hundreds of foster children who were raised by his two sisters. Many youth saw him as a second father.

Tim brought that love of life and laughter into his work life as well. In his military life, he enjoyed dressing up as a military policeman and later bragged about having served Cooked for the NATO Forces. When he came home, he had difficulty finding a job, but when, as a poorly paid laborer, he fell asleep at work, the owner woke him up to make him a supervisor. At that job, he also organized a gospel quartet at lunch in the bathroom. Finally, through a federal program, he was trained and hired as a youth leader with the Ohio Department of Youth Services. For the next 38 years, he worked with incarcerated youth at Buckeye and Circleville Youth Centers. Tim was a gifted Youth Leader and loved his job, whether supervising 100 youth or less. After completing his BSW at Ohio State University, Tim was considered by many to be the best Social Worker in the department. He was a primary force in the development of the first boot camp program for incarcerated youth in Ohio. That program was recognized throughout the state and adopted in adult prisons. He was most proud of and happiest about the outcomes of the Cadre Program he developed at the Circleville Youth Center, which, among other things, opened the pathway for those youth to attend college while serving their time.

For several years, Tim took leave from The Department of Youth Services (DYS) to organize unions in state funded programs in Ohio. Tim was a ferocious fighter for justice and principles, which he demonstrated most consistently as a union representative for DYS employees and an advocate for the youth. In 1993, the SEIU Union honored Tim with their Civil Rights award.

Tribute

Uncle Tim was a soul who touched many hearts and lives, including mine. I met Uncle Tim when I was 13 years old, while I was a foster child in his beautiful sister's home, my mom, Dorcas Porter.

From the moment I met him, Uncle Tim made me feel like a niece. He was always encouraging, always loving—not just to me, but to every foster child who had the privilege of knowing him. He had a way of making us feel welcome, accepted, and truly part of the family.

Uncle Tim, you will be cherished by all of us who knew you, and you will remain forever in our hearts.
Rest in peace, Uncle Tim.

Tanisha



Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun;
Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional
Clergy

Welcome Judith Ayers, Spouse

Call To Worship Whistles
Musical Selection "God is
Liturgical Dancers

Scripture Readings:
Old Testament Psalms 23 KJV Clergy
New Testament Luke 4:18 TPT

Prayer of Consolation
Clergy

Acknowledgements and Resolutions
(Family will Read Privately)
Musical Selection
Stefan Thomas
"Psalms 23:I Am Not Alone"

Reflections (2 Minutes Please)
John King, Tom Hampton, Chaplin Benton, Dewey
Foster

Musical Selection
"I Shall Wear a Crown"
Dolly, Fatica, Kim, Sabrina, Sonya, Tibby

Family Tribute (2 Minutes Please)
Jason, Saeed, Tequila
The Three Nieces
Dolly, Kim, Kenya

Musical Selection
"My Uncle Tim"
Tibby Porter

The Eulogy
Dr. Jerry D. Fryar, Senior Pastor

Benediction
Clergy

Whistle Tribute
by the Family

Recessional
GLC Choir (Audio)
"To God Be the Glory" Liturgical Dancers

Tim was always actively involved in the community. For years, he and his sisters produced and directed fashion shows as fundraisers for his brother's outreach center called CinThyCare. Tim trained the models, sold ads, got clothes from businesses, wrote skits, MCed, and directed Indorielyn Productions. Tim was very expressive in his own apparel, from traditional dress suits to jumpsuits, capes, and turbans. He was always coordinated and loved dressing up. During his illness, he adopted more casual attire. Tim's creativity was expressed not only in fashion but also in teaching, campaigning, counseling, program development, acting, and, in the last two years of his life, abstract painting, which gave him great peace throughout his last illness.

Tim was also a natural leader, but never sought formal recognition. As a member of the Columbus Association of Black Social Workers, he was nominated in his absence as Vice President and later became President of the Columbus Chapter and then President of the State of Ohio Association of Black Social Workers. Tim was also actively involved in political campaigns. He was campaign manager for at least one African American mayoral candidate, and he worked tirelessly to get Barack Obama elected as President.

Tim believed in God and lived on the foundation and principles he had learned from his parents, but it wasn't until he was brought to his knees by addiction that he surrendered his life to the Lord. After the power of the Lord Jesus Christ delivered Tim from his addictions, his heart led him to establish CONFA, an outreach ministry for addicts and their families. CONFA members met once a week for support, often had fellowship on Sunday, did rescue missions for fallen members, and witnessed to addicts on the street. During this time, Tim and his wife often housed and ministered to crack addicts. Tim led a full life, which became more abundant once he surrendered it to Jesus. Tim, along with his wife Judith, was a faithful member of Gospel Lighthouse Church for many years. Tim will be deeply missed.

Tim is remembered for his love, laughter, enjoyment of his extended family by his wife of 49 years Judith Morris Ayers, Children, Tequila Lake, Drew Turner, Jason Turner, Tameia Jameson, Mister Lewis, Ramin Ayers, Matilda Ayers Moussa; Granddaughters; Teiashia Flowers, Talaysia Jameson; Grandsons; Booker Lake, Saeed Moussa, Junius Ayers, Judda Moussa and Carter Turner; Great-grandchildren Abriel Jordan, Rakiah Taylor, Taiona, Tyanna, Jahniya, Jahliya, Brooklyn, Martez, Rahniya, Malaysia, Sha'Niya, Sha'Miya, and Loyalty Lake, Johan Jameson, Emani and Emaje' Clay, Ke'Ziah Ayers, Jahseh and Kairo Moussa; baby in waiting Na'Ria Ayers; Great great granddaughter Da'Ziyah Taylor; and his beloved sister Dorcas Ayers Porter; nieces, Zenobia Lovely, Lisa Brown, Leronica Ayers, Liatrice Bradley, Vanessa Ayers, Fatica Ayers, Sabrina Ayers Johnson, Sonya Ayers Thomas, Simone Ayers Donaldson, Dolly King, Kimberly King, Kenya King Storey, Sade King, Juanita Hughes, Tibby Porter; Nephew, Leroi Bradley; and special family, John and Valerie King, Jody Hamlet, and Chris Bournea.

*11 You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
12 that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.
Lord my God, I will praise you forever.
Psalm 30:11-12*



