

## *Acknowledgements*

The family of Reverend James E. Roberson extends our deepest gratitude for the many expressions of love, kindness, and support shown during our time of bereavement. Your prayers, visits, calls, cards, flowers, and every thoughtful gesture have brought us strength and comfort as we celebrate the life of a true servant of God.

We are especially grateful to the entire Hickman community for your faithfulness, encouragement, and compassion. To the ministers, musicians, ushers, and everyone who participated in this homegoing celebration, thank you for honoring his life and legacy in such a meaningful way.

Rev. Roberson lived his life serving others, and it is through your love and support that his legacy of faith and service continues to shine. May God bless each of you for the comfort you have given us.

With heartfelt appreciation,  
The Family of Reverend James E. Roberson

## *Ballbearers*

Edric Caldwell  
Malcom Caldwell  
Reggie Westbrook

Leonard Smith  
Kenvon Pierce, Jr.  
Ben Adams

## *Interment*

Hickman City Cemetery  
Hickman, KY

## *Services Entrusted to*

McPhearson-Rawls Funeral Homes

PARIS  
790 TN-69  
731.642.1515

UNION CITY  
1325 East Main Street  
731.885.8110

SOUTH FULTON  
114 Roach Street  
731.479.2181

**JHP**  
731.636.0656

# IN LOVING MEMORY

*"I have fought a good fight, I have  
finished my course, I have kept the faith."  
2 Timothy 4:7*



*Rev. James*  
**E. ROBERSON**

MAY 30, 1937 - NOVEMBER 4, 2025

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 2025, 2:00 PM  
Johnson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
1209 Rev. James Roberson Way | Hickman, KY 42050  
Reverend Steven Turner; Officiating

FOREVER  
IN OUR  
HEARTS

# Treasured Memories



# Order of SERVICE

**PROCESSIONAL**  
*Soft Music*

**SELECTION**

**SCRIPTURE/PRAAYER**  
*Pulpit*

**SELECTION**

**RESOLUTIONS &  
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

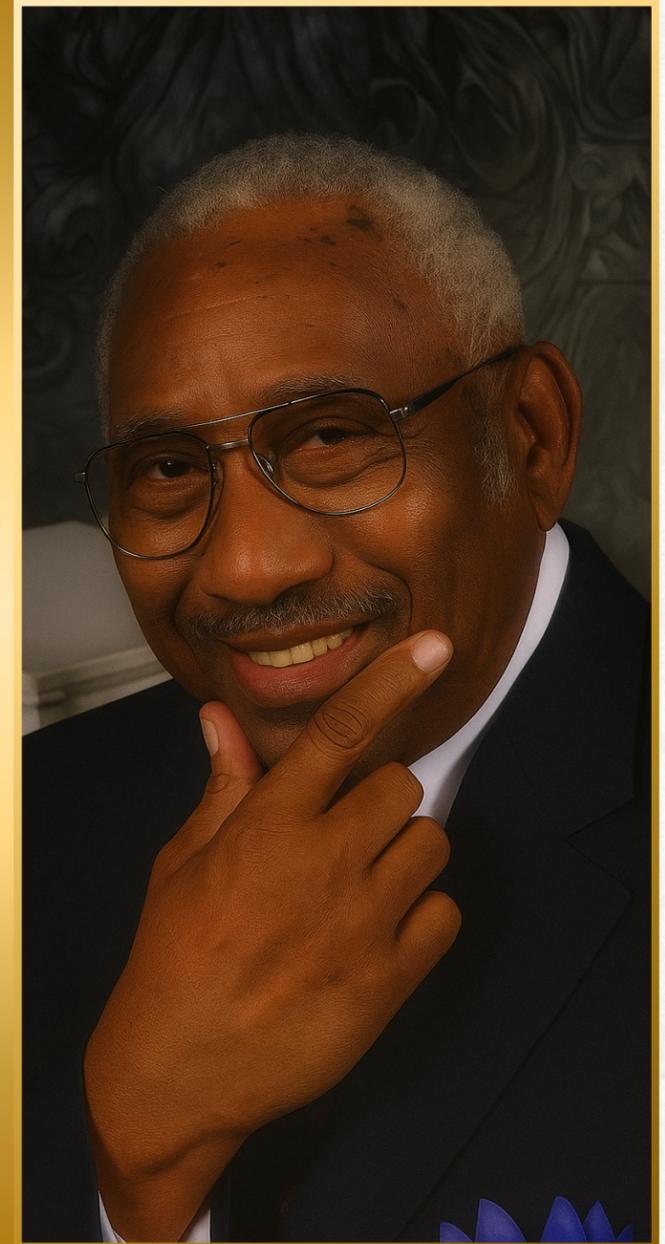
**WORDS OF COMFORT**

**SELECTION**

**EULOGY**  
*Reverend Steven Turner*

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
IN CHARGE**

**RECESSIONAL**  
*Soft Music*



## THE LIFE & LEGACY OF

# Reverend James E. Roberson



[Reverend James E. Roberson, age 88, was born on May 30, 1937, in Hickman, Kentucky, to the late Eugene and L.C. Roberson. He was one of six children and was raised in a home built on faith, hard work, and family values. From an early age, he learned integrity, responsibility, and service, principles that remained with him throughout his life.

He confessed Christ at an early age and began his Christian journey at Johnson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where he later served faithfully as a deacon for 17 years. It was there that his ministry began, one that would span more than seventy years of preaching, teaching, praying, and serving God's people.

On May 31, 1958, he was united in holy matrimony to his sweetheart, Bernice Booker, and together they shared 63 years of love, faith, and devotion. To this union, five children were born.

He accepted the call to pastor and became the full-time pastor of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church, where he served faithfully for 24 years, from 1989 until his retirement in 2013. One of his favorite hymns, Amazing Grace, was often sung before he preached, and it remained a reflection of his testimony: "Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come." His ministry extended beyond church walls. For eight years, he served in the jail ministry, baptizing over 75 men and women behind prison walls. He ministered at high school Baccalaureate Services, counseled couples before marriage, officiated weddings, performed baptisms, and walked families through grief and restoration. He was known far and wide as a prayer warrior, teacher, encourager, and servant of God.

His ministry extended beyond church walls. For eight years, he served in the jail ministry, baptizing over 75 men and women behind prison walls. He ministered at high school Baccalaureate Services, counseled couples before marriage, officiated weddings, performed baptisms, and walked families through grief and restoration. He was known far and wide as a prayer warrior, teacher, encourager, and servant of God.

Rev. Roberson also gave his life in service to the wider community. He was honored as Hickman Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 1995 and 2001. On February 26, 1995, he received the Community Service Award from the Black History Club. He was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel, the highest title of honor bestowed by the Governor of Kentucky, on March 24, 1994, and again on October 4, 2019, in recognition of his years of service.

On October 12, 2019, his legacy was permanently honored when the City of Hickman dedicated a street in his name: Rev. J. Roberson Way.

## THE LIFE & LEGACY CONTINUED

He proudly served the West Kentucky Green Valley District Association for over 30 years. Committed to biblical study, he earned his Certificate in Christian Ministry from Mid-Continent College on December 13, 2003. His life and experiences were also recognized academically. In 1997, he was interviewed by the University of Kentucky, where he shared his story of African American farming, ministry, and rural life.

Beyond the pulpit, Rev. Roberson was a man of work and heart. He worked at Sigris for several years and later owned and operated his own car wash, where people came for clean cars but left with encouragement, counsel, and sometimes tears. He loved tending his garden, planting seeds in the soil just as he planted hope in the lives of others. When he was not in the garden, at church, or visiting someone in need, he enjoyed spending time with his family and watching University of Kentucky basketball, cheering on his beloved Wildcats with passion and pride.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Bernice Booker Roberson; his parents, Eugene and L.C. Roberson; his daughter, Cynthia Diane Wilson; his son, James "Jimmy" Roberson; three brothers, Odell, Lamon, and Raymond Roberson; and two sisters, Lena White and Ella Mae Winters.

He leaves to cherish and carry on his legacy two daughters, Marilyn Bell and Marcia (Edward) Deberry, and one son, Mark (Christine) Roberson; eleven grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind a host of nieces and nephews, along with family and friends who loved him dearly.

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21

Rev. James Roberson lived a life of steadfast faith, quiet strength, and selfless service. He touched generations through his ministry, his prayers, his wisdom, and his example. Though his earthly journey has ended, his influence lives on in the lives he touched, the seeds he planted, and the Word he preached.

"Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Lord." Matthew 25:21



# Treasured Memories

