



*Celebrating the Life of*

**Thomas Hines, Sr.**

August 20, 1946 - March 18, 2021

# Obituary



Thomas (Bobby) Hines was born in Detroit, MI to Ruth Thomasine Hines on August 20th, 1946. His mother, Ruth, and his siblings Henrietta, Ross (Melvin), Clara (Elaine), and Wilbur all preceded him in death. Although he did not have a middle name, Thomas was affectionately called “Bobby” by his family.

Thomas grew up attending Detroit Public Schools and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1965. In 1964, he met Sharon Bellman who would become the love of his life and bear six children with him. They were married for 47 years before Sharon preceded him in death.



Thomas supported his family by working for the General Motors (GM) Corporation at various plants throughout Michigan and Indiana until he retired in 2006 after 38 years. He was also a



certified Master Mechanic.

Thomas gave his life to Christ at Franklin Road Church of Christ in December of 1971. Thomas was so hungry in his thirst for the Lord that, early on, he attended Bible classes three times a week: Tuesdays at Franklin Road, Wednesdays at Northwest, and Thursdays at Westside.



After attending Franklin Road for a short time, Thomas and family placed membership at Westside Church of Christ in March of 1972. To accommodate the growth of members at Westside, the Northwest Church of Christ building was built. Thomas and family, led by the late Elder John R. Flowers, moved their membership to Northwest in 1974. Thomas counted Bro. Flowers among his mentors, which also included the Northwest Elders Scott French, John Phillips, and Vernon Boyd; his International School of Evangelism instructors John Belasco, Glen Martin, and Clifford Tucker; and his mother Ruth and his grandmother Lela Marie Attles.

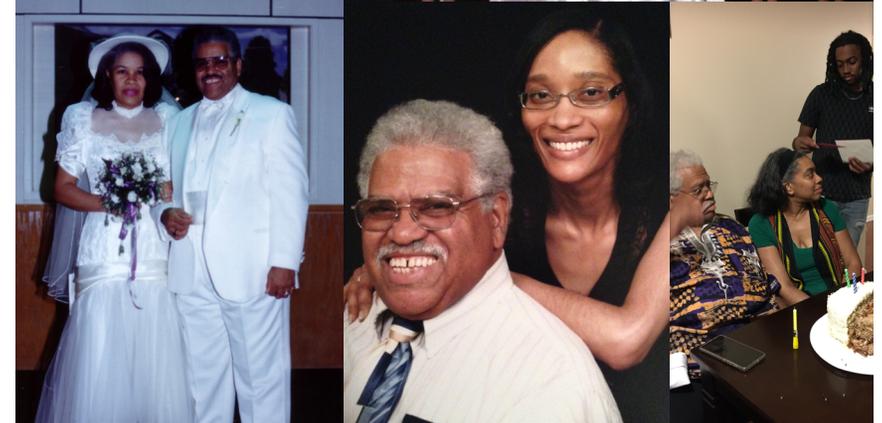


At Northwest, Thomas served in various positions to further the work of the Lord, including occasional Preacher, Youth

Leader, Bible School Teacher, Deacon, and Elder before moving membership to Vinewood Church of Christ where he served as minister from 1998 to 2013. Thomas most recently attended services at Linwood Church of Christ where he occasionally preached and taught class, as well. Over the years, he preached at many Churches of Christ throughout the Metro Detroit area.

Thomas loved music, movies, games like dominoes and Chinese checkers, cake baking and decorating, dressing up in stylish suit ensembles, helping and ministering to others, and most of all spending time with his family. He could often be found in the house whistling a song as the smell of freshly baked cake wafted through the air, while he iced and decorated the cake. He made and decorated three of his daughter's wedding cakes and officiated two of his daughter's weddings after walking them down the aisle. He made and decorated countless birthday and celebration cakes throughout the years for family and many others.

Thomas leaves to mourn his passing his six children: Marie (Anthony preceded in death) Gibson, Crystal (Phillip) Gibbons, Kimberly (Clyde) R. Mayberry, Thomas Jr., Ursula, and Nicole. He also leaves eight grandchildren: Antoinette, Antoine, and André Gibson; Durell, Nala, and Kimberly I. Mayberry; Sabrina and Charisse Gibbons; and one great-granddaughter, Synclaire Mayberry. Additionally, he leaves one sister-in-law, Clara, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ.



## *Scriptures*

### *Psalm 23 (KJV)*

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### *John 14: 1-6 (KJV)*

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
- 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- 5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?
- 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

## *Poem*

### **God's Call**

God called him and invited him in  
He felt so welcomed he knew he would fit in  
He was home with his Father up in glory  
So dad is saying to us don't you worry  
I am with my Father right now  
I'll see you tomorrow  
I know it may seem like awhile  
But I will soon see your smiles  
I love you all each and every one of you  
Until we meet again I bid adieu

*Written By Kim Mayberry*

*Acknowledgment of Appreciation*

Our family wishes to express our sincere gratitude for the many prayers and acts of love and kindness during our time of sorrow. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. May God be with you.



*Arrangements Entrusted to:*

James H. Cole Funeral Home  
16100 Schaefer Hwy.  
Detroit, MI 48235