



If You Could See Me Now

*If you could see me now
you wouldn't shed a tear.*

*Though you may not understand
why I'm no longer there.*

*Remember my spirit that is the real me
because I'm still very much alive,*

I've just been set free,

Oh, if you could only see!

*I have beheld our Father's face
and I've touched my Savior's hand.*

*All of Heaven's angels rejoiced
as I entered the promised Land.*

Beyond the gates of pearl,

I've walked on the golden streets.

*I've touched the walls of jasper
and dipped my foot in the Crystal sea.*

The beauty is beyond words and nothing could compare,

I've even seen your mansion

and someday I'll meet you there.

*Let Jesus be your guide because His Word
will show you the way!*

*So please don't cry
because we will meet again someday.*

Honorary Pallbearers

Deacons & Officers, Greater Fellowship M. B. Church
Willie Canty, Jr. Ramon Cummings
Anthony Miller

Active Pallbearers

Charles Gilley Robert Hamm
Franklin Brooks Bernard Brooks
Roy Parrish Tony Massey, Sr.
James Bradley

Honorary Floral Bearers

Mothers, Deaconesses & Missionary Society
Greater Fellowship M. B. Church * Patricia Hall * April Canty

Active Floral Bearers

Ushers, Greater Fellowship M. B. Church * Family & Friends

**Motorists: Please drive with your headlights on high beam
and stay up with the car in front of you.**

The Service of Committal & Interment
New Bethel Cemetery * Monticello, Florida

Repast

Greater Fellowship M. B. Church Dining Hall

The Family's Message of Gratitude

We are indeed honored by your presence here today as we assemble to commemorate the well-lived life of our beloved matriarch, **Mother Thelma Lee Wade Canty**. We are grateful to God for the long years that He allowed her to be with us. We thank you for your calls, visits, florals, food and prayers, especially your prayers. While it will be difficult for us to carry on without her, we find comfort in knowing that she is resting safely and securely in this bosom of the Lord. We pray God's abundant blessings will always be yours.

Services Entrusted To:

Tillman
1215 North Jefferson Street • P. O. Box 425
Monticello, Florida 32345
Phone: (850) 997-2553 • Fax: (850) 967-4706
4006 Crawfordville Road • Tallahassee, Florida 32305
Phone: (850) 942-1950 • Fax: (850) 942-2375
Alfonza "Al" Hall • George Clayton
Amy Davis • Damien Davis
Demarian Hawk • Isaac Miller, Jr.
Funeral Directors & Embalmers
Tillman - Making A Difference Since 1931



Homegoing Celebration OF A Life Well-Lived Mother

Thelma Lee Wade Canty



Sunrise: March 20, 1928 — Sunset: August 1, 2026

Saturday, August 15, 2026

Eleven O'clock in the Morning

Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church
690 CYPRESS STREET * MONTICELLO, FLORIDA 32344

The Reverend Dr. Melvin Roberts
PASTOR EMERITUS & OFFICIANT

Reflections of Life

"A pillar of strength, a heart full of grace, and a guiding light in our lives. Though you are no longer with us, your beautiful spirit, wisdom, and legacy of love will echo in our thoughts and actions every day. We miss you deeply, but we are forever grateful for the time we had with you."

Mother Thelma Lee Wade Canty was the fifth of eight children and was born to Willie Wade and Daisy Estella Collins Wade on March 20, 1928, in Greenville, Florida's St. Matthews Community. Following the passing of her parents, she and her siblings moved to Monticello, Florida, where they were raised by their maternal grandparents, Harrison and Rachel Parker Collins. **Mrs. Thelma**, as she was lovingly called, was the last survivor of her siblings. Preceding her in death were Raymond and Rachel Wade (twins), Sylvester Wade, Willie Mae Wade Davis, Alma Wade Jones, Mable Wade Peoples, and Catherine Wade Woodson, who passed away at the graceful age of 99. **Mrs. Thelma** was converted in 1938 and joined the-now closed Antioch African Methodist Episcopal (Old Greenville) Church. In later years, she would join Hickory Hill Missionary Baptist Church and then Greater Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church where she was the oldest member and resident of Jefferson County's Northside Community. She had a love for cooking and did not believe in anyone going hungry. This was especially true when she worked as the cafeteria manager in the 1960's at Howard Academy High School. She knew that some children could not afford lunch and for many, school lunch would be their only meal of the day. Being a true servant of God, she would not allow any child to go without eating. Even until this day, students would meet her at church or a function in the community, and thank her for her kindness. She also worked as a homemaker for several area families including the Revells, Shumans and Johnstons.

Mrs. Thelma was a 1948 graduate of the original Howard Academy High School and was the last surviving member of that class. On December 15, 1971, she became the wife of Willie "Will" Canty, Sr., and to their union, one son was born, Willie Canty, Jr.

Due to her Christian conviction, service and her age, Reverend Dr. Melvin Roberts designated her with the honor as "Mother of the Church". **Mother Canty** was a woman of great faith, wisdom, and devotion. She was known for giving great and sound advice. She was a "Faith Pioneer" and strongly believed in God until the end. She would often say, "Where would I be without the Lord?" and "I might be hopping, but I ain't stopping". It was her firm belief that if the church was in service, she was going regardless of her illness or pain. She was the matriarch of her immediate and extended family, and her church. **Mother Canty** served faithfully for over 50 years in various capacities, including: Senior Usher Board, Missionary Society, Sunday School and Bible Study. She served as Co-Chairperson and later as Chairperson of the Culinary Ministry for well over 30 years. People visiting Greater Fellowship always looked for **Mother Canty's** good home-cooked meals. One of her favorites was chicken and rice and that special baked chicken that she and Sister Francis Byrd would jointly prepare. Greater Fellowship is still notorious for good food and plenty of it.

For over the past 25+ years, one of **Mother Canty's** favorite pastimes was traveling with her church family during their annual summer youth excursions. Each year on the bus, everyone knew she would have a special seat...right behind the driver.

At the age of 98, on Saturday morning, August 1, 2026, **Mother Canty** peacefully departed this earthly life to go Home to be with our Lord. She leaves to cherish her memories and legacy her **loving and devoted children**: Patricia Canty Hall and Ret. GySgt. Willie Canty, Jr., and her **daughter-in-love**: April Canty; **grandchildren**: Tameka (Kevin) Gillyard, Ret. CWO Ramon (Tori-Shannon) Cummings, Fawntisha Wade, LaTasha Wade, Jazzlyn Wade, Ashlie Demps and Lindsey Canty; her **bonus grandchildren**: Opal Hall, Ahmad Murray and Steve Terrell Hall; **fourteen great-grandchildren**; **nine great-great grandchildren**; **devoted niece who was like a daughter**: Hettie Mae (Charlie) Green; **devoted nephew**: Anthony (Salina) Miller; **godsons**: Reverend Dr. Melvin (Mary) Roberts and Jerome (Glenda) Walker; **goddaughters**: Patricia Diane (Jeffery) Christian, Geraldine Roberson, Mae Eva Wilson, Reverend Dr. Annie Byrd Farlin and Reverend Gloria Cox; and her many other bonus children and grandchildren at her beloved Greater Fellowship and Community, and a host of nieces, nephews, other loving relatives and friends.

Other than her parents, grandparents, husband and siblings, **Mother Canty** was also preceded in death by her son, James Woodrow Wade; son-in-love, Steve Hall; one who was raised as a sister, Annie Maude Collins Plair; and sister-in-love, Zelma Carrier Wade.

"She Stood Firm On The Word Of God"



The Order of Service

Prelude..... Greater Fellowship MBC Choir

Processional..... Pastor Emeritus, Clergy, Officers & Family

Farewell Glance & Seating of the Family..... The *Tullman* Staff

Opening Selection Choir

Prayer of Comfort Deacon Daniel Jones, Sr.

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Reverend Esharn Morris

New Testament..... Reverend William Massey

Special Selection Sister Marcia Morris
"May The Works I've Done Speak For Me"

Resolutions/Acknowledgements..... The *Tullman* Staff

Solo..... Brother Delmon Harris

Eulogy Reverend Dr. Melvin Roberts

Recessional..... Clergy, Family & Friends

