

*A Service of Praise
And Celebration for the Life
of*

Deacon Lewis Tatum

Sunrise
April 25, 1919

Sunset
February 9, 2012

Service

Friday, February 17, 2012 - 1:00 p.m.

MT. PISGAH BAPTIST CHURCH

Bessemer City, North Carolina

Rev. Charles Turner, Officiating

Reflections of Life

Lewis Tatum was born April 25, 1919 in Gaston County, North Carolina, to Reid and Mamie Abernathy. Lewis, affectionately known to all as “Pap”, departed this life at the age of 92 on February 9, 2012 in Passaic, New Jersey. He was educated in the Gaston County School System and was religiously educated at an early age at the Fancy Hill Baptist Church and the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church located in North Carolina. Lewis served in the U.S. Army and fought in the Korean War. Upon returning home from the military, Lewis was employed by the City of Gastonia. He became a master welder and was employed by Bekker Steel Company, located in Clifton, NJ and Steel Fab, located in Charlotte, NC where he worked until his retirement.

On January 3, 1942, Lewis married Annie Mae Starr. To that union, was born five wonderful children: Manuel “Bo”, John “Jack”, Samuel Dolphus, Peggy and Mabel “Mel”.

In the late 1950’s, Lewis relocated his family to Passaic, NJ where they united with the St. Paul’s Baptist Church. While at St. Paul’s, Lewis served faithfully in various ministries, including the Usher Board and Missionary. Lewis was later ordained as a Deacon and served as “A Good Deacon,” under the leadership of Reverend Lucious Walker. After leaving NJ, Lewis and Annie, known to all as “Pap and Nana” returned to Charlotte, NC spending most summers affectionately caring for their grandchildren and opening their home to family and friends. Due to the failing health of his wife, Lewis returned to NJ, where he remained until his death.

Besides both parents, Lewis was preceded in death by his loving and devoted wife Annie Mae, two sons, Manuel and Jack, three sisters, Grace, Mattie and Dovey, and five brothers, Ted, William “Bill”, Sam, Buddy and Bob.

Lewis leaves to sustain his memories: his three devoted children, Dolphus Tatum, Peggy Lee and Rev. Mabel Grier all of Passaic, NJ, two brothers, Johnnie Mac and Dan, three brothers-in-law, James Starr, Jethro Starr and Tommie Lee Lipscomb, eight sisters-in-law, Lilian, Julia Mae, Aquilla, Mamie, Rudena, Mary and Rozella, two daughters-in-law, Sylvia and Denise, one son-in-law, Rev. Samuel Grier, eighteen grandchildren, twenty-six great-grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren; a host of nieces, including his favorite, Kimberly Lipscomb, nephews, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Prelude

Call to WorshipRev. Charles A. Turner

Hymn “Father I Stretch My Hands to Thee”

Scripture

Old Testament: 23rd PsalmRev. Samuel Grier

New Testament: John 14: 1-6 Rev. Mabel Grier

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Clinton A. Feemster

Solo Margaret Sheppard

Obituary Reading Kimberly Lipscomb

Remarks Tina Lee-1st Grandchild

Rozella Wilson

Rev. Clinton A. Feemster

Rev. Mabel Grier

Selection “What Are They Doing Up in Heaven”

Feemsters

Eulogy Rev. Charles A. Turner

Pastor, Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church • Bessemer City, NC

Solo Regina Gardin

Recessional

Interment

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Cemetery

Bessemer City, North Carolina



*Fill not your hearts with pain
and sorrow, but remember me
in every tomorrow*

*Remember the joy, the laughter,
the smiles, I've only gone to rest
a little while*

*Although my leaving causes pain
and grief, my going eased my hurt
and gave me relief,*

*So dry your eyes and remember me,
not as I am now, but as I used to be*

*Because I will remember you all
and look on with a smile,*

*Understand in your hearts,
I've only gone to rest a little while*

*As long as I have the love of each of you,
I can live in the hearts of all of you.*

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, calls, visits, and well wishes. A special thank you to the Carnie P. Bragg Funeral Home of Paterson, NJ and the Ebony and White Funeral Home of Lincolnton, NC.

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