

*Homegoing Celebration Service*  
*In Loving Memory of*  
**Deacon William L. Lawson**  
**“Bill”**



Sunrise  
April 3, 1930

Sunset  
October 22, 2017

**Service**

Monday, October 30, 2017 ~ 11:00 am

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

929 Dill Avenue • Linden, New Jersey 07036

*Rev. Dr. Derrick R. Dumas, Pastor*

*Rev. Randy Lawson, Eulogist*



# *Life Reflections*

**Deacon William L. "Bill" Lawson** was born on April 3, 1930 in Unadilla, Georgia, son of the late Deacon Levi Lawson and Aline Allen Lawson. Bill accepted Christ at an early age and was united with Mt. Moriah Baptist Church of Unadilla, Georgia. He had three brothers: Deacon Oscar Lee Lawson, Deacon Plemmie Lee Lawson and Johnny Lawson, one sister, Mrs. Agnes Reed, one son, Reggie Lawson and two daughters: Patricia Lawson and Lindsey Lawson, which preceded in death.

The family moved to Roselle/Linden, New Jersey area when Bill was fourteen. He attended and graduated from Linden Public School system and Newark Business School. Afterward, he fought in the Korean War where Bill received an honorable discharge in 1959. After returning from the military duty, he was employed by Chrysler Company U.S.A. where he worked as a mechanic and a trouble shoker. Then, he worked for CITGO for a short time. Bill opened his own auto repair shop that specializes in transmissions, "Bill Lawson & Sons Auto Repair Center" located at 1100 St. Georges Avenue in Linden, New Jersey, which he owned up until his passing.

Bill joined First Baptist Church in Linden, New Jersey under the late Rev. Eugene Schell and was a member for over 50 years. Deacon Lawson became the Chairman of the Deacon Board for 13 years under the late Rev. G. G. Abernathy. During Bill's tenure as Chairman along with Chairman of Trustee Board Richard Carter and Treasurer of Trustee Board Ulysses Givens, the edifice that we are sitting in today was built and paid off in seven years. Deacon Lawson would always say, "We did it by working hard, sticking together and by the help of the good Lord."

Bill was a member of two civic organizations, the St. George Businessmen and the Environment of New Jersey (TYCOE) for over 20 years. In 2015, he received three proclamations from Linden Mayor Derek Armstead and the City of Linden, New Jersey, Sen. Geraldine Thompson - Florida State Senator of 12<sup>th</sup> District and Victoria Siplin - Orange County 6<sup>th</sup> District Commissioner.

Bill was a people person who love to converse with people. Some of his favorite people were the late Deacon Beverly Allen, Deacon Marion Scott, and Ruth Jones all of them would talk about how great things were. Bill loved to talk to people about good things, not foolishness! The people who he talked to almost every day were the Late Dr. Issac Alston, John Henry, Ms. Edythe Bigly, Mary Jane Smith and, Jeann Furlow from his favorite bakery; Elise Thomas, his Jacksonville friend; Fred Hill, and a whole lot more.

Deacon Lawson and wife Edna loved to travel. Some of the places they visited were Paris, London, Germany, the Caribbean Islands and 30 states out of fifty in the United States. Fifteen years ago, he and Edna moved to Orlando, Florida. There he enjoyed life, loved gardening, fishing, and golfing.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his devoted wife, Edna Lawson; 4 sons: Patrick, Tyrone, Melvin and Marvin (Renee); 2 daughters: Sylvia and Shelia Lawson; one brother, Rev. Randy Lawson (Rev. Jewel) of Elizabeth, NJ; 2 sisters: Smitha Mae Anderson of Vienna, GA and Eunice M. Hendley of Elizabeth, NJ. But remember all of Big Daddy grands, great-grands, and great-great- grands was dear to his heart; he loved them all. His grands: Dr. Marcus Lawson, Sgt. M. Lawson, Evang. Shaream Moneak Cunningham, Mrs. Atyia Perkins and Nasir Lawson, a grandson who was so special and dear to him; great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, aunt, Josey Bryant of Orlando, FL; special cousin, Joserah Johnson of Atlanta, GA; close cousins: Eunice Blackshear and Rose Williams; special niece, Shanda Avent; 3 sisters-in-law, Jeanette Cooks of Florence, SC, Dorothy Capers of Rahway, NJ and Easter Capers (Tyler) of Darlington, SC; brother-in-law, Lavern Capers; best friends, Earl Chancey and Rev. Paul Young; closest friends of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church: Dr. L. Mills (Pastor), Deacon Ken Hammonds, Deacon John Taylor, and Rev. T. Baptiste, John Henry (Winter Garden, FL); neighbor, Gregory Moore, and dear friends.

Humbly submitted,  
The Family

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional ..... Clergy

Opening Hymn ..... “Hold to God’s Unchanging Hand”

Reading of the Scriptures

Old Testament ..... Rev. Jewel Lawson

New Testament ..... Bishop Wayne L. Johnson

Prayer of Comfort ..... Evang. Shaream Moneak Cunningham

Words of Comfort ..... Deaconess L. Journigan, Sis. Ernestine Cummings  
Deacon Melvin Green and Deacon Frank Green

Solo ..... Deacon Coley Carson

Tributes to Big Daddy ..... Mrs. Atyia Perkins, Granddaughter  
Dr. Marcus Lawson, Grandson  
Nasir Lawson, Grandson

Acknowledgements of Condolences ..... Deaconess Ruth Jones

Obituary ..... (Read silently)

Solo ..... Deacon Sam Thomas

Eulogy ..... Rev. Randy Lawson

Recessional ..... “When We All Get to Heaven”

**Interment**  
Rosehill Cemetery  
Linden, New Jersey

*Immediately after the Interment, Family and Friends are invited to  
return to the Church where a Repast will be served.*

*Services Entrusted To:*  
**G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC**  
206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203  
www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

*“Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service”*

### Pallbearers

Dennis Mc Ghee      Lavern Capers  
Andrew Allen      Tyler Capers  
Lin Graham      Ben Capers

### Flower Bearers

Nieces of **Deacon William L. Lawson**

## *“To My Edna”*

### *Afterglow*

*I'd like the memory of me  
To be a happy one,  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
Of smiles when day 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 behind,  
When the day is done.*

*-Helen Lowrie Marshall*

### *Acknowledgement*

*The family of the late **Deacon William L. Lawson** wishes to express our sincere appreciation for all acts of kindness, telephone calls, prayers, love and support extended to us by so many during our time of bereavement. May God richly bless you.*

*We would also like to thank the Church family of Mt. Sinai of Orlando, Florida and Pastor, Dr. Mills for everything. Special thank you to Rev. Dr. Derrick R. Dumas and the First Baptist Church family.*

