



## Special Thanks

We wish to thank each of our family and friends for your loving kindness, your thoughtful cards, letters, texts, emails, contributions; and especially your power-filled prayers.

And the prayerful assistance of:

The Church of the Living God, Temple #1, OKC: Bishop McKnight  
Abyssinia Missionary Bapt. Church: Pastor Gail Lewis  
New Hope Baptist Church, OKC: Pastor E. Jennings Tyson  
Church of the Living God, Chickasha: Evang. Charles Hill  
Temple & Sons Funeral Home professional & personable Staff

## Repast

Family & Friends are invited to stop by our "Get & Go" where you'll partake of one of Elder J's faves (fried chicken and a cold pop).

Meet us at:

The "W" Event Center  
1700 NE 36th Street • OKC OK  
(next to Boost Mobile)

The snacks are ToGo and are handed out till gone. First-Come/First-Serve.

Family Entrusted Final Arrangements To:

**Temple & Sons**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.

2801 North Kelley Avenue • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111  
Phone: 405-427-8321  
"We Care" II Timothy 4:8

In Loving Memory of  
**Elder Ralph**

WILLIAM JEFFERSON JR.

*Sunrise*  
June 19, 1938

*Sunset*  
December 2, 2020



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2020 AT 11:00AM  
EARL M. TEMPLE MEMORIAL CHAPEL  
2801 N. KELLEY AVENUE, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73111  
BISHOP D.L. MCKNIGHT | OFFICIATING

## A Little About Elder J's Life

On June 19, 1938, God delivered a Black and beautiful baby boy to Ralph W. and Earlene L. Jefferson. That baby boy became Ralph William Jefferson, Jr.

He used to reminisce about how mischievous he and his brothers were as children; and you could see that twinkle in his eye! His parents were blessed with four more children: Earl, Elwood, Jimmy and Deborah. All of his siblings and parents preceded him in death. He felt lonely many times because he was the only one left.

Elder Jefferson was raised from his beginnings as a child of God. His mother was a founder and a Pastor of an African Methodist Church (many years before it was "a thing" for a woman (and definitely not a Black woman) to pastor a church.

Even given such a strong Christian role model as his mother, it was difficult for Ralph to resist the call of the streets. He was young, gifted, handsome, and Black; and he battled for many years with the vices of the world. He told me that one day the Lord "knocked him out" when he was blind drunk. And when he came to, it was then that he began his journey back to the Lord. He says that that journey took him a lifetime.

As the Lord blessed him to continue his Life Journey, Ralph met and married Catherine White. To their union was born: Ralph the Third, Deidra and Anthony.

It was some years later--Ralph says, "when he stopped running"; that he became an Ordained Minister with the Church of the Living God, the Pillar & Ground of the Truth, in Oklahoma City. Ralph would later tell me that the "fight" for his soul was often a "tug-of-war" for him; because, as he puts it, he was a "knucklehead"!

Ralph later married a beautiful Christian songstress, Shirley Briggs. To that union was born five children: Felicia, William, Angela, Christyle, and Lauren. After over 40 years of marriage, Shirley and then his daughter, Felicia preceded him in death.

In Elder Jefferson's later years of life, he began to develop Dementia; and he handled it well for several years.

In 2009, the Lord... in His infinite Wisdom, brought Eld. Jefferson and me together! "God works in mysterious ways. His wonders to perform"! We were married on October 17, 2009 and enjoyed a loving relationship though his Dementia did become increasingly difficult.

That was a very sad time for us. But, I'll tell you this: That unique beautiful, gifted, Black man; who finally embraced His love for God, will live in our hearts forever and ever!

He leaves to mourn; yet to rejoice for his Heavenly Departure several grandchildren: Ralph III's sons, Deidra's daughters (Rochelle and Regina), Angela's son (Zaccai), Christyle's daughter & sons (Gabryelle, Jaylin, and Christopher), also grandchildren. Family members, his CLG Church Family, and a host of friends



He was a  
Mighty Good Man...  
better than that, he was a  
Mighty Man of God.



## Order of Service

### *Music Prelude*

Elder J's Favorite Songs

### *Processional*

Ministers, Funeral Directors, Family

### *Greetings*

Bishop D.L. McKnight

### *Congregational Song* (Please Stand)

"I Shall Wear A Crown"

Led by ~ Pastor E.J. Tyson

Accompanied By ~ Pastor Gail Lewis

### *Scripture Reading*

Old Testament Reading

Evangelist Charles Hill

New Testament Reading

Elder Darrell Williams

### *Prayer of Consolation*

Bishop D.L. McKnight

### *A Source of His Joy*

The COLG Babies

### *Resolutions & Acknowledgements*

Selena Moses

### *A Little About Elder J's Life*

~Please read his obituary silently~

### *Remarks from Family and Friends*

Be courteous and keep it to (2) minutes please

### *Joy-filled Praise*

The Voices of The Church of the Living God P.G.T. #1

### *Video Tribute*

### *Special Thanks*

Sandra Richards-Jefferson

### *Closing Remarks*

Bishop D.L. McKnight