

### **I've Changed My Address**

I've changed my address to Heaven. I've crossed the Great Divide.  
I know there's no sorrow or crying. Because I've reached the other side.

I am so happy to be here, for the Lord Himself I see.

I've changed my address to Heaven, I bid this world goodbye.

I now live forever with Jesus in my new home in the sky.

I have no burdens or heartaches, and from tears I am now free.

I've changed my address to Heaven, I'm safe forevermore.

For the Lord built a mansion, and my name is on the door.

You can find us walking together, for where He is, I'll always be.

I've changed my address to Heaven, that's the place you'll find me.

**Willie Lawrence Davis**  
**12 Gates to the City Avenue**  
**New Jerusalem, Heaven 77777**

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I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:  
henceforth there is laid up for me a Crown of righteousness, which the Lord,  
the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: not to me only, but unto all  
them also that love His appearing.

II Timothy 4:7-8

### **Active Pallbearers**

*Kristopher Davis*

*Akil Ellis*

*William Phillips*

*Gregory Poindexter*

### **Honorary Pallbearers**

*Lawrence Davis*

*Michael Davis*

*Ronald Davis*

*Reginald Davis*

*Lorin Powell*

*Larry Smith*

### **Acknowledgment**

The family of *Willie Lawrence Davis* is deeply appreciative of all prayers, each  
act of kindness, all demonstrations of love, support, and sympathy during  
their time of bereavement.

Arrangements Entrusted to  
**R.A. Prince Funeral Services**  
16222 Broadway Avenue  
Maple Heights, Ohio 44137

Phone: 216-518-1777 Fax: 216-518-1975  
raprince.com

*In Loving Memory*

*Of*

*Willie Lawrence Davis*



**Sunrise:**  
**September 4, 1927**

**Sunset:**  
**April 4, 2024**

**Homegoing Service**  
**Monday, April 15, 2024**

**Family Visitation: 10:30 AM    Funeral: 11:00 AM**

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
4740 Lee Road  
Cleveland, OH 44128

**Rev. Dogba Bass, Officiating Minister**

A portrait of Willie Lawrence Davis, an elderly man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, looking directly at the camera with his hands clasped in front of him.

## Order of Service

Prelude.....	Pastor Jeff Swanson
Invocation Prayer.....	Rev. Dogba Bass
Scripture.....	Old/New Testament.....Tina Johnson Psalm 23 John 14: 1-6
Selection.....	Voices of Victory
Acknowledgements/Resolutions.....	Gloria Jefferson
Reflections (2 min).....	Lucy Childs Barbara E'lom Reginald Davis Video-Kris Davis
Obituary.....	(Read silently)
Selection.....	Kevin Henderson
Eulogy.....	Rev. Dogba Bass
Recessional.....	Rev. Dogba Bass

Interment:  
Knollwood Cemetery  
1678 S.O.M. Center Road  
Mayfield Heights, OH 44124

Repast:  
Following the interment at St. Paul United Methodist Church

## Obituary

**Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His saints.  
Psalm 116:15**

Willie Lawrence Davis was the fifth of nine children born on September 4, 1927, to the union of the late Tom and Essie Shivers Davis, in Dublin, Georgia. Five siblings, Thomas W (Stella Mae), Alfonzo, Maudine Davis Price (Willie), Christine Davis Stanley (Leo), and Dorothy Davis Robinson (Roosevelt) preceded him in death.

Willie was educated in the Laurens County School system. He accepted Christ as his personal savior at an early age at the Fleming Chapel AME Church in Dublin, Georgia. He united in holy matrimony to Ora Mae Baker Davis on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1946. To this union were born seven children. His loving wife, Ora Mae of 61 years preceded him in death. One daughter, Janice Davis Ellis (Ronald) also preceded them in death. He was the father of eight children.

Willie developed a strong work ethic as he worked on the three hundred acre family farm and drove the school bus for the Fleming Chapel School System. His father was the first African American to own a school bus in Laurens County. He moved the family to Cleveland, Ohio in the early 1950's to pursue better job opportunities. He was employed at White Motors Trucking Company as a mechanic for over twenty years until he retired. Shortly thereafter, he became employed by the State of Ohio and worked for over a decade until retiring again to care for his ailing wife. He was a devoted caregiver during her fourteen year battle with cancer. Willie was a jack of all trades, he was an accomplished cook, loved to barbecue for family and friends, often fixed things around the house, was a much sought after family mechanic, who enjoyed gardening, fishing, and bowling. He was also an avid baseball fan, loved the Cleveland Indians/Guardians, and rarely missed watching the games on television.

He was a loving husband, caring father, and cherished spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He had a hearty sense of humor and will be remembered for his sharp wit. He was a man of strong faith, a dedicated active member of St Paul United Methodist Church until his health declined and will always remain in our hearts and souls for eternity.

Those who will profoundly cherish his memories are, sons, Lawrence, Michael (Annette), Ronald (Carol), and Reginald (Deborah); daughters, Bobbie Jean Franklin (Jesse), Deborah Powell (Lorin), and Apryl Smith (Larry); nine grandchildren, Jeremy and Stephanie Franklin, Lori and Jamila Powell, Michelle and Carmen Davis, Akil Ellis (Rhani) and Kamila Phillips (William), and Kristopher Davis; ten great grandchildren, Jermoney Franklin (Kyra), DaNese Davis, Layla Davis Branner; Ellis, Liam, and Kellen Phillips, Kamau and Jahzara Ellis, Magnolia Dennis, and Quinton Poindexter; siblings, S. J. (Emma Mae), Essie Mae Greenfield (Bertram), and Earlene Moncrief (Charles); brother in law George Thornton (Delores); sister in laws Oznola Davis (Alfonzo) and Loner Carter (Artis); a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, special friend Carrie Cistrunk and many dear friends.

*Humbly Submitted  
The Family*















