

**Honorary Pallbearers**  
**Deacons of St. Mark P.B. Church**

**Casket Bearers**  
**Nephews**

**Honorary Flower Attendants**  
**Mothers of St. Mark P. B. Church**

**Floral Bearers**  
**Nieces**

**Expressions of Gratitude**

The family of the late Deacon Eligah Townsend humbly offers a heartfelt thanks to everyone for all the acts of kindness rendered during his illness and death. May God's richest blessings abide with each of you now and forever.

*The Townsend Family*

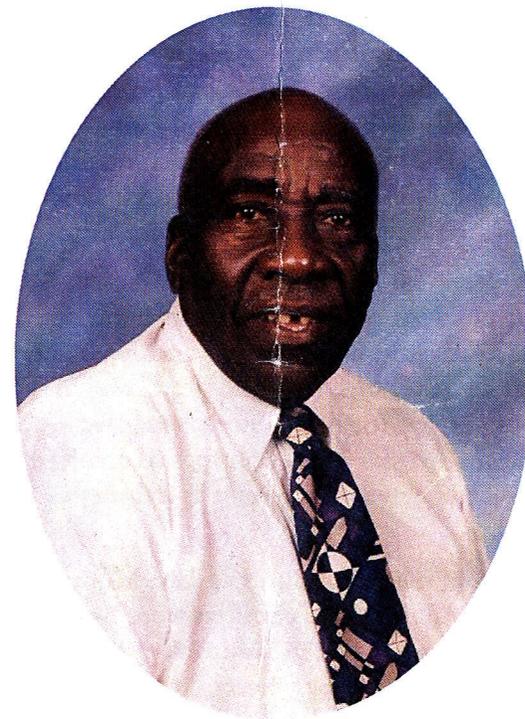
**Interment and Committal**  
**Thatch Mann Cemetery**  
**Athens, Alabama**

**Final Arrangements Entrusted To:**  
**People's Funeral Home**  
**12060 US Hwy 31**  
**Athens, Alabama**  
**(256) 232-1600**

**Repast will be at St. Mark Primitive Baptist Church**

*Home going Celebration*  
*Of*  
*Deacon Eligah Townsend*

**Arrival**  
**July 30, 1925**



**Departure**  
**January 10, 2014**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2014**  
**12:00 (Noon)**  
**St. Mark Primitive Baptist Church**  
**740 West Sanderfer Road**  
**Athens, Alabama 35611**  
**Elder Kenneth Owens, Pastor (Officiant)**

## Obituary

### Deacon Eligah Townsend

**Deacon Eligah Townsend** was born July 30, 1925, to the late Floyd and Locktee Malone Townsend. He transitioned from his earthly home to eternal rest Friday, January 10, 2014 at his residence.

**Deacon Townsend** accepted Christ as his personal savior and was baptized in 1940 at St. Mark P.B Church under the leadership of the late Pastor Green Horton. He was later ordained as a deacon and continued to serve faithfully. He was instrumental in bringing St. Mark from Vaughns Hollow to Plainview Circle and presently Sanderfer Road. He stood strong in his faith and did not waiver. He was active and well known in the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association's doctrine and principle, (The Holy Trinity, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Old and the New Testament etc.) He took his service to God and his fellow man to heart. He was a role model for his entire church family and surrounding communities.

He worked many years for Judy Gilbert until he retired. Deacon Townsend's passion for children to be educated in his community lead him to transporting African American children to and from school in his car and later he purchased a school bus, thus the beginning of Townsend Transit, the first public bus service for blacks in Athens. He would start his route early and made as many trips as it took to make sure every child got to school. He was well respected and known as a disciplinarian to all the children that rode his bus.

He was united in holy matrimony to the late Mother Della Washington Townsend and to this union three children were born. A daughter, Mother Flora Townsend- Troupe, preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by four brothers: James, Leon, Mason, and DJ Townsend; five sisters: Alberta Martin, Vester Lockhart, Roberta Jones, Paralee Murray, and Lillie Murray.

He leaves to cherish his memories a son: Deacon Anthony (Lillie) Townsend; a daughter, Ms. Carol Townsend-Garth; both of Athens, AL; three grandchildren Terrell Townsend, William Garth II. and Kenndall Garth all of Athens, AL and five great grandchildren; one brother in law, John Washington of Cincinnati, OH; two sister in laws, Eloise Townsend of Athens, AL and Lura Bailey of Dayton, OH; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

## ORDER OF SERVICES

Processional

Selection .....St. Mark Mass Choir (Margaret Harper)

Prayer..... Deacon Earl Green Sr.

Scriptures:

Old Testament ..... Pastor Marcus Baker

New Testament .....Dr. Clarence Johnson

Selection..... St. Mark Mass Choir (Jimmy Woods)

Obituary ..... Read Silently

### REFLECTIONS

Tribute ..... Minister Dewayne Swopes

Resolution/Acknowledgements ..... Mother Rosie Pickett

Words of Comfort.....Moderator Mylon Burwell

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association

Song ..... Saundra Murray, Angela Hughes and Arthur Jordan

Eulogy .....Pastor Kenneth Owens Sr.

Selection ..... St. Mark Mass Choir (Sheryl Wilson)

Closing Prayer .....Deacon John W. Wood

Recessional.....People's Funeral Home

### Forever Remembered

Even after life is gone

In our hearts your love lingers on

Even after you have left our sight

In our thoughts

Your light shines bright

Even after your are gone

In our memories

You forever live on.