

## I'M FREE

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free;  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard him call;  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or to play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way;  
I found the peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;  
Oh yes, these things I too, will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow;  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life has been full, I savored much;  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief;  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me;  
God wanted me now,  
HE SET ME FREE.*

## Flower Bearers

Mothers of St. James P. B. Church

## Pallbearers

Deacons of St. James P. B. Church



## Interment

St. Ruth Cemetery

## Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express sincere appreciation for the many thoughtful deeds and acts of kindness shown during the hours of bereavement.

### ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home  
2501 Carmichael Avenue  
Huntsville, Alabama 35810

*"We cannot erase the sting of death,  
but we can make it easier."*

Ptl Printing  
(256) 882-6886

Sunrise:  
Jul. 15, 1915

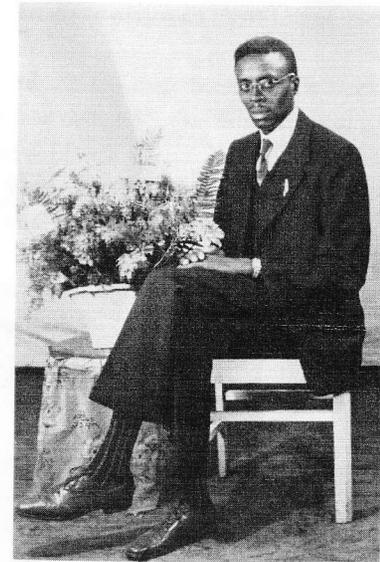
§ § §

Sunset:  
Apr. 10, 2001

## Homegoing Celebration

for

*Rev. William Amos  
Donaldson*



**... Then**

*Saturday, April 14, 2001  
One O'clock P.M.*

*St. James Primitive Baptist Church  
1093 Fairbanks Drive  
Huntsville, Alabama*

*Elder Kenneth Lankford, Jr., Officiating*

## Obituary

**Elder William Amos Donaldson, Sr.** was born on July 15, 1915 in Madison County, Alabama, to the late Elder Eddie and Carrie (Battle) Donaldson. He departed this life on April 10, 2001 in Huntsville, Alabama.

Elder Donaldson was united in Holy Matrimony to the late Mary Ellen Ford. To this union, two sons were born -- the late William Amos Donaldson, Jr. and the late Robert Edward Donaldson. On October 15, 1939, he was united in Holy Matrimony to the late Addie Lee Toney. This union was blessed with fifteen children.

Elder Donaldson was affiliated with the St. James P. B. Church during his entire ministry. He also served as the Pastor of St. Mark P. B. Church for 33 years. He preached his first sermon of September 5, 1943 and was ordained on March 18, 1944. A few months later (August 6, 1944), Reverend S. Hereford, the Pastor of St. James P. B. Church became ill and Reverend Donaldson was asked to take charge of the service for him. Subsequently, he was elected Pastor of the church on November 24, 1944 and served for over 50 years.

He leaves to celebrate his homegoing, **nine daughters:** Ada Bell Gurley, Shirley Love (Robert), Arthurine Moore (Freddie), Barbara Donaldson, Gladys Dillard and Bettye Donaldson, all of Huntsville, AL, Eddie Mae Vaughn, Compton, CA, Dorothy Abrams, Pacomia, CA, and Nerlen Glaspie (Jimmy) of Haltos, TX; **six sons:** Edmond Donaldson, Archie L. Donaldson (Linda), Gregory Donaldson, and Glen Donaldson, all of Huntsville, AL, Isaiah Donaldson, Sr. (Tamika) Fairfax, VA and John T. Donaldson (Carolyn) of Columbia, SC; **step-daughter:** Ceola Oliver of Huntsville, AL; **three sisters-in-law:** Hazelrene Moore, Louis Jean Scott (George), and Mamie Jean Toney (Richard), all of Huntsville, AL; **one brother-in-law:** Ellie Toney (Sarah) of Montgomery, AL; 55 grandchildren, 39 great grandchildren, 7 great, great grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.



... Now

*You were as the rain helping many  
to become clean  
And guidance as the sun through  
the days, so did you gleam.  
Now that you've completed your  
work and God has said,  
"I am well pleased",  
It's a delight to know that you ran  
the race, but now you are in peace.*

## Order of Service



### Processional

- SONG ..... "Here's My Hand"  
 PRAYER.....Elder Billy Jones  
 SCRIPTURE.....Elder John Stone  
 SONG.....Choir  
 OBITUARY (Read Silently).....Soft Music  
 TRIBUTES:  
 • As a Mentor.....Elder John Clay  
 • As a Father-in-Law/Pastor.....Freddie Moore  
 • As a Father.....Edmond Donaldson  
 SONG.....Choir  
 RESOLUTIONS:  
 • Mallard Creek Association  
 (Elder Billy Brewton)  
 • St. James P. B. Church  
 (Mother Betty Nobles)  
 SONG.....Choir  
 EULOGY.....Elder Kenneth Lankford, Jr.  
 SONG....."Somebody Touched Me"  
 CLOSING PRAYER.....Elder McKinley Jones

### Recessional