



Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts

December 13, 2017

Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts

was born January 17, 1952; he went home to be with the Lord on December 13, 2017.

Derrick was the oldest of three sons born to Rev. Dr. & Mrs. John E. Roberts.

Raised in a

Christian home by parents who love the Lord, Derrick accepted Christ at the early age of 7 and

became active in the Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of his father.

A child prodigy, Derrick taught himself to play the piano long before his formal lessons began at

age 10. He was a graduate of DeVilbiss High School and continued to Bowling Green State

University in Bowling Green, Ohio where he received a Bachelor of Music Education. He

continued his educational aspirations by pursuing a Masters Degree in Education Administration

Supervision from the University of Toledo.

Derrick married his childhood love Deborah (McDaniels) on August 11, 1979 and together they

raised two children Jeremy and Jelise. These are gifts from God, their children, a beautiful and

talented daughter Jelise, a successful Musician and Artist and their son Jeremy, who was a professional football player in the NFL for 10 years. They have one granddaughter, Joelle.

The dawning of an educator at heart began as Derrick started his career teaching music in the Toledo Public School System at Keyser Elementary and assumed the position of Intern Teaching Consultant. In later years, he became the Assistant Principal at Pickett Elementary School serving under the leadership and gaining a mentor in Mrs. Edna Robertson, Principal. These life lessons in education enabled him to fulfill and continue to the next assignment as Principal at Elmhurst Elementary School. Principal Roberts left an impression with the children of Elmhurst who said "He is the coolest, best dressed Principal in the world". The students of Elmhurst loved Principal Roberts so much and upon being challenged to run in a race with them, they expressed about him, "Mr. Roberts can really run fast for an old man." Derrick later moved to serve as Principal at the Lincoln Academy for Boys. He was nominated as one of the "The Outstanding Young Men of America" and in 1999, he was named Principal of the Year by the Ohio Parent Teacher Association. Derrick retired after thirty-one (31) years of service to the Toledo Public School System. Continuing his quest in excellence and serving a perfect God, Derrick was the Director and a

founding member of the Toledo Mass Choir/Interfaith. He held the position of Convention Planner for the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses from 1999-2010. In April 2010 in his hometown of Toledo, Ohio, he was installed as the Chairman of the Board for the Thomas A. Dorsey National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses by the late Bishop Kenneth H. Moales, Sr., President. In 2011, Minister Roberts received an Honorary Doctorate from the Eastern Theological Seminary of the Commonwealth of Virginia. He leaves to cherish wonderful memories his wife Deborah, father and mother, Pastor Dr. John E. Roberts and Mother Bernice Roberts, daughter Jelise, son Jeremy (Maria Cristina) Lincoln, adopted son Darius Coleman, granddaughter Joelle Lincoln, brothers Rev. Jeffrey Roberts and Tracy Roberts, Godchildren, Patrice Jones, Arielle Johnson, Leigh Ashley Utley and other Godchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, colleagues, his Toledo Interfaith Mass choir, his NCGCC, Inc. family, his Family Baptist family and his Indiana Ave. MBC family. Special thanks to Crystal Kizer, Subrina Bennett-Long, Dr. Kasunic, Dr. Salem, the ICU and the ICCU staffs at Flower Hospital. Very special thanks to Dr. William James and the St. James "The Armory" Church for hosting the musical celebration.

Services:

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Visitation - 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Musical Service 6:00 - 8:00 PM

St. James "The Armory" Church

3310 Nebraska Avenue

Toledo, OH 43607

419.537.9736

Dr. William James, Pastor

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Visitation - 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Family Hour - 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Funeral Service - 7:00 PM

Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church

640 Indiana Avenue,

Toledo, OH 43604

419.241.3850

Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts, Pastor

Friday, December 22, 2017

Committal Service - 11:00 AM

Ottawa Hills Cemetery

4120 W. Central Avenue

Toledo, OH 43606

Tribute Wall

RP

“ I am just now finding out that Rev. Dr. Derrick Roberts has passed away. The man that I new simply as Mr. Roberts was a young, vibrant and talented 25 year old music teacher at Keyser Elementary. During the 1978 and 1979 school years I was a 5th and 6th grader at Keyser and had the pleasure of going to Mr. Roberts music class. I loved that class and looked forward to every minute we spent with Mr. Roberts. I sang in the 5th and 6th grade choir at Keyser and Mr. Roberts would take us all over the city to perform at different locations and events. He also had a flash card system he showed us to help learn notes and beats to music. He would make the flash cards a competition and when you missed a beat you dropped out until there was one person left standing who was the winner. I won that competition for the whole school in back to back years in '78 & '79. Mr. Roberts made me feel proud of myself. I love music and I loved Mr. Roberts. May he rest in peace and my thoughts are with the Roberts family now near the one year anniversary of his passing. God bless you all!

Rob Peace

Rob Peace - December 11, 2018 at 11:40 AM

JR

Thank you for sharing your memories.

Jelise Roberts - April 23, 2020 at 03:31 PM

AS

“ Amir Shabazz lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts



Amir Shabazz - May 09, 2018 at 08:56 PM

AM

“ *Derrick was a great person. He was a mentor and a friend. Derrick showed compassion to others and he was an encourager. He loved his family both immediate and extended family. He to this very single day, is highly thought of and truly missed. He knew how to always make a person smile, and I hope that he is highly rewarded for all of his wonderful deeds that he did for others. May his soul forever Rest In Peace!*

Amir - May 09, 2018 at 08:54 PM

NB

“ *Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this time. We have some many memories of Derrick and being in the choir. We love the Roberts Family. He will be missed. Much love...Kiel and Nadeen Brown, Nathan Conner*



Nadeen Brown - December 23, 2017 at 01:57 PM



“ *Elaine Gamble lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Elaine Gamble - December 23, 2017 at 10:39 AM

RA

“ *The Nigerian Community misses the passing on to Glory of this great Man of God.
Our prayers are that the Lord will console his family. The Bible says Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted.
Blessings to you...Rev Paul Aduba
Anglican Church of the Pentecost ACOP Toledo Ohio*

Rev Paul Aduba - December 21, 2017 at 11:54 AM

DB

“ *Deborah Bobo lit a candle in memory of Rev.
Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Deborah Bobo - December 21, 2017 at 02:14 AM

Dee
Ellis

“ *Condolences to the Roberts family. It was an honor to have known Derrick. He was so full of zeal and forever giving of himself. I had the pleasure of singing with the Toledo Interfaith Choir for a short time. I will never forget the rehearsals we started out leaning. a new songs and we would end up in praise and worship. Derricks love and commitment to the Lord touched so many lives. He will truly be missed but never forgotten. The word of God says. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Until we meet again my dear friend.*



Dee Ellis - December 20, 2017 at 11:06 PM

RG

“ *Ruth, Ned, & Kelly Gracie purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts.*



Ruth, Ned, & Kelly Gracie - December 20, 2017 at 03:00 PM

CA

“ *To the family o Dr. Roberts: May all your cherished memories of your love one 'help you thru this difficult time. Please find comfort in the love and support of family, friends and the beautiful promise at Acts 25:15.*

carrie - December 20, 2017 at 10:38 AM

CA

May our God of comfort and peace, the risen Lord Jesus, embrace you all with His loving arms now and in the days ahead as you remember and celebrate Dr. Roberts' life legacy.

carrie - December 20, 2017 at 09:57 PM

JG

“ *Jermaine Gray purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts.*



Jermaine Gray - December 20, 2017 at 01:52 AM

CB

“ Cheryl Bennett lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts



Cheryl Bennett - December 20, 2017 at 12:04 AM

SJ

“ Sarah E. Jones lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts



Sarah E. Jones - December 19, 2017 at 11:13 PM

SJ

“ Sardara Jones-Kelley lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts



Sardara Jones-Kelley - December 19, 2017 at 11:11 PM

TC

“ To the Family of Rev. Dr. Derrick Roberts:

*Please accept my heartfelt condolences on Dr. Roberts passing.
Northwest Ohio has lost a true leader and wonderful man.*

May God be with you all during this time of great sorrow.

Tom Crothers

Tom Crothers - December 19, 2017 at 12:01 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts.*



December 19, 2017 at 08:05 AM

LL

“ *L. Lobbins lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



L. Lobbins - December 18, 2017 at 05:32 PM

AG

“ *So sorry to hear this. A great loss. We are praying for the family.*

Andre & Lauren Gaines - December 18, 2017 at 05:15 PM

DN

“ *Darlene Lacy, Charlotte NC lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Darlene Lacy, Charlotte NC - December 18, 2017 at 12:13 PM

RD

“ *we are sorry for your loss of rev derrick e Roberts he was a very well respected man and a Christian may our lord jesus Christ bring comfort to the Roberts family in their time of need god bless you the the family of derrick e Roberts from rev Jerome and Maxine diggs*

rev jerome m diggs - December 18, 2017 at 09:44 AM

DK

“ *Jelise and the rest of your family. I was so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He was truly a blessing to many and will be missed. Prayers and hugs to you, your mom and brother as you remember the wonderful times you all shared.*

Diane Klein-Thorpe - December 17, 2017 at 08:06 PM

JR

Thanks so much. Just now reading these beautiful messages.

Jelise Roberts - April 23, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts.*



December 17, 2017 at 07:27 PM

AN

“ *Andrea lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Andrea - December 17, 2017 at 07:26 PM

SE

“ *Sylvia Embry lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Sylvia Embry - December 17, 2017 at 06:51 PM

BH

“ *During this season of Christmas, may Jesus our God of comfort hold you all in the palm of His hand as you remember and celebrate Derrick's life legacy. He will not be forgotten in the hearts of all who knew him.*



Bobbie Horton - December 17, 2017 at 05:20 PM

TH

“ *Twania Harbour lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Twania Harbour - December 17, 2017 at 03:02 PM

CL

“ *To the Roberts Family: Sorry for your loss. Clovetta Brown.*

Clovettabrown - December 17, 2017 at 07:56 AM

JR

“ *Joyce Reese lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Joyce Reese - December 17, 2017 at 02:33 AM

ED

“ *Elvah T Donald lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Elvah T Donald - December 17, 2017 at 01:40 AM

BH

“ *To the family my prayer go out to you*

Betty houston - December 16, 2017 at 10:18 PM

MA

“ *My Heartfelt Sympathy and Prayers to the Family of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts.*

May the Lord's loving promises to comfort you give you strength as you walk through this difficult.

Minnie Avery

Minnie Avery - December 16, 2017 at 07:56 PM

MA

“ *Martysumlin lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Derrick E. Roberts*



Martysumlin - December 16, 2017 at 12:10 PM

MT

Gospel music has lost a great talent but a rejoicing time in Heaven

Marty Sumlin Turner - December 16, 2017 at 12:14 PM

ET

My children attended Elmhurst Elementary School while Mr. Roberts was the principal. He was a wonderful leader, well-loved and respected by the students and parents. The youngest students would always run up and grab on to their beloved principal's legs. Sympathy to all of Rev. Dr. Roberts family.

Elizabeth Tuohy - December 19, 2017 at 10:48 AM