



## Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard

June 12, 2015

Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard was born August 14, 1954, in Monroe, Louisiana. He departed this life on Friday, June 12, 2015, in the Cleveland Clinic Hospital. He was preceded in death by his father, Jessie Bryant. He was reared in Toledo, Ohio where he received his elementary and high school education. He excelled in sports. After graduating from high school, he served nearly 20 years in the Air Force, the Air National Guard, and the Air National Reserves at Wright Patterson, receiving an honorable discharge. On September 20, 1975, he married the former Christine Coley. Together they had 4 children. Dr. Heckard received his call into the ministry in 1982 and was ordained in 1985 after graduation from Calvary Bible Institute of Toledo, Ohio with a Bachelor of Religious Education. Later, he pursued a Bachelor of Science in Pastoral Counseling, Master's of Religious Education and Divinity from Liberty University and Theological Seminary in Virginia. He also earned a Ph.D. from the University of Biblical Studies and Seminary in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in 1994. He also earned a Doctor of Ministry Degree from Liberty Theological Seminary in 2005 and a Doctor of Theology from Louisiana Theological Seminary in 2007. He served for 10 years as an Adjunct Professor at the Midwest Bible College and Seminary in Mansfield, Ohio, and Liberty University Theological Seminary in Virginia for 2 years. In 1998, he was called to Pastor the Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Mansfield, Ohio. In 2008, Dr. Heckard founded the Word Church of Mansfield Ohio where he served as the Senior Pastor. He was also employed at the Hospice of North

Central Ohio as a Bereavement and Grief Counselor. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife of 39 years, Christine; his 3 daughters, Tawana Craddolph, Tamika Jackson, Johnetta Heckard and son, Aaron (Olivia) Heckard. He also has three grandchildren, Savannah, Brian, and Jordan; his mother, Stella Elliott; 8 sisters and 7 brothers; numerous nieces, nephews, godchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends. Visitation will be Thursday, June 18, 2015, 5-7 p.m. at Maddox Memorial C.O.G.I.C., 1148 Walker Lake Road, Mansfield, OH. Family hour will be Saturday, June 20, 2015, at 11 a.m. funeral service to follow at 12 noon, Indiana Avenue Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. John E. Roberts will officiate. Interment Historic Woodlawn Cemetery. Arrangements by Dale-Riggs Funeral Home. w [www.dalefh.com](http://www.dalefh.com)

# Tribute Wall

FJ

“ Dear Heckard Family,

*I just heard the sad news about Rev. Dr. Heckard, and I want to tell you how sorry I am at his passing. I hope these words of condolence – coming so much later – don't make you sad all over again. Please know that an old friend is thinking of you and sending these thoughts to comfort you. I hope your grief is softening over time, and I hope you are well.*

*Fondly/Sincerely/Affectionately,*

*The entire Jones Family formerly of Mackow Drive*

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**Flora Jones** - July 07, 2015 at 03:03 PM



SJ

“ Our deepest sympathies go out to the entire Heckard family. You showed me & my family so much love over the years that you become my other family. I will miss you deeply and keep evryone in my thoughts and prayers

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**Shacorey Jones** - June 21, 2015 at 07:33 PM



DR

“ Thoughts, prayers and peace are sent to the Heckard family in your time of need. May God comfort and keep you. The Robinson Family

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**Deborah Robinson** - June 20, 2015 at 07:53 AM



RW

“ Dear Sis. Heckard & family, we extend our condolences to you in the passing of Reverend Heckard. Please know that earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot heal and our Lord is the God of all comfort. We are praying that our Lord give you strength and peace. May God bless and keep you always.  
Pastor & Sis. Bobby L. Welborn & family

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**Rev. Bobby L. Welborn** - June 20, 2015 at 01:00 AM

KH

“ To Mrs. Heckard & Family: Our thoughts and prayers are with you today and tomorrow. May the love of our Lord and Savior be with you. May you find comfort in the Lord.

Fondly, Karla and Maliyah Hale

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**Karla Hale** - June 18, 2015 at 09:31 AM

BA

“ Brenda J. Brown- Alexander lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard



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**Brenda J. Brown- Alexander** - June 18, 2015 at 07:27 AM

RE

“ To The Heckard Family: We thought the world of Rev. Heckard and he shall be greatly missed. We know that he is safe in the arms of God now. Weeping may endure of a night but joy cometh in the morning. Love Rev & Mrs. Robert Edwards & family



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**Robert & Betty Edwards** - June 17, 2015 at 08:55 PM

BW

“ *Brenda Wetzel lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard*



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**Brenda Wetzel** - June 17, 2015 at 05:23 PM

JV

“ *JoAnn Vaughn lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard*



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**JoAnn Vaughn** - June 17, 2015 at 05:00 PM

RB

“ *Dr. Heckard was a great man who came to Mansfield with the Lord's vision. He became a good Pastor; Teacher; and my good friend. Lot's of things to say about this rich talented man from God, but he came at a time when we needed him the most. This great preacher/teacher fed us and nuture us the word of God. You never got a fast-food sermon or teaching from Dr. Heckard. He would always say "Am I really helping the people".....Oh yes....just look at me. Gonna miss this great man of God who ordain me and put me in a position to help other's. Rest Doc....we will see you on that great day.*

*Rev. John W. Bessick & Family  
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
Mansfield, Ohio*

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**Rev. John W. Bessick** - June 17, 2015 at 03:58 PM

PR

“ *The Rawls family & the Mount Sinai Baptist Church of Mansfield, Ohio sends our heartfelt condolences to the Heckard family. Dr. Heckard was my mentor, my pastor, my professor (during my seminary years) and just a great teacher and solid friend. Our hearts go out to the Heckard family. This great man of God has gone on to glory.*  
*Respectfully,*

*Dr. Laurence & Lady Sharon Rawls, Pastor & First Lady  
the Mount Sinai Baptist Church  
275 Grace Street  
Mansfield, Ohio 44902*

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**Pastor & Lady Sharon Rawls** - June 17, 2015 at 10:46 AM

RM

“ *I have wonderful memories of Johnny, my Chipotle buddy. Heaven has gained a beautiful soul.*

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**Robyn May** - June 17, 2015 at 09:08 AM

GR

“ *Gary L. Allen, Page, Rembert lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard*



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**Gary L. Allen, Page, Rembert** - June 16, 2015 at 09:01 PM

RC

“ *Ron Cooley lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard*



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**ron cooley** - June 15, 2015 at 10:47 PM

RC

“ *to a wonderful brother in law.you have taken such great care of my sister and your family.you have given the family unconditional love and support.and also showed us the meaning of love.may god bless you in heaven and continue to up lift your family as you leave behind a timeless memory.rest in peace rev johnny ray heckard.*

*ron cooley*

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**ron cooley** - June 15, 2015 at 10:45 PM

BR

“ *Beverly Rath lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard*



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**Beverly Rath** - June 15, 2015 at 07:31 PM

CO

“ For all the Heckard family;

*It was a privilege to have Rev. Johnny Heckard as one of our Hospice Chaplains at Hospice of North Central Ohio. He had a compassionate ministry. He touched many lives.*

*He was also a wonderful husband and father. He was a great Pastor and example for many to follow. We will miss him and his ministry. We thank the Lord for his life.*

*His wife Christine and her children were very loving and supportive with him and his ministry. He will be greatly missed by all the staff at Hospice of North Central Ohio.*

*May God's peace be with his family.*

*Rev. Dave Matos, Hospice Chaplain.*

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**Chaplain Dave-Hospice of North Central O** - June 15, 2015 at 06:37 PM

MH

“ Michelle Hagerman lit a candle in memory of  
Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard



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**Michelle Hagerman** - June 15, 2015 at 05:29 PM

LH

“ *Linda Hagerman lit a candle in memory of  
Rev. Dr. Johnny R. Heckard*



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**Linda Hagerman** - June 15, 2015 at 05:08 PM