

*A Celebration of
The Life and Service
of*

Deacon
Robert Redmond Phillips

1930

- 2002



Sunday - May 26, 2002
1:00 p.m.

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
Batesville, Mississippi

Rev. Zannie Leland, Jr.
Pastor & Officiant

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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 play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss.
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.

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.

- In Memory of My Beloved Husband -
Mrs. Vergie H. Phillips

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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; and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing." II Timothy 4:7-8

The Enlistment

Deacon Robert Redmond Phillips was born to the parentage of the late Mr. Percy Phillips, Sr. and the late Mrs. Miranda Tipton Phillips on January 6, 1930 in Carroll County, Mississippi.

He was the sixth child born to this union. Four siblings preceded him in death- Mr. Percy Phillips, Jr., Mr. Jack Phillips, Mr. Hugh L. Phillips, and Mrs. Ida Mae Phillips Green.

The Induction

Deacon Phillips accepted Christ as his personal Savior at an early age and entered into fellowship with the Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, Black Hawk, Mississippi. He received his formal education in the schools of Carroll County.

Active Duty

Deacon Phillips served well. Working actively in Mt. Pleasant, he committed himself to the Deacon Ministry, seeking tirelessly to edify for the cause of Christ and leading in the renovation of the church building. Though residing in Batesville, Mississippi, Deacon Phillips was a faithful supporter of the total program of the church. Because of failing health and because of his strong desire to stay in Christian fellowship, he entered into covenant relationship with the Macedonia M.B. Church, Batesville, Mississippi, serving loyally in the Deacon Ministry until the time of his transition. In his life's vocation, Deacon Phillips worked in the construction industry, serving as the owner of Phillips' Construction Company. Many of the buildings in the surrounding

communities are the results of his labor. He served as a mentor to the youth of this area, giving them an opportunity to learn and to become proficient in building trades under his instruction. Answering his country's call, he served in the United States Armed Services from 1951 to 1953.

Believing in the sanctity of marriage, Deacon Phillips chose as his life mate, Ms. Vergie Henderson Phillips, uniting in holy wedlock in August 1959.

The Discharge

On Monday, May 20, 2002 at 9:45 a.m., the physicians at Methodist Hospital-Center, Memphis Tennessee yielded to the Master Physician, as Deacon Robert Phillips exchanged time for eternity.

In memory with love he leaves a devoted wife- Mrs. Vergie Phillips of Batesville, Mississippi; four sons- Mr. Joe Thompson of Batesville, Mississippi, Mr. Louis Charles Davis of Greenwood, Mississippi, Mr. Melvin Phillips and Mr. Wilford Phillips, both of St. Louis, Missouri; three grandchildren- Louis, Michael, and Jennifer; two great-grandchildren- Brandon and Kameron; one daughter-in-law- Mrs. Estella Davis of Greenwood, Mississippi; one brother- Mr. Jessie Lee Phillips of Slidell, Louisiana; two sisters- Mrs. Bessie B. Phillips Smith and Mrs. Sarah Emma Phillips Jordan, both of Coila, Mississippi; a mother-in-law- Mrs. Climmie C. Glover of Batesville, Mississippi; three sisters-in-law- Mrs. Elsie Phillips of Slidell, Louisiana, Ms. Velma Terrell and Ms. Rasheedah Hameed, both of Los Angeles, California; one brother-in-law- Mr. Thomas Henderson of Marino Valley, California; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

*Another soldier gone
To get his great reward
He fought the fight, kept the faith
And now gone home to God!*