

## The Measure of A Man

What is the measure of a man?

Is it strength?

Intelligence?

Or fearlessness?

The ability to lead others down the right path?

The ability to inspire the seed of greatness in those  
who need encouragement?

If the aforementioned are measuring tools,  
Then many live like men.

Do you wear your love for God like shining armor?

Is the love of God resting upon and guiding you?

No one can question your strength,  
intelligence or leadership

There are plaques, and championships  
to prove the ability to lead.

Measuring sticks the world uses to define a man.

What can't be measured is the soul of a man.

A man's soul is the inward interpretation  
of his outer shell.

May your soul catch fire.

The flames of decency, honor  
and integrity burning bright.

Bright enough to light the way  
for hundreds of young men in the dark.

Bright enough to bring honor  
to a world forever changed by your presence.

Bright enough to heat the souls of younger men  
you leave behind

The true measure of a man is the legacy he leaves.

Be you husband, father, brother or friend,

Leave your torch burning brightly,  
and we will never allow the flame to die.

As we are all warmed by the fire of a true Man.

## Pallbearers

Family and Friends

## Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

## Acknowledgement

We, the family of the late Deacon Emeritus Henry Thomas Hopkins acknowledges with sincere appreciation the many comforting messages, expressions of sympathy, prayers and kindness shown to the family during our season of bereavement. A special thank you to Marion Harrison, Sam Davis and Willie Mae Belton, all of whom supported our loved one with neighborly and brotherly love.

We encourage and welcome donations in honor of Henry T. Hopkins in lieu of flowers to the following organizations:

New Light Beulah Baptist Church Food Pantry

1330 Congaree Rd.

Hopkins, SC, 29061

-OR-

Antioch Senior Center

5715 A Koon Rd.

Columbia, SC 29203

## Repast

New Light Beulah Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

1330 Congaree Road

Hopkins, South Carolina

# Homegoing Service Celebrating the Life of

DEACON EMERITUS HENRY THOMAS HOPKINS



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025  
1:00 P.M.

NEW LIGHT BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH  
1330 CONGAREE ROAD  
HOPKINS, SOUTH CAROLINA

REVEREND CHRIS KEESE  
- INTERIM PASTOR -

### CONTACT US:

Taylor Street Chapel  
803-771-7799

Lower Richland Chapel  
803-776-6922

WWW.LEEVY.COM

I. S. Leevy Johnson  
-Owner-

Services Entrusted To:

**Leevy's**  
Chris Leevy Johnson  
-Managing Director-

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:



Leverette A. Williams, II  
-General Manager-

# Obituary

Deacon Emeritus Henry Thomas Hopkins, affectionately known as the “Mayor of Eau Claire” and “THOP” by many was born on July 2, 1932, to Viola Hopkins in Hopkins, South Carolina.

Henry graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, in Columbia, South Carolina. He served four years with the US Air Force. In 1954, he returned to Columbia and completed three years of undergraduate work towards a bachelor’s degree in political science at Allen University.

In 1955, Henry started a 35-year career with the US Postal Service as a Letter Carrier. During his tenure at the post office, Henry honed his leadership and negotiating skills by leading a campaign to organize the first Letter Carriers’ Union.

Following retirement, Henry served as a Legislative Aide in the SC General Assembly between 1988-1990.

Since about 1990, Henry was actively involved in service to Columbia neighborhoods. He served as president of the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods and as president of his neighborhood association, Lin-Col-Lat. He was the Executive Director of the Eau Claire Community Council, a neighborhood collaborative representing 40 communities in North Columbia. Henry served on the Eau Claire Redevelopment Corporation, which outlined proposed growth and development in the North Columbia area. He also served on the Sumter-Columbia Empowerment Zone, which provided federal resources to the two communities to address issues of urban decay.

Henry was a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers, where he was awarded a 50-year gold medal, the SC Baptist Youth Organization, the SC Children’s Foster Review Board, and the Columbia Area Mental Health Board.

While Deacon Hopkins was proud of his civic and community contributions, he was most proud of his service to his church, where he maintained membership his entire life. During this time, he served for many years in several capacities including Church Clerk, Youth Council Advisor, Sunday School Teacher, Daycare Advisory Board, Tutoring Teacher, and Meals on Wheels participant. He was a Deacon for 48 years.

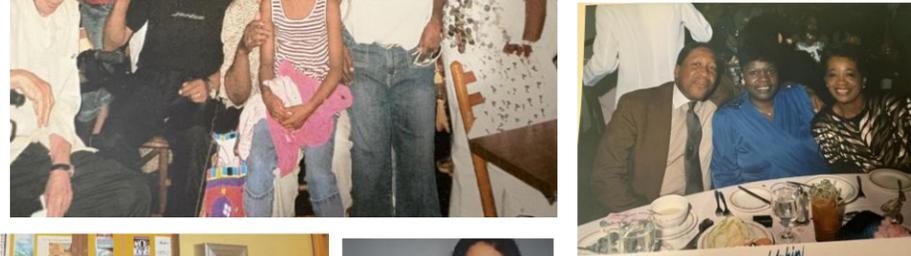
He was also proud of the work he did for the Booker T Washington Foundation, where he led efforts to archive historical artifacts from the closed school and restore the Booker T. Washington Auditorium, where the history of the school is preserved for future generations.

Henry was the recipient of many awards, certificates and proclamations, including The Order of the Silver Crescent given by Jim Hodges, Governor of South Carolina, for outstanding contributions to the state.

Deacon Emeritus Henry Thomas Hopkins departed this life on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Clark Hopkins, and his mother, Mrs. Viola Hopkins Parker.

He leaves to cherish his memory: two children, Marvin A. Sumter (Linda) of Van Buren Township, MI and Thelma Runaa Hill of Chesterfield, Virginia; one grandson; Joseph L. Hill, Jr. of Chesterfield Virginia; a devoted and loving cousin; Dorothy Weston of Columbia, SC; a goddaughter, Wendy McBride Peters; a host of other relatives and friends.

# Memories



# A Service of Remembrance

**I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:  
- 2 Timothy 4:7**

Musical Prelude

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Musical Selection.....NLBBC Music Ministry

Old Testament.....Psalm 23.....Deacon

New Testament.....I Corinthians 13:1-13.....Deacon

Prayer.....Reverend Dr. Albert A. Neal  
Pastor Emeritus, Antioch Baptist Church

Musical Selection.....NLBBC Music Ministry

Remarks.....Deacon Tally O. Adams, NLBBC Deacon Board  
(Two Minutes, Please) Mr. Joseph L. Hill, Jr., Grandson

Ms. Stanley Little and Ms. Essie Perkin,  
Colonial Park Neighborhood Association

Mr. Frank McBride, Friend

M. LaNelle Kohn, Booker T. Washington Foundation

Mr. Sam Davis, Friend & Former Columbia City Councilman

Special Presentation.....City of Columbia

Musical Selection.....NLBBC Music Ministry

Words of Comfort.....Reverend John Middleton

Recessional

Postlude



## Committal, Benediction and Interment

**New Light Beulah Baptist Church Cemetery  
Beulah Church Road  
Hopkins, South Carolina**