

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

— Joshua 1:8 KJV

Faithful • Determined • Independent

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REV. HARRY HEYWARD, SR.

SUNRISE

SUNSET

December 30, 1924 – April 25, 2025

"Groverman"

"When the family moved to Orlando, Rev. Heyward became a faithful member of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church under Rev. Wade, serving there with love and dedication for over 43 years."

Saturday, May 17, 2025 • 11:00 AM

Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church

5200 West South Street, Orlando, Florida 32811

Dr. Lantz G. Mills, Pastor

Interment

Washington Park Cemetery

2600 Bruton Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32811



A Legacy™

a heritage: character qualities, memoirs . . .

*“Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of His saints.”*
– Psalm 116:15

Rev. Harry Heyward, Sr.

Born December 30, 1924, in Ridgeland, South Carolina, Harry Heyward was one of nine children born to the late Henry and Florie Maper Heyward. Raised in Beaufort, he came to know the Lord early at Cannon Baptist Church, where he began a lifelong walk of faith rooted in Godly living.

Harry left school after the 8th grade and devoted himself to hard work, becoming a trusted migrant worker who traveled between Hilton Head, Parris Island, the state of Delaware, and eventually Bartow, Florida. There, he met and married the love of his life, Eloise, in 1949. Together they raised a blended family of four children, later welcoming two more sons, and in 1957 they proudly purchased the house they called home.

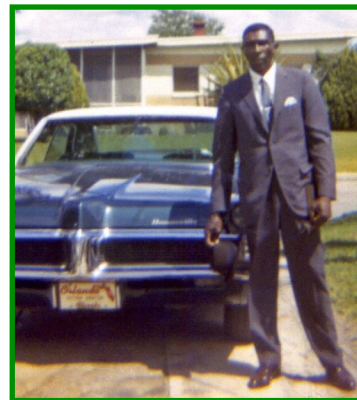
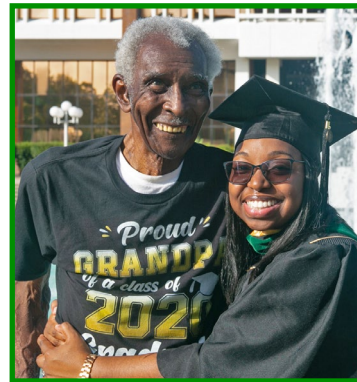
A true entrepreneur, Harry held a Citrus Fruit Dealer License and founded three businesses – a fruit company, a dump truck company, and a rock hauling company. Of the three, the fruit business remained his passion, and he passed down that same work ethic and business spirit to his sons, who became owner-operators themselves.

Harry was not only a hard worker but also a wise steward of his finances. He tracked every penny and taught his family the value of money. He was a meticulous man who took pride in cooking his own meals – and his favorites included neckbones, rice, cabbage, sweet potatoes, bacon, and shrimp, but he had a soft spot for weekly fish and grits from Washington Shores. He never passed on an opportunity to work in his yard and tend to his fruit trees.

When the family moved to Orlando, Rev. Heyward became a faithful member of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church under Rev. Roscoe Wade, serving there with love and dedication for over 43 years. He loved his church family, and his earthly family, and the time he spent with both of them was second to none. He was famous for urging them to “wait a while” before leaving, and for offering timeless advice.

Rev. Heyward was preceded in death by his **parents**, his **beloved wife** of 54 years Eloise Heyward (2005), and five of their six **children**: Vivian Ann Hood, William “Bubba” Byrd, Willie Mae Byrd, Alfonso “Cuta” Byrd, and Harry “Butch” Heyward, Jr. He was also preceded in death by **siblings** Cleve “Port Royall” Heyward, Elkin Heyward, Henry Heyward Jr., Rebecca Chisolm, Eloise Heyward, Essie Heyward, and Vernell Heyward.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his **son** – Dennis James (Veronique) Heyward; **granddaughter** – Monique Denise Heyward; **grandsons** – Harry “TJ” (Zandra) Heyward III, James “JB” Heyward, and William Sylvester “Ducky” Byrd; **great-granddaughter** – Zanyse Hawk; his only surviving **sibling** – Bernice Patterson of Brooklyn, NY; favorite **niece** – Pauline Seay; dear **cousin** – Peggy Brabham; and a host of other relatives and loving friends.



Order of Service

Officiating – Dr. Lantz G. Mills, Senior Pastor
Words of Comfort – Dr. Larry G. Mills, Pastor Emeritus

Musical Prelude – “The Great I Am”

ProcessionalClergy, Family, & Friends

Final Glimpse

InvocationDr. Robert M. Spooney

Reading of the Scriptures

Old Testament Reverend Ella Thompson

New Testament Minister Shelly Barnett

Song – “Take Your Burdens to the Lord”

Reflections (limit your remarks to 3 minutes each, please)

As a Church Member / Friend – Rev. Gary Johnson

As a Neighbor – Sis. Virginia Hayes

A Special Poem – Sis. Joslyn Robinson-Rasheed

Resolutions & Acknowledgments Sis. Latricia Holt

Video tribute [created by the Media Ministry of Mt. Sinai MBC]

Hymn of Consecration

Words of Comfort Dr. Larry G. Mills

Recessional – “Nobody Like You, Lord” ... Clergy, Family, & Friends

INTERMENT

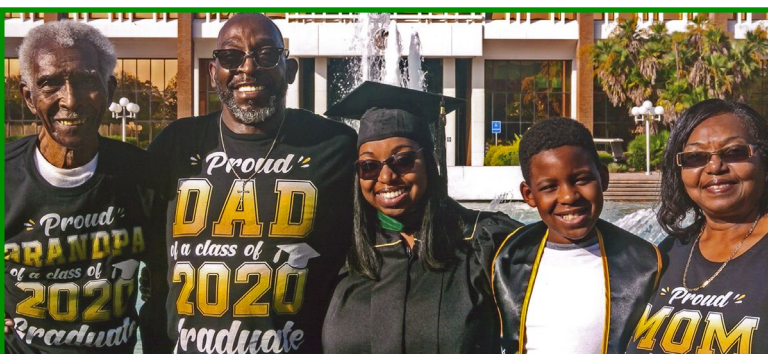
Washington Park Cemetery – 2600 Buton Blvd., Orlando 32811

REPAST

Immediately following the interment, the Family invites you to join them for a Repast here at Mt. Sinai MBC.

FROM Psalm 23 –

*“He maketh me to lie down in green
pastures: He leadeth me beside the still
waters. He restoreth my soul...”*



“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there will be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away.”

– Revelation 21:4

Pall Bearers

Ronald “Butch” Hayes
Oscar Hayes
Willie “Fat” Smith
Bernard Wade
Stanley Hall
Edmond “Big Mack” Mack

Flower Attendants

Joslyn Robinson-Rasheed
Ethel Jones
Jacquelyn Taylor
The Women of Sinai

In Appreciation

For each uttered prayer, for each lovely card,
for each beautiful flower, for all your
comforting words, your visits and your many
acts of kindness, we say THANK YOU!!

Please accept our sincere gratitude and know
that your love and support have meant more
to us than mere words could ever express.
May the blessings of God be yours forever!

We take solace in 1 Corinthians 2:9.....

*“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have
entered into the heart of man, the things which God
has prepared for those who love Him.”*

– The Heyward Family



I'm Free

©1974 by Anne L. Davison. Adapted for Rev. Heyward by Joslyn Robinson-Rasheed

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God has chose 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 reminisce on the days....

When I ran my businesses for so many days,
Hauling rock, garbage trucks, but best of all,
My Citrus crew in them Orange Groves,
Hence my name "Groveman."

Above all else, my faith in God, preaching the
Word – sharing with others the joy of the Lord.

To my **“Little Girl” Monique**, always remember,
Lock the doors and cut on the alarm!

To my **daughter-in-law Ron**, thank you for
being there and holding my hand until the end!

To my **son Dennis**, keep them wheels rollin'
like you did in the business!

To my **grandson TJ** – always remember
the lessons I taught you!

If my parting has left a void,
Fill it with remembered joys!
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
Look for the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full; WOW – 100 years!

I've savored much – a loving family,
good times, wonderful friends,
And so much love!

Don't extended your pain with undue
grief; go visit an Orange Grove,
Pick one off the tree!

Think of me and smile,
Lift your heart and peace to thee.
See, God was ready for me,
I'm in His grove now –
He has set me free!

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