



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

*Elder*  
**FRANKLIN C. EAVES**

**Sunrise June 13, 1962**

**Sunset June 14, 2023**

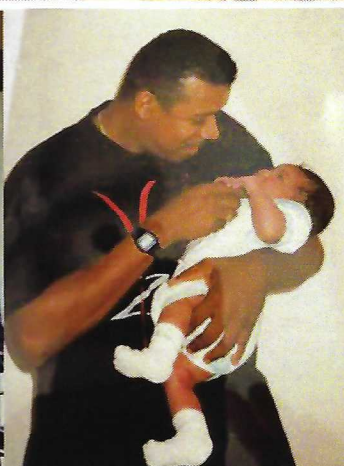
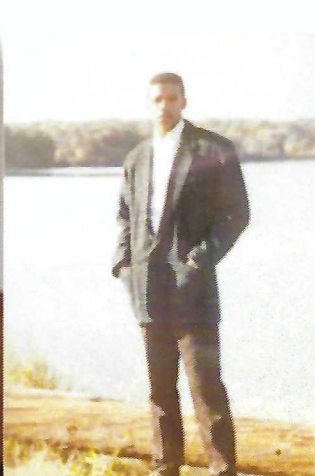
**Wednesday, June 21, 2023**

**1:00 PM**

**New Mercies Christian Church  
4000 Five Forks Trickum Rd. SW  
Lilburn, GA 30047**

**Pastor Jesse Curney, III, Senior Pastor  
Elder James Walker, Officiating**







# Obituary

*To everything, there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. Ecclesiastes 3*

## ***A Time to Be Born***

On Wednesday, June 13, 1962 in Shelby, North Carolina, God granted a healthy baby boy to the late Carl Allison and Lizzie Dawkins Eaves. Since a very young age, Franklin was taught the Word of God at Hopewell Baptist Church in Shelby. He matriculated through the educational system and became a 1980 graduate of Crest Senior High School.

## ***A Time of War, and a Time of Peace***

He was dedicated to serving his country by joining the United States Army. Elder Eaves served in Germany from 1983-1986 as a Medical Specialist and received an honorable discharge.

## ***A Time to Rend, and a Time to Sow***

As an experienced Taekwondo six-degree black belt, Franklin taught combat techniques as a Martial Arts Instructor. Franklin attended the Atlanta College of Medical and Dental Careers, American University, Dekalb College, and The Atlanta Area School for The Deaf.

## ***A Time to Love***

Franklin loved to serve as a member of New Mercies Christian Church in Lilburn, Georgia under the leadership of Pastor Jesse Curney, III. Elder Franklin was a faithful and dedicated Servant, Elder, and Church Interpreter for the deaf ministry. He was an Instructor for Project Destiny in Lithonia, Georgia.

## ***A Time to Keep Silent and a Time to Speak***

Interpreter Eaves was very active in the Deaf Community. He served as a Sign Language Interpreter and travelled worldwide interpreting for many events, corporations, organizations, including the United States White House. He served as scholarship committee chairperson of The National Alliance of Black Interpreters (NAOBI) of Atlanta, Georgia. As a strong ally for the Deaf community and staple for NAOBI-ATLANTA, he will be greatly missed. His contributions to our organization and the profession of sign language interpreting will never be forgotten. Elder Eaves is also a founding member of United We Sign, a coalition of East Coast Church Interpreters. He championed the work of The International Institute of Deaf Services, Inc., a source for faith-based interpreters across the country, offering training and resources for Deaf leadership and Deaf empowerment. Elder Eaves is the founder of Prophetic Hands Deaf Ministry at New Mercies. He's provided interpreting services for the National Baptist Church Convention, Manpower Conference, Black Voters Matter, and The National Action Network.

## ***A Time to Die***

He is preceded in death by his parents and five siblings, Arthur Eaves, Jr., Dorothy Eaves Lowe, Martha Eaves Winston, Belvin G. Eaves, and Patsy Eaves Hopper. Mr. Franklin C. Eaves heard the clarion call and departed this life on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at Emory Decatur Hospital in Decatur, Georgia.

## ***A Time to Embrace***

He is survived by four sisters, Emma Eaves McGill Roseboro - Capitol Heights, Maryland, Barbara Eaves Jackson-Muhammad - Raleigh, North Carolina, Brenda (Alvin) Moses - Shelby, North Carolina and Alma (Kenny) Jackson - Shelby, North Carolina; sister-in-law, Wanda Guest - Shelby, North Carolina; TWO SPECIAL & DEVOTED NIECES, ANTOINETTE TUCKER - Lithonia, Georgia and RENA WHITE - Decatur, Georgia; God-children - London and Brynyale; numerous nieces, nephews, a host of relatives and friends.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Musical Prelude*

*Processional*

*Old Testament*                      *Dr. Benjamin Gaither*

*New Testament*                      *Starr Rayford, Prophetic Hands Deaf Ministry Director*

*Invocation*                              *Elder Michelle Smith*

*Selection*                                *Tasha Smith – “I Won’t Complain”*  
*Interpreted by Janet Hill*

*Reflections 2-3 minutes*              *Church Member -Elder Judy Hill, Prophetic Hands*  
*Childhood Friend – Victor Smith*  
*Best Friend - Rev. Paul William Ellis, IIDS*  
*Best Friend – Rosa Patterson, God’s Hands Deaf Ministry*  
*Family Member – Antoinette Tucker, Niece*

*Acknowledgments*                      *Elder Michelle Smith*

*Selection*                                *Beth Yancy – “Going up Yonder”*  
*Interpreted by Marsha Coles-Felix*

*Words of Comfort*                      *Pastor Jesse Curney, III*

*Recessional*

*Repast*

*New Mercies Christian Church Fellowship Hall*

*Balloon Release*

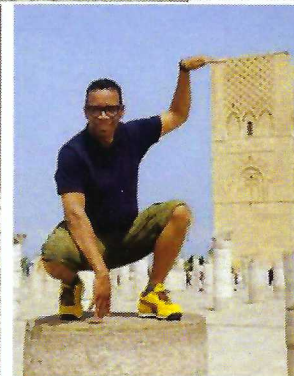
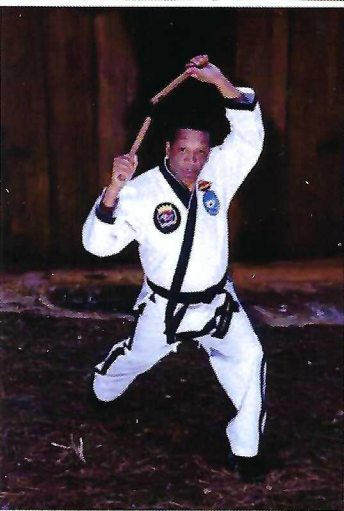
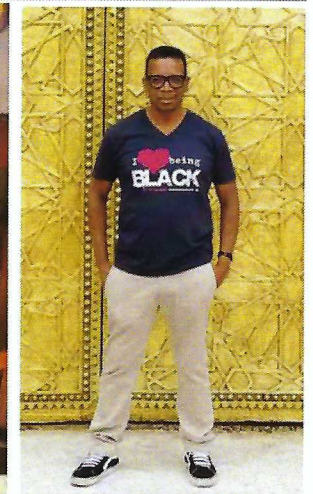
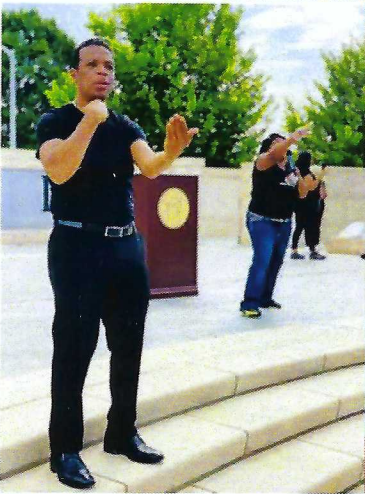
*Interment*

*Thursday, June 22, 2023 @ 1:00 PM*

*National Cemetery, Canton, Georgia*

*Sign Language Interpreter will be provided*







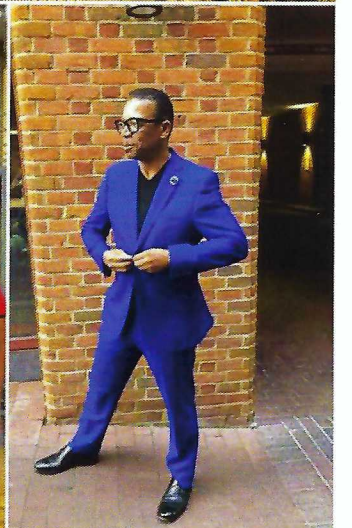
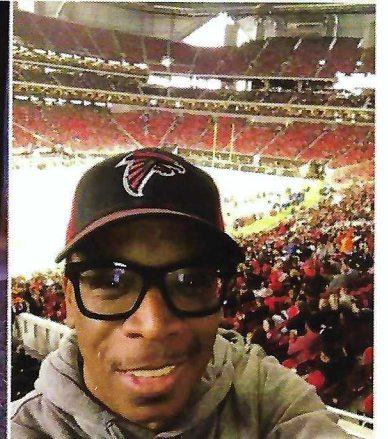


# A POEM FOR MY FAVORITE UNCLE

The random calls you gave me  
The beautiful smiles you always shared  
The love you always shared with the family  
The time you always spared  
The handsome face no one could resist  
The occasions that you NEVER missed  
God chose to have you join Him so soon  
The day after your birthday in June  
I love you favorite uncle.

Love Tanya







# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Elder Franklin C. Eaves would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for your comforting expressions of sympathy during the passing of our loved one. Thank you for your phone calls, social media posts, text messages, cards, flowers, visits, prayers and other acts of kindness. May God continue to bless each of you.

## PALL BEARERS

**Nephews, Elders, and Deacons**

## FLOWER BEARERS

**Prophetic Hands Deaf Ministry & Nieces**

## INTERPRETERS

**Janet Hill, Antioch Baptist Church  
Marsha Coles-Felix, Freelance Interpreter  
SOS Agency**



**4347 Flat Shoals Parkway  
Decatur, Georgia 30034**