

Active Pallbearers

Aaron Davis II | Bryson Davis | Addison Ivery III | Emmanuel Ivery
Joseph Ivery | Zechariah Ivery | Stephen Ivery | James Ivery

Honorary Pallbearers

Martin Davis | Aaron Davis, Sr. | Donte Davis | Vernon Davis
Gerard Davis | James Davis, Jr. | Micah Davis | Elisha Ivery

Danny R. Stewart, Minister of Music
Ceola Hogan, Pianist

Our Sincerest Appreciation

The family of Pastor Charles C. Davis would like to extend our sincere appreciation for all the love, prayers, and encouraging words we received during this extremely trying time. There are not enough words to express our gratitude for all the support we received during our bereavement. We will never forget your warmth, love and kindness.

~The Davis Family~

The Interment

Harmony Cemetery
12342 County Road 407 | Navasota, Texas 77868

Repast

Immediately Following the Services at
St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
Graciously Provided by Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Service Lovingly Fulfilled by



205 FIDELITY ST. HOUSTON TX. 77029 | 713.223.4966

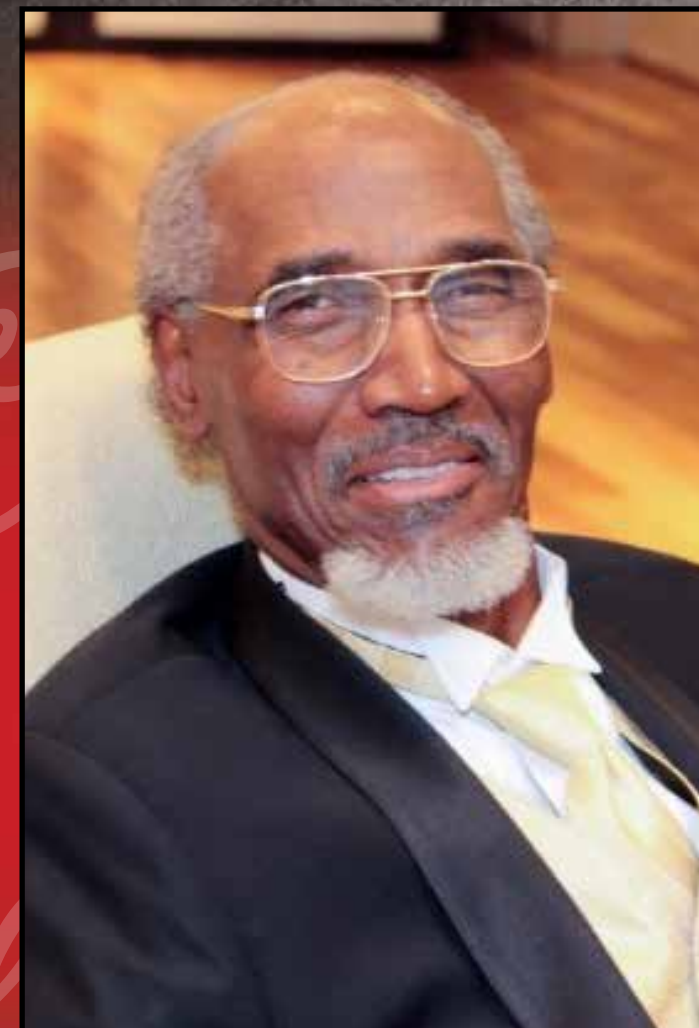


CELEBRATING THE LIFE, LOVE, AND LEGACY OF

Pastor Charles Cornelius Davis

Labor
June 16, 1944

Reward
July 14, 2021



"The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry."
Psalms 34:15

Homegoing Celebration

Saturday, July 24, 2021
11:00 AM

St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church
4602 Eli Street
Houston, Texas 77007

Pastor David Smith, Officiant
New Bethlehem Missionary Church



Obituary

On June 16, 1944, Charles Cornelius Davis was born to James and Mineola Davis in Houston, Texas. As the third born of ten children, Charles spent his formative years in the West End addition of the city. Charles attended Harper School and was a proud graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. He proudly wore the blue and gold as an offensive lineman for the Eagles football team which earned him a scholarship to Texas Southern University. He was actively involved in Booker T. Washington's alumni association. Later in life he furthered his education at the College of Biblical Studies, where he earned a certificate of organizational leadership.

As an outgoing child, Charles developed an early love of God and the church. He often stated that church attendance was not optional in their household as it was his mother's requirement. He spent much time at the original St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church, where he sang in the Celestial choir and later the Male Chorus. He often gave speeches under the direction of Elders Rosie Munks and Katie Mae Lindsey. This would later prove to be vital to his life experience and calling.

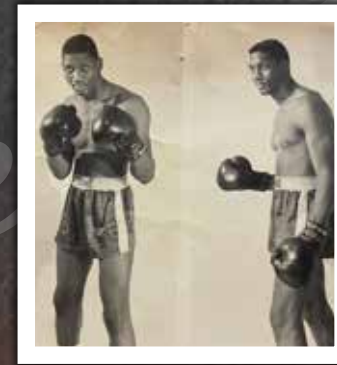
Charles began his career at the early age of twelve at Joe Bush Grocery Store on Patterson Street. He continued working in the grocery industry at Sacco Brothers, and then as a truck driver with Blue Ribbon and Decker Meat Company. He then became a tank truck driver for Exxon Mobile USA, where he served as a safety coordinator, driver trainer and was a member of the Accident Free-Million Mile Club. He also spent the final years of his career as a valued employee of U.S. Metals Inc., transporting pipes for the petro-chemical industry.

In his early 20s, Charles tried his hand at boxing, training out of the Roxy Gym. His boxing moniker was Charles "Chocolate Drop" Davis. He fought all over the region and eventually boxed for the Houston area Golden Glove's championship in the heavyweight division. One of his shining moments was fighting on the undercard of "Big Cat" Cleave Williams. In November of 1966, while training at the Roxy Gym, Bundini Brown approached Charles and asked him to tour the world as Muhammad Ali's sparing partner. He declined the invitation opting to instead raise his family.

In 1964, Charles married the love of his life, Glenora Manning, daughter of Norwood and Earnestine. He loved to tell the story of when he first saw his wife with her father at their watermelon stand in Navasota, TX. Their purpose filled marriage lasted 56 years until his glorious transition. As a beloved family man, Charles' pride and joy were his children: Lynn Charles Ivery (1967-2009), Aaron Glen Davis, Heather Davis, Martin Charles Davis, Amanda Faith Davis and Damitria Buchanan.

Charles was ordained as a Deacon at age 19. After answering the call to minister, he began serving for various churches, including his wife's home church, Pilgrim Point Missionary Baptist Church in Navasota. He spent his time at New Creature Christian Church in Houston as a Deacon. He also served in various capacities at Greenspoint Family Worship Center, where he developed lifelong friendships. In the early 1990s, Charles returned to his childhood roots at St. Mary's, became an ordained minister and served as Interim Pastor. Following the transition of his friend and mentor Rev. C.S. Gunnells, he was chosen as Senior Pastor, and was installed in April of 1999. His love for God drew many to Christ as he baptized, counseled and officiated marriage ceremonies for countless individuals. Pastor Davis poured his heart and soul into his long tenure with the church, and believed deeply in his congregation. Along with his wife First Lady Glenora, they led St. Mary's MBC to its 100th anniversary. Pastor Davis received proclamations from Mayor Sylvester Turner and United States Representative Sheila Jackson Lee, declaring June 9, 2019 as St. Mary's Baptist Church Day.

Pastor Charles Cornelius Davis departed this life on July 14, 2021. He was preceded in death by his parents James and Mineola Davis, grandparents Gil and Clara Davis, Sam and Daisy McNeal, a brother Donald Ray Davis, sisters Shirley Davis and Jacqueline Davis Goff, and daughter Lynn Davis Ivery. He leaves behind to cherish his memory, his wife, children, grandchildren: Addison Ivery III, Emmanuel Ivery, Elisha Ivery, Serah Ivery, Joseph Ivery, Zechariah Ivery, Esther Ivery, Stephen Ivery, James Ivery, Aaron Davis II, Bryson Davis, and Micah Davis. He also leaves to cherish his memory siblings Grace Thornton, James Davis, Jr., Geraldine Grant, Elaine Davis, Vernon Davis, and Gerard Davis, a very special niece Veronica Davis, his many additional nieces and nephews, and a host of relatives and friends.



“To Our Daddy” by Amanda Davis (Daughter, “The Baby”)

Daddy, there is an emptiness in our home without you. The home you worked so hard to secure is now missing its patriarch.

My heart longs to see you falling asleep while watching the Ten Commandments yet again, or hear about your trip to H-E-B. I want to watch you tap your size 14 foot to the Mighty Clouds of Joy, or chuckle at your dad jokes.

You would hum when you cooked breakfast for us in the morning.
Spoil the grandkids with cash, toys, and treats. Give the best car advice.

Now that you have passed from this life, I can finally admit that I was blessed to be spoiled by you the most. I never wanted for anything. You knew I could, but would rarely let me get my own oil changed. I miss that pen in your plaid shirt pocket. The way you patched things up with Duck Tape. Your affinity for Blue Bell Homemade Vanilla Ice Cream. Your ball caps and aviator sunglasses. I long to hold your boxing worthy hands, and still marvel at how my whole hand fit in your palm. I wait for your phone calls of prayer and encouragement. I still walk gingerly past your study as to not disturb you in deep sermon preparation and intercession. Though I never liked the food, I even miss sitting with you at Luby’s, where you would offer everyone at the table a wet nap, neatly tucked in your stash of pocket goodies.

I miss all the things that made you, you. But what I cherish the most is what made you more than a father, but our Dad.

We mourn the guidance we no longer have,
As your absence leaves us looking for our life’s compass.
And I grieve for my future children who will never know their incredible granddad as Addison III to Micah have known.

But we rejoice for your life, for all the people you impacted, for the legacy you leave
With your children and grandchildren.

Dad, thank you for raising a fearless leader in Aaron.
A compassionate yet fierce woman in Heather.
A goal oriented man in Martin.
A resilient woman in me.

Thank you for your beautiful contributions in Damitria’s life.
And for loving our mother unconditionally.

Daddy, in this heartbreaking moment, Heather recalled one of your many powerful sermons:
“When up is down, and down is up, and foolishness makes sense.”
So help us make sense of what direction to head without you, and give us the strength to move forward.
It was and is an honor to be your baby.
You always loved a good headpiece, so I hope your crown fits well.
Fly high, and enjoy the rest you have earned.
Hold Lynn close for us.
We will see you again.

Love, Your Amanda Faith

“I Thought of You with Love Today”

I thought of you with love today,
But that is nothing new.
I thought about you yesterday,
And days before that too.
I think of you in silence,
I often speak your name.
All I have are memories,
And a picture in a frame,
Your memory is a keepsake,
With which I’ll never part.
God has you in His keeping,
I have you in my heart.

On behalf of First Lady Glenora Davis (Wife of 56 Years)

Order of Service

- Processional** Clergy and Family
- Scripture Readings**
 - Old Testament..... Rev. Randy Tims
 - New Testament Pastor Rickey Manning
- Prayer of Comfort**..... Pastor G.T. Curry, Sr.
- Praise and Worship**..... St. Mary’s MBC Choir
- Resolutions and Acknowledgments**Sis. Jackie McMillian
- Spoken Word Tribute** Sis. Laquita Sanders
- Praise and Worship**..... St. Mary’s MBC Choir
- Ecumenical Expressions** 2 minutes Please
 - Pastor Rickey Manning
 - Rev. Randy Tims
 - Rev. James McCutcheon Jr.
 - Rev. Larry Briscoe
 - Rev. Ronald Clayton
 - Pastor Kelvin Washington
 - Pastor Sean Wilburn
- Special Expressions**
 - My Spiritual Son Pastor G.T. Curry, Sr.
 - Solo Kiki Whitfield
 - My Father..... Aaron G. Davis, Sr.
- Congregational Praise** Amazing Grace
- Words of Comfort**..... Pastor Murdock Smith, Jr.
- Recessional**Sis. Geraldine Peavy Williams



Tributes of Love and Compassion to our Beloved Charles

“Brother Charles” written by Hester Townsend (Sister in Love)

Charles, when you married our sister in 1964, Glenora, you became our seventh brother, from another mother. Deacon Norwood and Mother Earnestine embraced you as their son, and you became an addition to our family. You came with outstretched arms to welcome us into your loving home. God sent you to us with a purpose in mind, for his glory. You shared your love, joy and faith in God.

You made our day brighter with laughter, love, and gifts. You became attached to the country and the church. We loved to hear your soulful duet with Glenora and your powerful preaching. You were a Godsend in dire circumstances, no matter the time of day. Your prayers were heard by God and saved us from our miscues. We thank God for your loving spirit and the blessing of your life. We still hear your voice and know you are praising God singing, “Somewhere Around God’s Throne.” We will miss our seventh brother, but we know that you are resting in glory and receiving your heavenly reward.

From the Norwood Manning Family

“To My Big Brother, Charles” by Geraldine Grant (Sister)

I am so proud and happy to have you in my life as a brother in the flesh and a brother in Christ. I enjoyed our morning conversations the past 2 years since I retired. They were so enlightening and helped me to start a great day. I have always admired your compassion for others. You cared more for others than yourself, even as a child. Our mother loved to leave you in charge because you did such an awesome job taking care of the younger siblings and tidying up the house. As an older sibling, I recall how you even used to try to comb Jackie’s and my hair when you kept us on a few occasions. I never told you, but Jackie and I would try to change those hair styles all day long. You gave up opportunities to run and play outside to care for us. I witnessed you carry this same love through your adult life with your wife, your children and grandchildren. As the song says, “Did You Ever Know That You Are My Hero?” I love you, Brother Charles C. Davis.

“You have fought a good fight, finished the course and have kept the faith.” II Timothy 4:7

Geraldine and the Davis Siblings

“To Our Loving Uncle and Pastor” by Veronica Davis (Niece and Youth Ministry Leader)

There are 171,146 words in the English language, but nothing can truly describe what you mean to us. You are a gentle giant filled with compassion and love. You are a role model and hero to us all. We love how you encourage and support us without judgement. You allowed us to develop and grow under your leadership. The impact you made is indescribable. Our lives are forever changed. We appreciate how you catch us before we fall. From you, we always received wisdom, understanding, and patience with a smile that lit up our hearts and lifted our spirit. Because of you, we know that storms may come but are meant to pass. Because of you, we know how to be humble and kind. Because of you, we do honest work. Because of you, we look after each other. Because of you, we know how to take care of cars. Because of you, we know our hope is in Christ Jesus. We are all better, braver, and wiser because of your presence in our lives. Uncle Charles, you took a huge piece of our hearts but the part that is still here will never forget you. Time is filled with swift transitions, but you taught us to build our hopes on things eternal and hold on to God’s unchanging hand. Our hearts ache, but we take comfort in knowing that you completed your assignment and have gained your crown in glory. We love you!

*Your Nieces and Nephews
“Tribute to Charles Davis”*

Charles Davis was a friend and brother of a lifetime. I first met him at church where we attended together, and later found out that we both worked for the same company. We developed a very close relationship over the years in so much that we became like family.

I recall the many hours we spent in prayer together and sharing God’s word with one another. Charles Davis loved God with all his heart and wanted everyone to know it. He loved his family and church where he served God faithfully.

Charles stood tall not only in stature but also in the way he lived his life. He was truly a man of honor and integrity

who kept his word in a world where this is seemingly rare. This trait he would also pass on to his kids leaving a legacy that will continue for many generations.

I have truly been blessed to spend so much time over the years with such a great friend who had a tremendous impact on my life and family. He will be greatly missed.

Brother Milton Thigpen (Friend)

“A Tribute to Pastor Charles C. Davis, a Friend of Mine and Yours”

It is with great honor and admiration that I share with you a few words about my pastor and friend, Charles C. Davis.

Pastor was anointed, sanctified, and set aside for this great work of God. Though very serious about the ministry, he was accessible, approachable, and a pleasant person to be around. As members would greet him, we’d often say, “We’ve got the best pastor this side of the Mississippi!” to which he would just say, “Y’all go on with that!” He was the type of leader you could let your hair down around, and be yourself. I believe Jesus was like that, as scripture says, “He ate with the publicans and sinners.”

Pastor Davis set a great example for me as a younger man, husband, and father. As a member of church staff, I learned some vital aspects of leadership as it relates to ministering to God’s people. One of his greatest tools as a pastor was the willingness and the ability to encourage the brethren.

Myself, my wife Barbara and the entire St. Mary’s Family do salute him today for a life well lived, and a job well done!

Rev. Danny R. Stewart (Minster of Music for St. Mary’s Missionary Baptist Church)

A Tribute to Granddaddy by Serah Ivery (Eldest Granddaughter)

(I created this piece from a collection of key words and phrases us grandchildren use to describe him.)

Let us tell you about our grandfather, and the amazing impact he had on us, for there were many great qualities he possessed, more than what our language would even allow us to discuss. You see, his amazing attitude alone was enough to make us want to be better, and combined with his sense of style and love for cooking, he was a true trend setter. Granddaddy was a great leader, a wonderful mentor, and a truly inspirational man, but above all he was a devoted man of God, with a loving and generous hand, radiating care and support to those he loved, he always moved so selflessly. He faithfully showed us all what it truly meant to be family.

“Hello Dad” by Martin Davis (Youngest Son)

You have always and will always be more than you could ever know in my life. I speak to you in third person because you have belief system that says you have moved to a greater dimension and a much better place. You taught me so much sir. You showed me how to live purely by example and that was enough. You took great care to be at your best for my mom. That was admirable sir.

I gently felt your impression in every move I made this far in life. Though I can’t get you back, I hang on to what you are and were to those you held close. You made mistakes and so do we all. You chose loyalty and support because you cared and not because you had anything to gain.

Dad, I got my height from you, my signature trait. From there I wanted to be you more and more. I wanted longevity at my job and in my career because of you. I wore suits that I thought you might appreciate in ministry. You’re and will always be a soul that influenced towards good things. This is why my son will cherish your memory much like I did your dad sir.

You cooked, you cleaned; there was little you didn’t do. Not I or those you left behind could understand that drive.

May your memory shine bright forever.

I love you, MCD