



Pastor Luther Archer Sr.

November 23, 1945 - June 18, 2021

Pastor Luther Archer, Sr., son of Lieutenant Archer and Eunice Brown Mayfield Archer, was born on November 23, 1945, in Petersburg, Virginia. He was called home to be with the Lord on June 18, 2021. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Dorothy L. Botts.

Pastor Luther, as he was affectionately known, publicly confessed Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior at an early age and was baptized at Refuge Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Petersburg, VA under the leadership of Bishop Floyd Hill, Sr.

Thereafter, he began to run his race of faith, excelling in commitment to not only sharing the Word of the Lord, but also in exemplifying the fruit of the Spirit in both his walk and his talk. He was recognized locally for his pioneering efforts in the spiritual growth and development of individuals and his longstanding pastoral leadership.

He received his early education in the City of Petersburg Public School System. With a commitment to fulfilling God's plan for his life, he continued on as a scholar extraordinaire in religious studies and leadership. As a lifelong avid learner passionate about sharing the unadulterated Word of God, he attended many institutions of higher learning such as the Central Virginia School of Ministry, the Temple Bethel Jewish Synagogue, the Elijah House

Training for Prayer Ministry, the American Association of Christian Counselors, and the Billy Graham School of Evangelism. Academically accomplished, Pastor Luther accrued a long list of diplomas, certificates, and advanced degrees, including but not limited to: BA-Biblical Studies; MA-Christian Counseling/Psychology (Carolina University of Theology); MA - Theology (Oral Roberts University); and was currently in pursuit of a Doctorate in Theology (Oral Roberts University).

Often introducing himself as a herald of the Word of God, he followed the Jabez call on his life for kingdom work and an enlarged territory resulting in international missions and ministry. His work in missions took him to Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Romania and India where hundreds of souls were led to Christ.

In addition, he also attained an extensive leadership portfolio that included pastoring positions in the House of Prayer, Chesterfield (now Hope Point Church), the New Hope Assembly, Refuge Assembly of Yahweh, and founding and Senior Pastor of Shepherd's Heart Christian Fellowship.

Though he was well-educated, he did not boast of these achievements, but rather, as an ambassador for Christ, he boldly declared the greatness and faithfulness of our God.

He married Carolyn Dianne Smith in August 1988, and together they embarked on planting and watering in the vineyard. Honoring the vision given to him by God to go into the city, he and Carolyn founded Shepherd's Heart Christian Fellowship in October 2007. Under his leadership and strong belief in the five-fold ministry, the principles of Grace, Faith, and Transformation were in full operation and miraculous signs and wonders occurred. Numerous lives were impacted by his teachings, ministry of healing and deliverance, and evangelical outreach initiatives. He sounded the clarion call for a harvest of

souls, salvation, and the reality of access into the realm of our supernatural God. The Lord also directed him to ordain and train four Elders to assist in shepherding the flock and equipping the saints. Even during his health challenges, he continued to stand on the promises of God, to mentor, to speak faith words, and to pray a special blessing over those under his umbrella of care as he never ceased to glorify God.

Indeed an anointed man after God's own heart, Pastor Luther will also be remembered for his infectious laughter, his beatific smile, his magnanimous heart, his taste for chicken, and the fact that he never met a stranger. If you ever visited the church where he pastored, he claimed you! He sincerely loved God and he loved people in an inclusive manner.

He leaves to cherish precious memories his loving and devoted wife, Carolyn Dianne Archer; sons: Luther Archer, Jr. and Rodney Archer, of Richmond, VA; and D'Angelo (Michael Eugene Archer); step-sons: Rudolph W. Smith, Jr. of Leawood, KS and Zuriel J. Smith of Richmond, VA; step-daughter: Sherita D. Smith of Hanover, MD; brother: Elder Eddie Archer (Sylvia) of Richmond, VA ; sister: Ann Johnson of Spring, TX; brother-in-law: Attorney David Lett of Henrico, VA; sisters-in-law: Wilda Worsham and Evangeline Henderson both of Richmond, VA; 4 grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; three special nephews: Ralph Johnson (Spring, TX), Ronald Wriley (Charlotte, NC), and James Kirby Botts (Richmond, VA); devoted spiritual sons Pastors David McGhee and Kevin Meade, Sr.; a devoted friend of 57+ years, Pastor Lawrence Wilson; and the devoted elders (Jacqueline Coleman, Von Tisdale, and Mike West) and family of Shepherd's Heart Christian Fellowship.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **25**. 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes
2110 E. Laburnum Ave
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of Life

JUN **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ the King Cathedral
5601 Bryce Lane
RICHMOND
Richmond, VA 23224

Tribute Wall



“ *he was a very funny uncle and loving Uncle*

DAWSON - September 03, 2025 at 04:46 PM



“ *Pastor Luther Archer Sr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *To my uncle Archer, I will never forget you. I send you all the flowers and roses. God lead me down the path of going to a pastoral school and I didn't know why, but I went anyway. Enjoy heaven uncle one day I'll finally show you that preach and pray God wanted you to see. God bless the family*

Queen - April 30, 2022 at 04:42 PM



“ *Rodney, Luther and Michael, I was so sorry to hear of the loss of our father. But celebrate his transition. It has been years since I've communicated with any of you. However, I came in contact with your father in 2014 when he officiated my uncle's marriage and we stayed in touch for a brief time when he added me to his email list of his online ministry recordings. May he soar with the eagles and smile with the angels and shine in God's glory.*

*Allison (Richardson) Warren
Henrico High Class of 1983*

Allison Warren - June 29, 2021 at 01:13 PM

J-

“ *To THE Archer Family:
May GodsGrace be
sufficient. Be strong
In the Lord.
Johnnie Brown Jr & Marcia
Peabody High school
Class1964*



Johnnie Brown jr. Former Class -mate - June 29, 2021 at 12:58 PM

MR

“ *Mandy Rosinski-Raines lit a candle in
memory of Pastor Luther Archer Sr.*



Mandy Rosinski-Raines - June 28, 2021 at 06:18 PM

TJ

“ *I remember how loving and sweet Pastor Archer was to my entire
family, as members of The New Hope Assembly of Yahweh, Yeshua
The Messiah Church in Richmond, Va.
He was by far the best minister I have ever had!!!!
We will always love you, Pastor Luther Archer and the entire Archer
family!!!*



Tamra Jordan-Brown and family!

Tamra Jordan-Brown - June 28, 2021 at 01:11 AM

MD

“ Sending our deepest condolence to First lady Carolyn Archer, children, grandchildren, family, close friends and church family. My husband and I and my parents met Pastor Luther Archer through my twin brother, sister in law first lady Brenda Taylor during the passing of our son. Pastor Luther Archer along with Bishop Samuel Peters took part in the home going service for our son Anthony Dilworth. We will never forget the outpour of love, prayers and support shown to our family by Pastor Luther Archer. Sending prayers and comfort to Lady Carolyn Archer and family.



Mrs. Melissa H Dilworth and family

Melissa Dilworth - June 26, 2021 at 01:58 PM

IA

“ Rest In Peace Papa Luther

*Love Always
Imani*



Imani Archer - June 26, 2021 at 11:21 AM

IA

“ Rest in Peace Papa Luther. We will miss you. Heaven could not wait to receive you. Praying for all those who loved you, im sorry time ran out before we could visit. Love Always Imani and Marcia

Imani Archer - June 26, 2021 at 11:16 AM

VA

Condolences on the loss of your grandfather and now father Imani.

God bless you

Vanessa - October 22, 2025 at 02:49 PM

CB

“ *Dear Luther, Michael and Rodney. We (Michael and I) have asked God to comfort you beyond comprehension and to give you many joyful memories to sustain your hearts and soul as only He can. With love , Michael and Connie Bennett*

Connie Bennett - June 26, 2021 at 09:55 AM

BH

“ *Bishop Henry Hargrove and daughter Gracie Hargrove purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..*



Bishop Henry Hargrove and daughter Gracie Hargrove -
June 26, 2021 at 09:08 AM

BD

“ *Pastor Luther Archer and The Spirit of Truth Ministries shared the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the masses. I remember how we joined together in evangelistic ministry at his Maury Street location building the kingdom of God He was anointed with wisdom and understanding of the Word. He was a great Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ. We were blessed to know him. Love always to his wonderful wife, Carolyn and family. Dr. Barbara Williams Thomas*

Barbara Williams Thomas Evangelist Dr. - June 26, 2021 at 09:05 AM

TR

“ *Pastor Luther made a great impact on my life and the life of my family. He will be tremendously missed.*

Tamara Alexander Ryan

Tamara A Ryan - June 25, 2021 at 04:25 PM

JL

“ *Peace & Blessing,
I would like to give my condolences to the family.
And may you find comfort and strength in your memories.*

Jennifer Luttrell - June 25, 2021 at 10:14 AM

MS

My Deepest Condolence to The Archer Family. He will truly be missed but not Forgotten. May He " R.I.P." Milton L. Courts Sr.

Milton L. Courts Sr. - June 25, 2021 at 06:40 PM

CW

Sending my heartfelt condolences to the Archer family. Our families grew up in church together. There are many memories that I reflect on. May Yahweh continue to send the family comfort during this difficult time.

*Sincerely
Cheryl Simms Wright*

Cheryl Wright - June 25, 2021 at 10:15 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..*



June 25, 2021 at 09:41 AM

AB

“ My sincere condolences to First Lady Carolyn and the Archer family. Pastor Luther was truly a blessing to me. His prayers and encouraging words helped keep me sane during my experience in Afghanistan. I will never forget the love he and the Shepherd’s Heart family always showed me every time I visited the church. He was such a wonderful man of God. Love you Pastor Luther, you will truly be missed!

Annette Bailey - June 25, 2021 at 08:18 AM

JG

“ Bubbie Tossed sends his luv

James Rooser and wife Gayle - June 25, 2021 at 12:15 AM

MC

“ A couple of pictures I wanted to share Pastor Luther graduating from Oral Roberts University and graduating from high school.



Mark Croy - June 24, 2021 at 07:18 PM

MC

“ Pastor Luther when Carolyn told me that possibly you only had a week to live I didn't want to believe it I figured the Lord would heal you and everything would be just fine. I stop Burying my head in the sand and faced reality that one of my most beloved pastors , Mentor and a good friend is about ready to pass. I want to tell you a piece of you lives in me and if I can be half the man you were then I would consider my life accomplished. You were my mentor there was no pretense with you you were a true man of God. You didn't have your hand on God and one hand on the world trying to satisfy both. You had both hands on God I had my hands on your feet just trying to receive some of the anointing. I could laugh with you in your car over a Starbucks coffee over the most silliest things and know that I could call you for some of the most serious issues in my life. You will be truly missed but you will always be thought of in the greatest regard. Like Elijah giving Elisja a double portion can you please send that down from heaven now on me LOL. I'll always miss you brother and I will always love you in my heart. I will see you again in the future.

Mark Croy - June 24, 2021 at 07:10 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..



June 24, 2021 at 04:06 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..*



June 24, 2021 at 10:57 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..*



June 24, 2021 at 10:23 AM



“ *Pastor Archer was a very nice Man of God, and truly loved the Lord. I remember Pastor Archer and that infectious Smile. His entire face lit up when he smiled, talked about the Lord , his church and congregation he loved so much. Pastor Archer, will be missed.*

Christine Hall - June 23, 2021 at 06:39 PM



Pastor Luther Archer, was the nephew of my late dad JOE Nathan Brown , brother of his late mother Eunice Archer. My family miss him so much, my family pray for his family we luv him so. My brother Tracy Brown and my mom Daisy Brown his aunt from his uncle Joe Nathan had become so closed couple years he has prayed for our family all the time and we thank him so much for that and he will be missed so much God bless his family and luv may he be received in the arms of Jesus in his holy name, hallelujah, luv u cuz Sandra Swafford and my family

Sandra F Swafford - June 25, 2021 at 08:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..*



June 23, 2021 at 05:51 PM



“ *To Carolyn Archer and all his family, Abel and I send our deepest condolences. Truly the joy of the Lord was Luther's strength. He never met a stranger and was a light in the darkness to many. His most beautiful quality was his humble spirit and his love of the Lord and the Word. He was ever learning and so ready to share. We will surely miss him, but great is his reward in Heaven and many are the stars on his crown. Carolyn, we send our love and embrace you in prayer.*

Abel and Irma Guajardo

Irma Guajardo - June 23, 2021 at 10:43 AM



“ *Pastor Luther and 1st Lady Carolyn poured so much love and time and wisdom into my life. Pastor Luther was my friend, counselor, and brother in Christ. Such a wise and down to earth man, he was a humble and true servant of God sharing Christ with everyone. With the Bainbridge Church mission, I was allowed me to serve with him and Carolyn by teaching a GED course. I was so honored as Pastor Luther and Carolyn allowed me to be their realtor buying and selling their homes. As he dances in heaven with Jesus and all who have gone before, his legacy will live on, touching many lives.*

Janie Peterson

Jane C Peterson - June 23, 2021 at 10:43 AM

MC

“ To the family & friends of Luther Archer,

We at Mount Calvary Cemetery wish to express our deepest sympathies for the loss of your loved one and we pray that God will help to ease your pain in the days to come. We are proud and honored to be chosen as the final resting place for Luther. This is a responsibility that we do not take lightly and I pledge the highest level of perpetual care to honor his memory. Please do not hesitate to call us with any concerns or if there is anything we can do to make these difficult experiences any easier.

*Jim Glass
General Mgr.
Mount Calvary Cemetery
804-355-5271*

Mount Calvary Cemetery - June 23, 2021 at 10:10 AM

PW

“ *Pastor Luther we love you so much and will never forget your ministry at THOP. Also the many times we spent together eating that food “chicken”. We will miss you and will see you in heaven when we get there. We love you and thank God for the ministry you brought to us and our family.*



Peggy whitfield - June 23, 2021 at 09:52 AM

RJ

“ *Ruth Jackson lit a candle in memory of Pastor Luther Archer Sr.*



Ruth Jackson - June 23, 2021 at 07:48 AM

CH

“ Claire Harbour purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..



Claire Harbour - June 23, 2021 at 07:30 AM

PS

“ My heart is sad to hear about his death. I know he is rejoicing in heaven. My condolences and love go out to his family. My fondest memory is him singing at my wedding and stopping by unannounced just to chat. He will be dearly missed. 😭

Peggy Stells - June 23, 2021 at 06:51 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pastor Luther Archer Sr..



June 22, 2021 at 09:19 PM

EB

“ What Jere and I remember most about Pastor Luther (in our 24+ year relationship) was he always had a heart for the lost and that he never said an unkind word about thing about anyone. I was honored to do a portrait of him and his lovely wife, Carolyn. He will be greatly missed. Jere and Elaine Bankston



Elaine Bankston - June 22, 2021 at 07:24 PM

TR

“ I met pastor Luther through the House of Prayer back in 2001. He was an amazing man of God along aside of him was his blessed wife Carolyn. This godly couple took me as I was and helped formed me into who I needed to be in the sights of God. The Worship would get you on your feet. Mission trips with you had such an impact on people lives that will never be forgotten. You made a difference on earth so I believe God is pleased with you and welcomed you with open arms. Please watch down on your family and your brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. I will miss you... Tina Rodrigues and Family



Tina Rodrigues - June 22, 2021 at 06:21 PM



“ You know, I’ve been sitting around for the last 2 years anxiously waiting for Covid to be all over just to hear another one of your sermons in person. I’ve chimed in online before but your presence was always much more extraordinary in person. You were 1 of 3 people in my life who could keep in interested in the word of God and helped me believe. I know you’ve touched many hearts before and after me, but you always made me feel special. Truly will be missed is what I have to say, only because I can’t think of a stronger conviction! ❤️



Your Fellowship Member,
Hunter Lee Prophet III

Hunter Prophet - June 22, 2021 at 04:17 PM



“ Oh my, Pastor Archer I can't believe you are gone. You shall surely be missed! Don and I appreciate you so much! You were so good to us! You taught us so much and you loved us. Rest in heaven and get your reward!
To the family you have my deepest sympathy and love!

Jacqueline Coleman - June 22, 2021 at 02:04 PM



Condolences and prayers to Carolyn and Shepherd Heart family! He made his mark!PHILLIPIANS 3:14 lil bruh

Bishop MILTON J Hunt - June 22, 2021 at 04:47 PM



Pastor Archer Your teachings and smiling face will surely be missed Rest in Heavenly Peace. Bernadette

Bernadette - June 22, 2021 at 06:15 PM

CH

THankful for having served alongside Luther and Carolyn, and for loving correction even if I didnt want to hear it-with loving grace Luther could spank your behind and steer one toward their God ordained path

Claire Harbour - June 23, 2021 at 07:40 AM

AP

Truly he was a Man of God. I shall miss your smiling face and your words of comfort. Rest In Peace. You are finally in Paradise.

Althea Parham - June 23, 2021 at 11:42 AM

AP

Truly you are a man of God. I shall miss your smiling face and words of comfort. Rest In Peace, Pastor. You finally made it to paradise....My condolences to the family.

Althea Parham - June 23, 2021 at 11:45 AM

RF

“ My prayers and sympathy are with you Sis Carolyn and the family in the loss of your loved one ♡

Ruby Foxx - June 22, 2021 at 01:49 PM

VP

“ Pastor Archer will be greatly missed by my family and I. We were apart of his flock for at least 10yrs or more. I appreciate every thing you taught me about the Bible. Such a wonderful teacher and great person all around. Your work here is done and now you can rest eternally. My deepest condolences and prayers to First Lady Carolyn and the rest of his family. May the Lord continue to give you strength through these days and days ahead.

*Virginia "Nikki" Pulliam
A member of Sheppard's Heart Christian Fellowship*

Virginia Pulliam - June 22, 2021 at 01:21 PM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

March Funeral Homes - June 22, 2021 at 11:57 AM