



Supt. Melvin L. Rouse, Sr.

August 8, 1953 - December 10, 2013

Superintendent Melvin L. Rouse, Sr., Senior Pastor and Founder of Agape Deliverance Church Of God In Christ (COGIC), made his transition to his heavenly home on Tuesday the 10th of December.

He was the youngest son born to Harriet and George Rouse on August 8th 1953 in Portsmouth, VA. He was as a bright and fiery child, brimming with charisma. Possessing an infectious smile, he could light up any room.

Supt. Rouse was raised in the St. James Church Of God In Christ under the tutelage of Supt. Batlener Small. At the tender age of 13, Supt. Rouse heeded the call of the Lord and delivered his first sermon at the St. James COGIC. As a young minister of the Gospel his wit, candor, blistering and anointed delivery opened many doors resulting in many souls being saved and delivered. He served as the President of the Portsmouth District Youth

Department (YPWW) for several years and during this time he began to travel across the State of Virginia preaching the Gospel.

Upon meeting and marrying the love of his life, Lady Shirley Weatherspoon Rouse, he moved to Richmond, VA where he joined the Redeem COGIC under the leadership of his father-in-law, the late Supt. Willie Weatherspoon. While at Redeem he served as President of the Elders & Ministers Department and as Associate Pastor. He was appointed President of the State Evangelist Department for Virginia 2nd Jurisdiction under the leadership of Bishop Samuel L. Green where he served for 17 years. Supt. Rouse travelled across the nation carrying the message of Jesus Christ to the lost.

He remained at Redeem COGIC until his appointment to the pastorate at Good Samaritan COGIC in Lynchburg, VA. He brought stability to the church and made great strides in community outreach and in the development of the spiritual and personal lives of the membership. Upon entering the pastorate in Lynchburg he immediately set about renovating and beautifying the house of God. It was not long until Supt. Rouse heeded the call of the Lord and founded the Agape Deliverance COGIC in Richmond, VA in 1990.

Supt. Rouse worked in various other capacities in church. He served as Regional Ambassador by the National Evangelist Department, Piedmont District Executive Secretary, Piedmont District Auxiliaries in Ministry President, District Institute Leader, and District Finance Secretary.

In 2001, Supt. Rouse and the Agape church family joined the New Deliverance Fellowship Conference of Churches under the leadership of Bishop Gerald O. Glenn (Auxiliary Bishop to the COGIC and Administrative Assistant of the North Carolina 2nd Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the COGIC). He worked in close cooperation with Bishop Glenn to herald the good news of the Lord and helped push the fellowship to new heights. While working with Bishop Glenn he was introduced to the late Bishop C.E. Anderson, Sr. then Jurisdictional Prelate of the North Carolina 2nd Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the COGIC. Impressed with his candor and passion for Gods' people, Supt. Rouse joined NC 2nd Jurisdiction and was the last appointee to the office of Superintendent by the late Bishop Anderson, Sr..

Uplifting and empowering ALL of Gods' people was Supt. Rouse's passion and purpose!

He brought vitality, life and joy to every project. Supt. Rouse proved himself to be a true man of discipline and principle. He stood firm on what he believed yet he was not so unyielding as to lose compassion for those with which he disagreed. A motivated and mighty man of God, Supt. Rouse preached the gospel with clarity and conviction. Yet his greatest testament was the way in which he lived his life, a true embodiment of James chapter 2 verse 26; "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." Supt. Rouse truly loved and cared for people; he gave of himself opening his heart and his home to those in need of solace.

A dedicated family man Supt. Rouse is survived by his wife of 40 years Lady Shirley W.

Rouse; their five children Min. Theresita Rouse-Richard (Min. Frank Richard), Dr.

Melanie J. Rouse, PhD, Dr. Melvin L. Rouse, Jr., PhD, ABD (Dr. Alexis Schultz Rouse,

DMA, ABD), Valencia Rouse-Neely (Tremaine Neely), and Christopher Rouse, Sr.

(Brittany Fells-Rouse); four grandchildren Fredrick Cooper Richard, Christopher Rouse,

Jr., McKenzie and Kailyn Neely with a fifth grandchild (daughter) on the way; five

siblings Luther McDowell (Sharon), Robert Rouse, Rosetta Burns, Diane Saunders, and

Charlotte Green (Calvin); a host of nieces, nephews and cousins; four sisters-

in-law; three

brother-in-law; and a host of other relatives and friends, among them very close and dear

friend Elder Elvis Smith, Sr.

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Memorial Gardens

12609 Patterson Ave.
Richmond, VA 23238

Previous Events

viewing

DEC 14. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

DEC 14. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

viewing

DEC 15. 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Service

DEC 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Deliverance Evangelistic Church
1701 Turner Road
Richmond, VA 23225

Tribute Wall



“ *Supt. Melvin L. Rouse, Sr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Our family would like to express our condolences to your family. May you find comfort from Jehovah God's Word The Bible, He assures us at 1 Corinthians 15:26 that "the last enemy death will be brought to nothing." Our prayers are with your family.*

linn & family - December 16, 2013 at 02:02 PM



“ *I am happy to be able to say that I was in this great man of God's presence, but for a short while. His family is wonderful, and that is only a testament as to what a great husband, dad, and grand dad he was. I will keep my memories of talking to Mr. Rouse, praying with Mr. Rouse and laughing with Mr. Rouse close to my heart. Often while I was laughing Mr. Rouse would just smile and nod. He had such a gentle soul in his illness. I will miss seeing Mrs. Rouse and little Mackenzie coming to visit you. Take your rest in arms of the LORD. It is well deserved. May GOD bless this family infinitely, and comfort them during this time of great sorrow. All my love Shantell L. Davis, LPN.*

Shantell Davis - December 16, 2013 at 09:17 AM



“ *Sis. Rouse - please know that we are praying for you and your family during this time of bereavement. May God comfort you all.*

Antonio Terry - December 16, 2013 at 07:39 AM

RF

“ We are sorry for your loss. We know the loving memories of your husband and father will bring you great comfort. While its so soon we know that God has called him home for a reason. We send our prayers and thoughts to your family. From the Reed family with love

Reed family - December 15, 2013 at 05:28 PM

MS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss and would like to offer my condolences to your family. Death is such a terrible thing for a family to go through, I actually lost my mom about 4yrs ago. I'm truly grateful that I have the truth about death and look forward to the future when there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.”— ACTS 24:15. I'm sure you would love to see your dead loved one again in the coming Paradise here on earth! Again so sorry for your loss!!

Ms Springer - December 14, 2013 at 10:45 AM



“ Sorry for your lost....what a great man of God he was...1 Corinthians 15:51-55

Cheyenne Courtney - December 13, 2013 at 10:47 PM



“ Sorry for your lost....what a great man of God he was...1 Corinthians 15:51-55

Cheyenne Courtney - December 13, 2013 at 10:46 PM

CF

“ Clyde And Linda Fleming lit a candle in memory of Supt. Melvin L. Rouse, Sr.



Clyde and Linda Fleming - December 13, 2013 at 10:05 AM



“ 73 files added to the album New Album Name



Mel Rouse - December 12, 2013 at 04:40 PM

PL

“ I'm sorry for your loss. Death is such a hateful and ugly event. But God's words in the Bible give us future hope at Isaiah 25:8 where HE promises to wipe away our tears and swallow up death forever. May you find comfort from God's words in the Bible.

Peggy Land - December 12, 2013 at 07:30 AM



“ 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 - December 11, 2013 at 05:54 PM