

God's Garden

By D. W. MCCONWAY

God looked around his garden  
And found an empty place.  
He then looked down upon the earth,  
And saw your tired face.

He put His arms around you  
And lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful,  
He always takes the best.

He knew that you were suffering,  
He knew that you were in pain.  
He knew that you would never  
Get well on earth again.

He saw the road was getting rough  
And the hills were hard to climb.  
So He closed your weary eyelids  
And whispered "Peace be thine."

It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you did not go alone...  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.

Memorial Service



**Rev. Dr. James E. Hale**

December 14, 1942 - May 16, 2019

**July 26, 2019, 1:00pm**

Metropolitan Community Church

335 South 64<sup>th</sup> St.

Birmingham, AL 35212

## Obituary

Rev. Dr. James Edward Hale, 76, passed away on Thursday, May 16, 2019 after a lengthy illness. He was born December 14, 1942 in Birmingham, Alabama to his late parents, James and Mattie Hale. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Deborah A. Maddox (Roy).

James is survived by his daughter, Brandon Sharpe (David), grandsons: David Brown and Christopher Maddox; sister, Sandra Hale Withers; niece, Anetra Withers, and nephew, Eric Withers and a host of cousins and friends.

James was educated in the Birmingham City School System where he was a graduate of A.H. Parker High School. He was also a member of the choir all four years. James attended Daniel Payne College and Alabama A & M University. He taught in the Jefferson County School System in Louisville, Kentucky and the Indiana Public School Systems before returning to Birmingham where he taught in the Birmingham City School System until retirement.

James became an ordained minister at Joshua Tabernacle Baptist Church of Louisville, Kentucky; and upon his return to Birmingham joined New Pilgrim Baptist Church and was a member of the ministerial staff. He remained a member of New Pilgrim until his death.

### Acknowledgements

The family of James Edward Hale give our sincere appreciation to Rev. Harold Salter of Metropolitan Community Church, Rev. Carl Davis and to all others who helped to make this day a celebration of remembrance.

## Order of Services

**Organ Prelude:** Soft Music

**Processional**

**Musical Selection:** Constance Fields  
*If I Can Help Somebody*

**Scriptures:**

**Old Testament:** Anetra Withers  
Washington, DC

**New Testament:** Dr. Tonya Anthony  
*Kingdom Family Christian Fellowship*

**Prayer** Rev. Wiley Short  
Assistant Pastor  
*New Bethel Baptist Church, East Avondale*

**Eulogy** Rev. Carl L. Davis Sr.  
Senior Pastor  
*New Harvest Christian Church*

**Musical Selection:** Derrick Moss  
*I Won't Complain*

**Recessional**