



Reverend William M. McCoy, Jr.

August 17, 1936 - May 5, 2024

Reverend Dr. William Michael McCoy, Jr., was called home on May 5, 2024. William was born on August 17, 1936, in Coatesville, PA to the late William M. McCoy Sr., and Eula Clotelle Searles McCoy. William was the oldest of their three children, who were Reginald Vaughn Searles McCoy and the late Sandra Elizabeth McCoy.

In 1959 he was licensed to minister by Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright, Sr., pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Germantown, and in 1960 he became a Student Assistant Minister under Rev. Dr. William Banks, pastor of Nazarene Baptist Church in Philadelphia, where he served until drafted into the Army in 1961.

Following his honorable discharge from the Army in 1963, he married his longtime sweetheart Joan Natalie Sibert in Philadelphia in 1964. They were blessed with two sons: William M. McCoy, III, of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and Jonathan M. McCoy, of Weaverville, North Carolina.

In 1972, he became a chaplain (1972-92) for the Federal Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons, the second African American in the history of the federal prison system to serve in this position.

Upon retiring from the Bureau of Prisons, William taught at the Apex School of the Bible (Durham, NC) from 1993-2006. He pastored Beavers Chapel United Church of Christ (Zebulon, NC) from 1995-2004. By 2006, he had settled into a life of comfortable retirement as Dean emeritus of the Apex School of the Bible and an Associate Minister and Sunday school teacher at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Durham, NC.

The family is planning to celebrate the life of Reverend Dr. William M. McCoy, Jr. on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, 1007 S Roxboro Street, Durham, North Carolina 27701; visitation at 11:00 a.m., memorial service at 12:00 noon.

The Celebration of Life Service will be streamed live via:

https://youtube.com/live/-mMw4YLXA_M?feature=share

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that donations be made to either to the Capital campaign or Scholarship fund of Mount Vernon Baptist Church

1007 Roxboro St.

Durham, NC 27707-1824

Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **29**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mount Vernon Baptist Church
1007 S Roxboro St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 688-1823
churchoffice@mvbcdurham.org
<http://mvbcdurham.org>

Celebration of Life

JUN **29**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mount Vernon Baptist Church
1007 S Roxboro St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 688-1823
churchoffice@mvbcdurham.org
<http://mvbcdurham.org>

Tribute Wall

LS

“ Liz Scarboro sent a virtual gift in memory of Reverend William M. McCoy, Jr.



liz Scarboro - June 08, 2024 at 10:15 AM

LM

“ To McCoy Family,

It is with deepest sorrow that we share with you in the passing of your loved one The Reverend Doctor William Michael McCoy, Jr.



Cousin William's generosity and love of family were unwavering.

He had such a wonderful and profound connection with the Bradley/Searles Family Reunion events throughout the years.

When attending, he would always lead us in prayer, blessing the food that has been prepared. Which became a standard that brought us closer together before feasting for the day.

As one of our recognized family patriarchs and historians, he would uniquely share family history while mingling and bonding as he personally interacts with cousins throughout the event.

We will miss his influential connectivity, as well as his warm and spiritual personality and dedication.

The Bradley/Searles Family Reunion Committee would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the McCoy Family in this time of loss.

We pray for strength and comfort to the family.

Our love and deepest sympathy,

*Bradley/Searles
Family Reunion Committee*

Leonard Malcom - June 07, 2024 at 11:19 AM

CB

“ *Charlene Bradley lit a candle in memory of Reverend William M. McCoy, Jr.*



Charlene Bradley - May 29, 2024 at 07:50 AM

MR

“ *Melissa Richardson sent a virtual gift in memory of Reverend William M. McCoy, Jr.*



Melissa Richardson - May 24, 2024 at 07:01 PM

MR

Will always love Rev Wm McCoy Such a respectable Man of God and he would get things done even if he had to do it himself,he drove the church Van on Sunday Morning to pick up the Children that didn't have a way to get there ,Now he came all the way from home in Durham he was devoted and could sing those Hymns and would teach the Choir and the whole Church and could hold those Notes,Wow but I did get to talk with him while in the hospital and let him know I love him far begin a good Pastor, friend and would tell you what was best and would be there for you with good advice, So when I heard of his death I was sadden but God makes know mistake even though we see it different so take your rest in Heaven and thank you for coming t Beavers Chapel Christian Church,you will be missed ❤️🙏🌹😭

Melissa Richardson - May 24, 2024 at 07:15 PM

MR

Prayers of comfort to Mrs McCoy and Family from the Richardson ,Beckwith ,Myers Families

Melissa Richardson - May 24, 2024 at 07:19 PM

TD

“ *Thaddeus Daniels lit a candle in memory of Reverend William M. McCoy, Jr.*



Thaddeus Daniels - May 20, 2024 at 03:19 PM

DJ

“ Rev. Leowen Evans and Eagle Rock Christian Church wish to convey our heartfelt condolence in the passing of Rev. McCoy. Our prayers are with you Mrs. McCoy, and family, as you endure the bereavement of your beloved husband and one so dear to his family and many others.



Deborah G. Jones - May 15, 2024 at 04:30 PM

CM

“ Carolyn Marshall sent a virtual gift in memory of Reverend William M. McCoy, Jr.



Carolyn Marshall - May 12, 2024 at 09:03 PM

AS

“ Cousin William was our Family Historian , he archived many of our family records, lineage and photos.

We were always so happy to see he, cousin Joan and family when they attended our family reunions and other events throughout the years. It was always such a warm feeling and exchange of love.

We as a family recognized Cousin William during our North Carolina Bradley/Searles family reunion dinner with an award, acknowledging his outstanding commitment and contributions throughout the years.

I was honored to have the opportunity to present this recognition to our dearest Cousin William.

In closing, Cousin William presented me with his most important records and photos of the family lineage.

I am keeping them safely in spirit that they were presented to me. These archives are a treasured part our Bradley/Searles family history.

They will be used in the near future to help educate the youth in our family of our rich blood line.

He may be gone but certainly not forgotten.

Respectfully,
Pilar Rucker Saunders

Antonia Pilar Rucker Saunder - May 09, 2024 at 08:21 AM

PD

“ *Pioneer is an Understatement! What this man has meant to me, my ministry & I am a better Pastor & Police Chaplain because of My Uncle Bill! Lessons & Legacy lasts Lifetimes!* ☐ 🕊️ 🇺🇸 ❤️

Pastor Glenn DeShields - May 08, 2024 at 12:37 PM

AZ

“ *Reverend William McCoy was my brother-in-law. it is always sad to have a strong warrior for Christ leave this world. it has been a pleasure to have known this strong man of God. He was a strong leader and family man. His guidance and presence here on earth shall be missed. He was Godfather to my children. I shall miss his kindness and strength as a leader. His loving manner and spiritual guidance prevailed. Prayers for the family as we embark a new direction and honor his presence with the Lord. We do know that his presence with the Lord will bring healing to his body. Praise God. We shall meet again when we get to heaven. Andrea Zarate (Zarate-McCoy)*



Andrea Zarate - May 08, 2024 at 10:30 AM

WM

Rev. Dr. William McCoy touched our lives so richly along with lovely wife Jone as they resided in Southern Illinois. Thank you Chaplain for walking along side Rev. Dr. Walter Bowie jr., at the Rockhill Baptist Church of Carbondale Illinois as the two of you have reunited in Heaven..to the family, you are in our prayers. Pastor Walter and Debora Matthews Pleasantgreen Baptist Church Chicago, Illinois.

Walter Matthews - May 09, 2024 at 07:12 AM

MM

Thank you for that kind tribute to Dad, Pastor Walter.

God's continued blessings to you, your Shadow (Debora), family, and ministry

Fraternally,

Michael ❤️💛

Michael McCoy - May 11, 2024 at 09:32 PM

MS

“ Reverend McCoy was the pioneer in leading more African-American ministers to serve in Correctional Chaplaincy in Federal Bureau of Prisons. I am one who he inspired to take this road of ministry. I retired in 2015 as the Director of Chaplaincy Services for Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington DC. Thank you Chaplain McCoy for your dedication to reach, reconcile and restore lives in crime and incarceration. I pray I made you proud.

*Dr. Michael R Smith Sr
Chief Chaplain (Retired)
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Washington, DC*

Michael R Smith Sr - May 08, 2024 at 09:25 AM