

"Known of God"

(Inspired by Psalm 139)

O Lord, You searched and You have known,
Each step he walked was not his own—
For from his youth to silver years,
You numbered days, You caught his tears.

Before his tongue could form a word,
You knew the message to be heard.
Before his hands could bless or pray,
You wrote his purpose in each day.

You shaped his heart, both strong and kind,
A shepherd's soul, a scholar's mind—
To preach, to heal, to lift, to lead,
To serve all nations by Your creed.

When weary feet would start to roam,
Your Spirit whispered, "Son, come home."
And as he drew his final breath,
You crowned his life and conquered death.

He's known above, as known below,
Still loved beyond what hearts can show.
No shadow falls where You abide—
He dwells now safely by Your side.

For surely, Lord, You've searched and known,
His race is finished—he's now home.
And all who loved him still can say:
"We too are fearfully, wonderfully made."



"O Lord, You have searched me and known me..."
Psalm 139:1

Active Pallbearers

Jonathan Speights
Martie Berrien

Sidney B. Larramore
Thomas Bos

Jamar Berrien
James Wages

Active Floral Bearers Family & Friends

Earthly Bed of Slumber

WITH U.S. ARMY HONORS

Elder Sharvis Whitted, Presiding
The Life Center Church * Eatonville, Florida
TALLAHASSEE NATIONAL CEMETERY
5015 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, Florida 32311

The Family's Message of Gratitude

The family of BISHOP PHILIP J. SPEIGHTS extends heartfelt gratitude for your prayers, visits, calls, and words of comfort during this season of loss. Each act of kindness reminds us that his life was not only well-lived but profoundly impactful.

We thank God for a man who loved deeply, led boldly, and served faithfully—teaching truth, walking in humility, and touching countless lives through wisdom and compassion. Though our hearts are tender, we rejoice knowing he fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith.

Thank you for standing with us and celebrating the life of a husband, father, pastor, and friend whose legacy will live on for generations. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."
~ Matthew 25:21

With Love and Gratitude,
The Speights Family

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the trust you have placed upon us during the Homegoing Services of your loved one. Our fondest hope is that all measures of assistance rendered your family have been completed in detail. For all your confidence placed in our staff and me, we will be forever grateful.

Professional Services Entrusted To



J.P. MOORE MORTUARY & CREMATION SERVICES
Jamarien "JP" Moore, CSFP, CFSGM, CCO
President | Mortician
379 West Base Street, Madison, Florida 32340
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Your Life Was A Blessing, Your Memory A Treasure



CELEBRATING THE LIFE, THE LEGACY AND THE LOVE OF



BISHOP
Philip
J. SPEIGHTS

THE GIFT OF HIS LIFE
October 22, 1927

THE CROWN OF HIS REWARD
October 19, 2025

A TRIUMPHANT CELEBRATION OF FAITH & SERVICE
Friday, October 31, 2025 · 11:00 AM

OLD WEST FLORIDA ENRICHMENT CENTER
2344 Lake Bradford Road | Tallahassee, Florida 32310

Bishop Designate Gregory Speights, Eulogist
University Ministries International * Tallahassee, Florida
J.P. Moore Undertaking Company, Directing

Bishop Philip J. Speights

OCTOBER 22, 1927 – OCTOBER 19, 2025

*“Servant of God, Well Done! The Battle’s Fought,
The Race is Won, And Thou Art Crowned at Last”*

BISHOP PHILIP SPEIGHTS, a distinguished figure in the religious community, has led a life marked by dedication and spiritual service. Born in Tallahassee, Florida, on October 22, 1927, to Harry and Katherine Speights, he was blessed with Divine favor to offer his service for the greater good and to return all honor and glory to God. His journey began with his serving in the military from 1952 to 1954 during the Korean War which laid the foundation for his powerful sense of discipline and commitment.

In 1960, a pivotal moment occurred when he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, an event that profoundly shaped the rest of his life. His passion for gospel music led him to join the choir at Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ in New York City, where he nurtured his love for worship through song as well as through his radio broadcast at WWRL in New York City.

His spiritual journey took a significant turn in 1969 when he was ordained Bishop, further solidifying his leadership role in the Christian community. His commitment to serving those in need was evident in his 25-year tenure as a Chaplain at Rikers Island (the prison island for the Department of Corrections in Bronx, New York). He dedicated 19 years as a volunteer there and six as a paid employee of the Department of Justice.

Bishop Speights’ quest for knowledge and spiritual growth led him to train with the renowned Evangelist Billy Graham and to participate with his evangelistic team for four years across New York City and Virginia. This experience broadened his perspective and enhanced his ministry skills.

The Bishop’s academic achievements are as impressive as his spiritual journey because he exemplified a lifelong pursuit of learning. He earned a Bachelor’s in Religious Education from the American Divinity School in New York City in 1971, and a Master’s in Theology from Berean Christian College and Seminary in 1974. He was honored with a Doctorate of Divinity from Baltimore College of the Bible in 1975 and earned a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Religion in 1977. This man of knowledge, wisdom, perseverance, and excellence was made stronger by faith and wiser by godly experience.

Bishop Speights’ calling to ministry became evident when he founded Crusaders for Christ, later renamed Christians Temple Church of Faith and Works in Tallahassee, Florida. This church became a beacon of hope and faith, renowned for numerous miracles, signs, and wonders. It was a place of spiritual transformation, where many left their crutches and wheelchairs behind, symbols of the healing they experienced.

Bishop Philip Speights’ life is a testament to his unwavering faith, academic prowess, and commitment to serving God and his community. However, on Sunday, October 19, 2025, and three days before his 98th birthday, he completed his earthly journey. He transitioned from his labor and was welcomed into the kingdom to receive his crown of righteousness from the Righteous Judge. Servant of God, well done!

Bishop Philip J. Speights’ legacy is one of a well-lived life, full of purpose, generosity, and endless love. It will continue to inspire and influence many others in the path of faith and service. While he is gone from his loved ones’ presence, his precious memory will always be embedded in their hearts. Those who expect to see him again one day are his devoted wife of sixteen years: Pastor Violet B. Speights of Tallahassee, FL; sons: Don (Debra) Speights, Gregory (Dr. Joedrecka) Speights, and Stephen Speights, all of Tallahassee, FL, and Jonathan (Kenisha) Speights of Atlanta, GA; daughters: Sandra Kinchen of Brooklyn, NY, Barbara (Thomas) Bos and Doretha Owens, all of Charlotte, NC; step children: Sidney (Angela) Larramore of Ocoee, FL and Chantiel (Sharvis) Whitted of Deland, FL; brother: Harry Speights of Tallahassee, FL; twenty-one grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; many sorrowing nieces and nephews; along with numerous other loving relatives, comforting friends, compassionate individuals whose lives he impacted, as well as his uplifting church family.

Family members who preceded *Bishop Philip J. Speights* in death were his parents: Harry and Katherine Speights; son: Philip “Phil” Speights, Jr.; stepson: Leonard W. Larramore; sisters: Rosa Baker, Laura Johnson, Molly Austin, Pollie Speights, and Parrie Randall; along with brothers: Henry Speights and Edward Speights.

Precious Memories



The Divine Order of Service

Bishop Quincy D. Griffin, Sr., Officiant
Family Worship and Praise Center * Tallahassee, Florida

- Prelude
- Processional Eulogist, Clergy, Mortician & Family
“Crying Days Will Soon Be Over”
Worship Leader, Johnny Payne
- Parting Glance & Seating of the FamilyThe *J.P. Moore* Staff
- Sealing of the Bier
- The Prayer of Consolation..... Elder Arnold McKay
- The Holy Scripture Reading
Old Testament (Psalm 116:15) – Brother Jonathan Speights, *Son*
New Testament (John 15:13) – Sister Sandra Kinchen, *Daughter*
- Selection Family Worship & Praise Center Praise Team
“Every Praise”
- Reflections of Love and Legacy
As a Community Member – Brother Richard Albertson
(*Live The Life, Founding President*)
As a Faith Leader – Pastor James Haywood
(*Endtimes Ministries of Jesus Christ*)
Tribute to our Father – Elder Don Speights & Siblings
- Acknowledgements & Resolutions.....The *J.P. Moore* Staff
- Sermonic Medley Elder Kenya Brown
“In The Morning When I Rise” | “Send It On Down Lord”
- Words of Comfort..... Bishop Designate Gregory Speights
- Hymn of Assurance Family Worship & Praise Center Praise Team
“Amazing Grace”
- Mortician’s BriefMr. Jamarien “J.P.” Moore, LFD
- Recessional Clergy & Family
“Going Up Yonder”

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”
~ Psalm 116:15