

Willie M. Oliver

The Rev. W.M. Oliver made his transition to God on Friday, Feb. 26, 2010. He was 81.

Born in Federal Point, he was educated in the St. Johns County School District and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Oliver was a member of Abilene Missionary Baptist Church, Putnam Hall. His pastoral ministry included Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church, Florahome, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Palatka, Gilgal Missionary Baptist Church, McMeekin, Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church, Fort McCoy, and Second Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, Gainesville. His work in the vineyard of the Lord would span five decades and touch countless lives. He will be greatly missed by those he loved and held dear to his heart.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 47 years, Elizabeth Oliver, Putnam Hall; his nine children, Joyce Oliver Williams, Elaine (Clifford) Hilliard both of Jacksonville, Willie McKinley Oliver Jr., Sharon (Rev. Michael) McKay, Minister Alvin (Phyllis) Oliver, all of Palatka, the Rev. Tony (Denorris) Hall, Federal Point, Stevie (Tonya) Oliver, Eustis, Zenate (Cecil) Dennis, Gainesville, and Zenas Oliver, Putnam Hall; two sisters, Harriet Freeman, Palatka, and Gwendolyn (Rev. Johnny) Butts, San Mateo; a brother, Rev. Emmanuel (Pauline) Oliver, St. Augustine; 19 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild and a host of other relatives and sorrowing friends.

Homegoing celebration services will be held 11 a.m., Saturday, March 6, at Abilene Missionary Baptist Church, Putnam Hall, with the pastor, the Rev. James F. Pullings, officiating. Burial will be in Abilene Cemetery. Viewing will be Friday at Pinkney-Smith Funeral Home, 21400 SE Hawthorne Road, Hawthorne, 4-7 p.m. and Saturday at Abilene M.B.C., 10-11 a.m. No Viewing after the eulogy. The cortege will form at the Rev. and Mrs. Oliver's home 10:15 a.m. Saturday.

Services by Pinkney-Smith Funeral Home, Hawthorne.