

In Loving Memory...

**Thomas S.
Stradford, Jr.**

DECEMBER 17, 1975--MAY 18, 2022

Order of Service

Elder Barbara M. Dinkins, Presiding

Saturday | May 28, 2022 | 11 am

Processional

Greetings

Prayer of Comfort

Scriptures

Old Testament

Psalm 27:4-5

Rev. Millie N. Smith

New Testament

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

Sis. Rose S. Baker

Solo

Elder Sam Dennis

Reflections

Family

Vicker Drakeford McClain

Community

Elder Barbara M. Dinkins

Job

John Austin

Acknowledgements

Solo

Minister Shelvin Boykin

Words of Comfort

Rev. Nathan Greene

Final Viewing

Nelson-Haile Funeral Home

Recessional

Benediction, Committal, Interment



The Obituary

Thomas "Tony" Stradford was born in Boykin, SC to Deacon Thomas Stradford and the late Henrietta Elm and reared by his loving grandparents, the late Helen and Singleton Stradford (*better known as Cricket and Doot*) and his beloved Aunt Williamae (Nook) in a loving home environment.

Papa, Big Papa, as he was affectionately known, was a loving child always full of life. He brought so much joy to his family and friends. He was raised in a Christian surrounding and grew up in Broom Hill Baptist Church where he received his early Christian education, which build his faith and belief in God.

Tony was educated in the Kershaw County School District from preschool through graduation from Camden High School. He was blessed with many gifts and talents. He enjoyed cooking and was a great chef. He liked fishing, playing video games, and he was an excellent DJ. When it came to making music and beats, he even made his own studio in his back yard where he trained many others in the field and therefore gained the name, "Big Papa."

Tony had several jobs throughout his life, but FN Manufacturing and Mill Pond Store were his favorites by far.

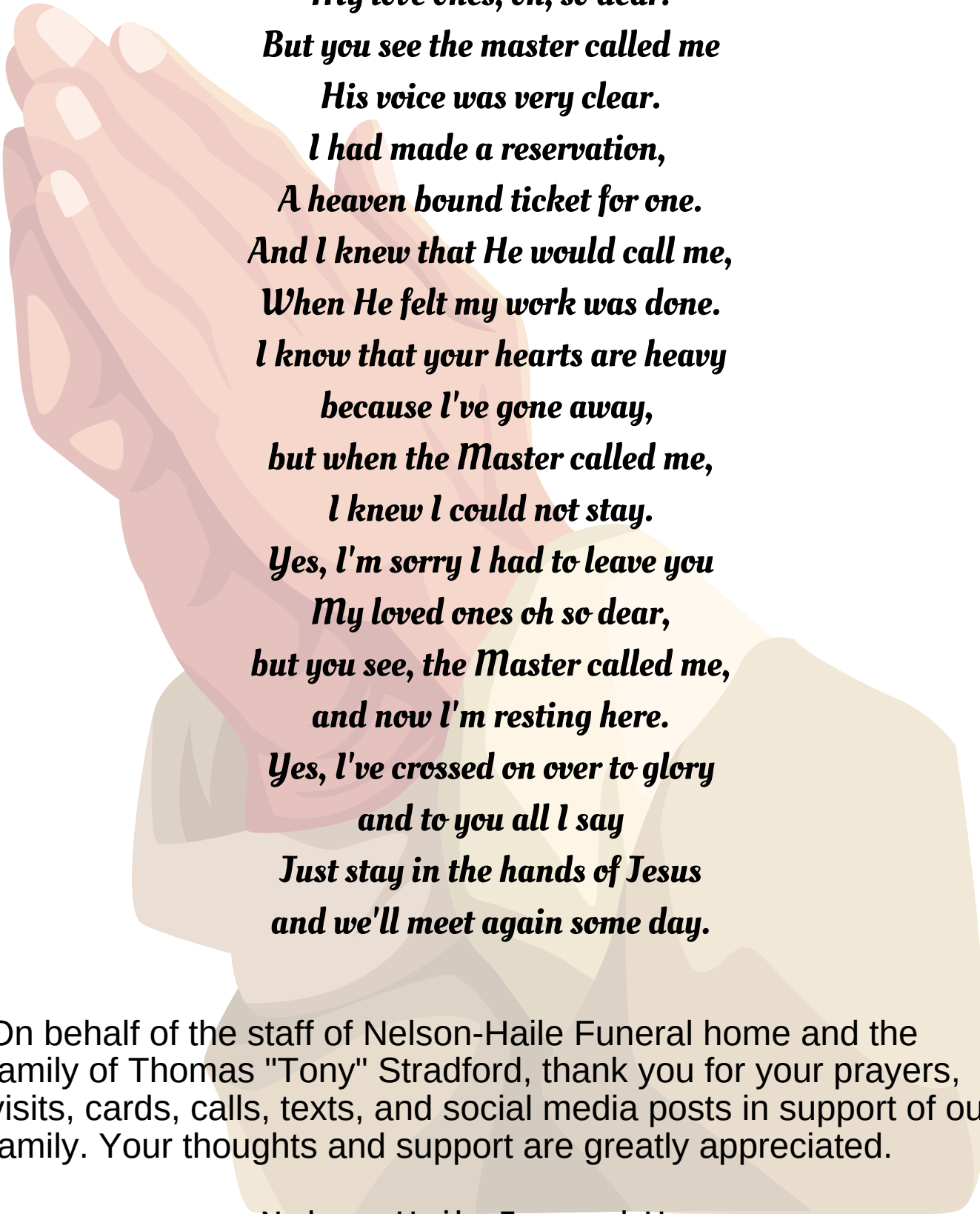
He had a way with people. Tony was a people person; he presented himself friendly, so he entertained many friends--keeping everyone laughing as he joked with them--especially his three special ladies, his first cousins: Yolanda, Andrea, and Vicker, which were more like his little sisters.

Tony was preceded in death by his mother, Henrietta S. Elm; his grandparents, Helen and Singleton Stradford; and Richie and Samuel Nelson; and his uncle, Richard Harold Nelson.

Those left to cherish his memories are:

His beloved son, Sintiono Paul Stradford; his beautiful daughter, Nytianna Glover; His precious godchildren, Quinterra Lawson and Jerrel Hunter; his father, Deacon Thomas Stradford; his grandfather, John Henry Nelson of San Diego, Ca.; his sisters, Alice Elm and Walisha Patterson; his brothers, James Andre Lawson and Donald "DJ" Elm; His aunts, Mae (Everett) Henson, of Bowie,MD; Rose (Michael)Baker of Copperas Cove, TX; his special aunt, Williamae (John) Austin of Columbia, SC, who raised him as her own; Delores (Dick) Nelson of Lugoff, SC, Rev. Millie (Dr. James) Smith of Camden, SC; One uncle;, Samuel (Lessie) Nelson of Jacksonville, FL; The mother of his children and life-long friend, Donya Glover; A special cousin and his right-hand man, Tajadean Sanders; a helpful and loyal friend, Ivory Dennis; Great Aunts, Estelle Jean Moses, Marie Smith, and Bernice Walker and a host of other family, relatives, and friends.

The Master Called



***I'm sorry I had to leave you,
My love ones, oh, so dear.
But you see the master called me
His voice was very clear.
I had made a reservation,
A heaven bound ticket for one.
And I knew that He would call me,
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
because I've gone away,
but when the Master called me,
I knew I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones oh so dear,
but you see, the Master called me,
and now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
and to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
and we'll meet again some day.***

On behalf of the staff of Nelson-Haile Funeral home and the family of Thomas "Tony" Stradford, thank you for your prayers, visits, cards, calls, texts, and social media posts in support of our family. Your thoughts and support are greatly appreciated.

Nelson-Haile Funeral Home
919 Church Street
Camden, SC 29020