



Mr. Robert Sylvester Bland

May 22, 1944 - December 7, 2021

Mr. Robert Sylvester Bland, 77, passed away Tuesday, December 7, 2021. Funeral services will be held 1:00 p.m., Saturday, December 18, 2021. W.E. Flanagan Memorial Chapel. Viewing will be held one hour prior to the service.

Robert Sylvester Bland (Bland) was born on May 20, 1944, in Pitt County, North Carolina, the son of the late Cherry (Cherrie) Lee Barnes and Harry A. Bland, grandson of the late Jessie Sylvester Barnes and Annie Shepard from Greenville, N.C., great-grandson of James Barnes and Cherry Pender of (Edgecombe) Nash County, N.C., and great-great-grandson of Barry Freeman and Charlotte Pender of Edgecombe, N.C. Godson of Loretta Foster, whom he loved dearly. Bland was a big brother to many in Pitt County, including Caroline and Curtis Barnes.

Bland joined the church at an early age and always yearned to be a servant of GOD. He attended Pitt County Public School and later moved to New Haven, Connecticut where he continued his studies and career in machinery. Bland loved his trade. Strong-willed, Bland never stopped working.

A heart for music and an anointed voice to sing GOD's melodic praise through ministry, Bland joined and sang with several gospel groups including the Trumpet Kings. While singing one night, he heard the Lord telling him that it was time for him to answer the call to pastoral ministry.

Bland attended the Washington Bible Seminary under the late Dr. Fowler, where he delivered his trial sermon entitled, "If you can take it, you can make it." He would travel across the country spreading the good news. During his 40 years of ministry, Bland steadfastly prayed Psalms 51:10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Bland loved good soul food, especially fried chicken and collard greens. He made the best chopped BBQ and pineapple upside-down cake from scratch. He enjoyed fishing, bold colors, well-fitted suits, big trucks, and nice cars.

A man who tried his best to be his best. Bland would marry his friend and wife of over 35 years, Mary Bland, who stood by his side until his final breath. God blessed him with eight (8) children—Mary Ann Ward, Melvin Bland, Michael "Mike" Bland, Kisha Wiggins, Aaron Jenkins, and LaKesha Jenkins. He was preceded in death by Robert Bland, Jr. and the late Ronald Bland. Bland has several adopted GOD children, a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, and nieces. Bland had a servant's heart, loved people and everyone who met him fell in love with his giving spirit. May GOD continue to bless his legacy.

Cemetery Details

Homestead Memorial Gardens

4251 E. 10th St. Extension
Greenville, NC

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC 18. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

W E. Flanagan Memorial Chapel
1026 W. 5th Street
Greenville , NC 27834
(252) 752-3530
weflanagan1921@gmail.com
<http://www.weflanagan.com>

Funeral Services

DEC 18. 1:00 PM (ET)

W E. Flanagan Memorial Chapel
1026 W. 5th Street
Greenville , NC 27834
(252) 752-3530
weflanagan1921@gmail.com
<http://www.weflanagan.com>

Tribute Wall

RB

“ *Wish we had more time together*

Ronald Bland - December 18, 2021 at 03:14 PM

YJ

“ *I will miss going to DC in the summers with my mom as a child to see my grandpapa roach. Every time we came down, you and grandma Mary showed us nothing but love and it was like we never skipped a beat. I love you grandpa and i always will*
Love always,
Yammy

Yolanda Jackson - December 18, 2021 at 12:11 PM

SB

“ *Just wanted to say i will miss my dad. All the phone calls we had and all the time we have shared together in sing an playing music an just riding up an down the road just doing what we love*



son Michael Bland - December 16, 2021 at 05:32 AM

LA

“ *Daddy you are truly missed and I'm so glad gigi (your sweetpea) is missing you as well. Thank you daddy for being the best Pop pop to gigi and thank you for loving me daddy*



Lakesha - December 15, 2021 at 10:43 PM

GC

“ *My condolences to the family of Rev. Robert Bland. During the years of the Queens of Faith, he always did the praise and worship for us. He will be missed. RIHP my brother. Gloria Chrisp, Rose Thomas and Louise Higgins the QUEENS OF FAITH*



Gloria Chrisp - December 15, 2021 at 05:50 PM

KS

“ *Granddad you will be missed with love from your granddaughter*

Kristin staton - December 15, 2021 at 12:48 PM