



Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr.

April 4, 1931 - May 16, 2020

Reverend Nathaniel Scates is the third of seven children born to the late Deacon Charlie Phil Scates and the late Birdie Coleman Scates in Trezevant, Tennessee, located in Carroll County.

God blessed him to receive his early educational training in Tennessee Public Schools. He completed studies in Wingo Elementary School in Trezevant and graduated from Webb High School in McKenzie, Tennessee. He then attended the Industrial & Agricultural College in Nashville, Tennessee for two years. Due to financial hardship and the military draft, he joined the United States Marine Corp. He received basic training at Camp Lejune, North Carolina. After completing basic training, he was stationed at NavPhiBase , Little Creek, Norfolk, Virginia. During his military career, he was awarded a Good Conduct Medal which denotes honest and faithful service in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps. Having completed his military career, he became employed at the Portsmouth Naval Medical Center where he received his training in Business Management and was promoted to head foreman. After thirty-six years of dedicated service, he retired as a civil servant employee with many awards.

Reverend Scates joined the Saint John Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Virginia, under the leadership of the late Reverend C.J. Freeman. For many years, he was a faithful member there, and it was during his membership at St. John that he accepted his calling from God to preach the gospel. He completed the requirements for his certificate in the School of Theology at

Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia, and also through satellite courses from Virginia Seminary and College before he was licensed and ordained.

Reverend Scates evangelized throughout the Tidewater area before he was called to pastor at Tabernacle Baptist Church. After preaching several sermons at Tabernacle, the congregation chose him as pastor-elect in September, 1986, and in December, 1986, he became the pastor. For twenty-five years, he was a fortress, a solid foundation and pillar of strength, a great leader, teacher, preacher, mentor, confidante, and friend. He was known to give and display his love with a smile to everyone including strangers; to him, we are all of "God's children." He stressed the importance of knowing the Word and has always been instrumental in the youth and their growth. Pastor Scates was often involved in ministering to the sick and elderly in Suffolk and surrounding areas. On December 31, 2011, he preached his last sermon as pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Outreach Center. Tabernacle has been truly blessed to have been pastored by such a warrior for Christ. In relationship to his ministry, he is a member of the Sharon Missionary Baptist Association, the Suffolk Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, and the Radio Prayer Partners Ministry. In support of his community, he is a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Nansemond Parkway Civic League.

In addition to his passion for preaching, he has a great love for singing. He has always loved to sing! Even as a child, he sang with his siblings and his mother who was one of the best gospel singers in Carroll County. He sang in his high school quartet in which he won first chair for bass all four years. His love for gospel music inspired him to join the famous Gospel Kings and the Gospel Superiors. He has been blessed with a thunderous voice that is highly enjoyed by many; He is often requested to sing his favorite song "This Old Building Keeps on Leaning." Before his illness, he could still "bring down the house" with his singing!!!!

He met and married the late Clorrise Sivell. They became the proud parents of

two sons and three daughters, two living and one deceased Sheila Scates. They also raised two grandchildren as though they were their own.

On November 30, 2002, Reverend Scates was richly blessed to join in Holy Matrimony with his fiancé, Erma Lee Crayton. She worked closely with her husband in the growth and development of the Tabernacle Baptist Outreach Center.

He leaves to cherish his memory and foster his legacy, his wife and combined family; Erma L. Scates, two sons; Reverend Nathaniel (Minister Kimberly) Scates, Jr., Norman Scates, four daughters; Rev. Dr. Maria Antionette Scates D.D., Deaconess Emma Marilyn (Deacon Robert) Schafer, Glenda V. Willis, Valerie A. (Ralph) Johnson; seven grandchildren: Rev. Dr. Jermaine Antiono (Rev. Dr. Andrea) Scates, Angel Scates, Lashanna Beasley, Stephen Douglas Willis, Jeremy Vinson, Dominique Vinson, Austin Johnson, Christopher Johnson, and a very devoted friend who is loved by the entire family Reverend Ursula Meier; one sister Joyce Ann Scates, one brother Charlie Jewell Scates; one sister-in-law Arvie Scates; one niece Avie Scates and one nephew Dr. Bradley Scates; three brother-in-laws, Willie James (Vanessa) Johnson, Fitzgerald (Mary) Johnson, and Marvin (Vertina) Johnson; TBOC church family, a host of nieces, nephews, and a host of ministry colleagues, prayer partners and friends.

Cemetery Details

Roosevelt Memorial Park

1101 Campostella Road
Chesapeake, Va

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Tabernacle Baptist Outreach Center
3612 Nansemond Parkway
Suffolk, VA 23435
(757) 538-9017
tboc3612@gmail.com

Service

MAY 22. 12:00 PM (ET)

Union Baptist Missionary Church
5414 Nansemond Parkway
Suffolk, VA 23435

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr.



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 21, 2020 at 04:47 PM

MC

Rev. Nathaniel Scates Jr. And Rev. Kim Scates my sincere condolence to you and your family.

Melissa Council - May 21, 2020 at 08:43 PM

MC

*To the Family of Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Scates, We would like to offer our sincere condolences to each of you. You all are in our continuous prayers. May God strengthen you during this time.
Always, Ms. Candis*

MS. L CANDIS - May 22, 2020 at 02:16 PM

AD

Sis Scates our sincere condolence to you and family.

Rev, Davie and Sis Davie

Angela Davie - May 22, 2020 at 04:45 PM

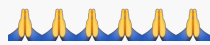


“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr.*

**CLICK HERE TO
VIEW SERVICE**

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 21, 2020 at 01:52 PM

AW



Ashley Whitney - May 22, 2020 at 01:35 PM



“ *Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr..*



May 26, 2020 at 07:46 PM

RD

“ *May the Lord continue to comfort and strengthened our family. The Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr., will remain in our hearts forever. Your daughter, Rev. Dr. Maria A. Scates, D.D. Also in Utica, NY, Rev. Ursula Meier, Evangelist Nancy Wolfe, the Lord Jesus Christ Tabernacle of David, Inc. (JCTOD-Church), the Seed of Hope Ministry and the Board, Staff and Program Participants of Johnson Park Center, (JPC)-Join Positive Change.*



Rev. Dr. Maria A. Scates, D.D. - May 22, 2020 at 06:42 PM



“ *Carlos Futrell lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr.*



Carlos Futrell - May 22, 2020 at 02:36 PM



“ *Our deepest and profound sympathy to Miss. Erma and the entire Scates family in your lost. May God's love give you peace.*

Wanda F Futrell and Family - May 22, 2020 at 12:46 PM



“ *My condolences to the Scates family, may God grant you comfort and peace during this time of bereavement.*

Mr. Clark (Plumber)

William Clark - May 21, 2020 at 10:23 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr..*



May 21, 2020 at 11:28 AM

RC

“ Prayers and Condolences to the Scates family and friends Pastor Scates was a dear friend to my husband the Late Pastor Gregory A Thomas 🙏🙏🙏❤️ much love to you all Renita Cherry-Thomas 🌹🌹

Renita Cherry-Thomas - May 21, 2020 at 08:53 AM



“ 33 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 20, 2020 at 08:29 PM

RJ

“ Rev. Dr. M. A. Scates & Rev. U. Meier, JCTOD & JPC purchased the Majestic Heart for the family of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr..



Rev. Dr. M. A. Scates & Rev. U. Meier, JCTOD & JPC - May 20, 2020 at 03:57 PM

AS

“ *Andrea Scates sent a virtual gift in memory of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr.*



Andrea Scates - May 20, 2020 at 01:29 PM

OC

“ *We met n the 70's at Naval hospital, both retired, and he remained both friend and patient for many years. I listened to his sermons on the radio. Nathaniel was Heaven sent, we just borrowed him for a while.*

Oran Chenault

ORAN CHENAULT - May 20, 2020 at 01:12 PM

RL

“ *My wife, Reverend Dee and I wishes to extend to the Scates' family our heartfelt and deepest sympathy on the passing of Reverend Nathaniel Scates.I was the Pastor of First Baptist , Orlando from 1986-1993 and Rev. Scates and our churches worshipped together faithfully. Job well done my brother in the ministry.*

Rev. Dr, James Edwards, III

Retired Pastor of New Rose of Sharon, Ches.

Author

Rev. Dr. James Edwards, III - May 19, 2020 at 09:25 PM

FS

“ To my Pastor's Doctor's Jermaine & Andrea Scates, Mrs. Erma Scates, Tabernacle Baptist Outreach Center and the Scates family.! My heartfelt condolences to each of you. Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates Sr. was a remarkable and humble man. I will always remember that thunderous voice singing *THERE'S A LEAK IN THIS OLD BUILDING* and quoting his favorite saying *DIDN'T OUR HEART'S BURN*. He held a special place in many heart's. To know him was to love him. He will truly be missed. It is my prayer that God will strengthen each of you. If y'all need me I'm just a phone call away. Not just now but anytime. I love y'all to Life ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️



Florence (Teddy) Sivells - May 18, 2020 at 08:59 AM



“ Elder Shelby Ward-Quamiley lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. Nathaniel Scates, Sr.



Elder Shelby Ward-Quamiley - May 17, 2020 at 08:27 AM