



Reverend Dr. William Carl Best

April 2, 1950 - April 8, 2026

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

William Carl Best, a devoted servant, proud veteran of the United States Air Force, faithful preacher, and cherished member of his community, passed away peacefully on April 8, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of honor, faith, and service.

William’s journey began with determination and promise. He was born on April 2, 1950 in Greenville NC to Matthew Best Sr and Letha Mae Harris. In 1970, he became the first in his family to graduate from high school, completing his education at J.H. Rose High School. This milestone reflected his perseverance, ambition, and deep commitment to building a better future. Following graduation, William served honorably in the United States Air Force. He was respected for his discipline, integrity, and unwavering dedication to duty, carrying out his service with pride and humility.

After his military career, William answered a higher calling and became a preacher. His ministry was defined by compassion, humility, and steadfast faith. Through his sermons and his daily walk, he offered encouragement, wisdom, and comfort to all who crossed his path.

William will be remembered for his service, his ministry, and above all, his love for his family. He lived a life guided by faith, principle, and kindness, leaving a lasting impact on everyone who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Bessie Harris; his parents, Matthew Best Sr. and Letha Mae Harris; his brothers, Pastor Matthew Best

and Bishop W.J Best.

William leaves behind six children, Patrick Gilbert, Tracelda Lindsey, Angela Randolph, Jacquez Parker, Diamond Best, and William Carl Best Jr; his ten grandchildren, Darius (Tonya), Dalon (Nateema), DonTravian, Jadazia, Malani, Mayson, Journee, EJ, Amora, and Aurora; his great-grandchildren, Darius Jr., Adrian, Ashton, Dyniah, Dalon Jr., and Ryder, his sisters, Pastor Ethel Best, Minister Dorothy Daniels, Prophetess Mary Joyner, Fannie Hudson (Gene), Alice Purvis; brothers, Pastor Larry Best, Linwood Best, Calvin Earl Ragmon; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends all of whom will continue to cherish his memory and carry forward his legacy.

“I heard the Master say, ‘You did your best—now close your eyes and take your rest.’”

Cemetery Details

Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery

164 Longs Plant Farm Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534

Previous Events

Viewing/Visitation

APR **19**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Philippi Church Of Christ
3760 Philippi Drive
Greenville, NC 27858

Celebration of Life Service

APR **19**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Philippi Church Of Christ
3760 Philippi Drive
Greenville, NC 27858

Burial Service

APR **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Eastern Carolina State Veterans Cemetery
164 Longs Plant Farm Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534

Tribute Wall

NK

“ *Tracelda, Mr Best is smiling down on you every day I worked I seen you ..we practically became family I'm sorry for your loss.May God bless you and your family
ECU North Tower Nurse Kyhg*

Nurse K - April 17 at 11:42 PM

AM

“ *Dr. Best was a very supportive parent. I can still remember him walking down the halls of Belvoir Elementary to make sure Diamond got to class alright. Diamond my prayers are with you & the rest of your family. May Yah give you peace & continue to keep you all.
Much love,
Dr. Akira Tillery Moore
(Kindergarten Teacher)*

Akira Moore - April 17 at 08:27 PM

CA

“ *Angela, with deepest sympathy, your work family is holding you close in our thoughts. We are so sorry for your loss and are sending love and condolences to you and your family during this difficult time
-BHED*

Candice - April 17 at 07:56 PM

AH

“ *Alton, Ella, and Amber Harris light a candle to honor the memory of Reverend William Best.*



Alton Harris - April 16 at 08:16 PM

MB

“ *To: The Best Family:
We are sending prayers and much love to all of you, during your bereavement. Larry is my play brother and W.J, was too.
I have a God, who knows what's best and he reached down and picked another beautiful flower to add to his "Master's Bouquet".
May our heavenly father give you strength to tunnel through the difficult days that lie ahead.
God bless each of you!*



Mrs. Joyce A. Greene Benjamin - April 16 at 06:24 PM

SR

“ *Praying for the family. God will see you through this. Dr. William Best will definitely be missed. Never a dull moment when he was around. RIP my friend. Deacon William Roach and Pat.*



Sarah Roach - April 16 at 07:46 AM

CD

“ *Sending sincere condolences and prayers to the family. May God continue to comfort you and surround you with His loving care. Your Classmates - C.M. Eppes 1969 last Junior Class.*



Connie Daniels-Brown - April 15 at 04:10 AM

KB

“ *Condolences to the BEST Family. Tribute to Larry and the way he cared for his brother, William.*

Katrina Blount - April 14 at 08:27 PM

EW

“ *Our deepest condolences goes out to the family of Rev. Best. May God give you peace and strength during this time of sorrow. Praying for the family.*

James and Evangeline Wilson

Evangeline Wilson - April 14 at 05:34 PM



VP

“ *Vernestine Clemons Paige lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best*

Vernestine Clemons Paige - April 14 at 04:31 PM



JM

“ *Sending my condolences to Rev. Best family. I have known him for years. Praying for the entire family. May GOD comfort, strengthen, and give you all peace as you trust in HIM.*

Joe and Tammy Murchison - April 13 at 09:25 PM

JT

“ J. Michal Tucker lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best



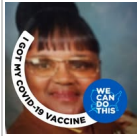
J. Michal Tucker - April 13 at 07:48 PM

BA

“ RIP my fellow classmate



Beatrice Atkinson - April 13 at 03:24 PM



“ Janice Reid lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best



Janice Reid - April 13 at 10:07 AM

PD

“ Peggy Daniels lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best



Peggy Daniels - April 12 at 08:47 PM

WC

“ *Walter And Mildred Council lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best*



Walter and Mildred Council - April 12 at 07:17 AM

RG

“ *Rhonda GrantJordan lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best*



Rhonda GrantJordan - April 11 at 01:36 PM

CS

“ *Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best*



Cecily Sene - April 10 at 10:59 PM

CS

“ *Thank you for all the kind heart felt words that you expressed and all the love you administered over the years. You will be missed but always in our hearts. Woodard and Sene Family. To Patrick and other family members you all are in our prayers, may God Bless you during your time of brieve ment. ❤️*

Cecily Sene - April 10 at 10:57 PM

CS

“ *Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Reverend Dr. William Carl Best*



Cecily Sene - April 10 at 10:53 PM

PJ

“ *Condolences to family of Rev. Carl Best*



Pastor Johnson - April 10 at 05:32 PM

CS

“ *Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.*



Congleton Funeral Home and Staff - April 10 at 01:39 PM

RH

Sorry for your loss. Another soldier gone to the place he strived to be. My prayers are with the family

Rev.Dr.Ella Hooks - April 10 at 06:44 PM

BW

My Condolences to the family.

Ben Wooten - April 10 at 09:37 PM

DW

With deepest sympathy and sincere condolences. William will be truly missed.

Dianne Nelson Wilson - April 14 at 08:26 PM

EH

“ *May Jesus Christ Continue To Comfort And Strengthen The Family 🙏*



Evangelist Gwen Hudson - April 10 at 09:24 AM

MF

May you rest in peace. You will be missed MOTHER MARTHA FREEMAN.

MARTHA FREEMAN - April 12 at 09:42 PM

MF

Martha Freeman you will be missed Rest in peace.

MARTHA FREEMAN - April 12 at 10:16 PM

MB

Condolences from Dr. Timothy & Joyce A. Greene Benjamin

Mrs. Joyce A. Greene Benjamin - April 16 at 06:32 PM