



## Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson

February 4, 1960 - December 29, 2023

Shirley Crandell Roberson was born on February 4, 1960 to the late Joe Louis Crandell and Mattie Stancil Crandell in Martin County. On Friday, December 29, 2023 she completed her assignment and departed peacefully at her home.

Shirley attended Roanoke High School in Robersonville and graduated in 1978. She was proud of being a cheerleader during high school but was most happy when she met and married her high school sweetheart, Russell Roberson, Sr. Together they had three children, one of whom passed away on December 29, 1983; little Alicia Roberson, born on January 4, 1983.

Shirley always challenged herself to become better and was constantly on the journey to learn more. She attended Martin Community College and spent the majority of her professional work career at West Point Pepperell in Hamilton, NC and NACCO in Greenville, NC where she eventually retired. She always let it be known that the job she did was one mostly done by men but of course she did it better than any man ever could. Shirley always knew her value and made sure that others did to.

After retirement, Shirley became laser focused on fulfilling her spiritual purpose and serving God and her community with all of her heart. She began this journey however early in life by becoming a member at Wynn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. She served as a member of the usher board and

then later joined the choir. She orchestrated many Christian plays utilizing church members as well as other people throughout the community. She accepted the call to the ministry at Wynn Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and was ordained under the Middle Ground Association by the Executive Board on March 27, 2004. She worked with many ministries throughout her Christian journey but the one most dear to her heart was the one she founded in 2009. It was called Empowerment for Today's World Ministries with a mission to introduce people to go and empower them and others to live a Godly lifestyle in today's world. She was also extremely passionate about serving at the Saint Mary's Missionary Baptist Church Food Bank in Greenville, NC. Shirley was truly a servant in her community faithfully working alongside her husband at Christ Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Robersonville, NC where she later became a member.

On Friday, December 29, 2023, forty years to the date, Little Alicia Roberson came to escort her mom to her heavenly home. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Linda Knight; half-sister, Mary Knight Purvis; brothers-in-law, Charlie Grimes, Clyde Knight

Evangelist Shirley leaves to cherish her memories her husband of 46 years, Pastor Dr. Russell Roberson, Sr; two children, Russell Donell Roberson, Jr (Kathy) of Raleigh, NC, LaToya Roberson Patrick (Gary) of Benson, NC; five grandsons, Sean Davis, Marcus Davis, Jevon Roberson, Gabriel Patrick, Nazir Patrick; two granddaughters, Kyra Davis and Aliysha Roberson; three brothers, Clifton Crandell (Yvonne) of Atlanta, GA, Wayne Crandell (Vita) of Clayton, NC, and Dwayne Crandell (Vivian) of Greenville, NC; four sisters, Margaret Grimes of Knightdale, NC, Evelyn Clyburn of Knightdale, NC, Joann Crandell Shepherd of Knightdale, NC, Karen Crandell of Robersonville, NC; a host of nieces, nephews, God children who she served and loved as her own. Also her dear teacher/children' God parents, Thomas and Nancy Chavis.



# Cemetery Details

## Robersonville Memorial Gardens

2418 C.L. Keel Road  
Robersonville, NC 27871

# Previous Events

## Viewing/Visitation

JAN 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Congleton Funeral Home and Cremations  
3205 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858  
(252) 355-9995  
congletonfuneral1@gmail.com  
<http://congletonmortuary.com>

## Viewing

JAN 6. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Roanoke Middle Ground Baptist Church Association  
3314 Robert Everett Road  
Robersonville, NC 27871

## **Celebration of Life Service**

---

JAN 6. 12:00 PM (ET)

Roanoke Middle Ground Baptist Church Association  
3314 Robert Everett Road  
Robersonville, NC 27871

# Tribute Wall

NT

“ *Nika Taylor lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson* ”



Nika Taylor - January 06, 2024 at 01:37 PM

GB

“ *Greg & Kathy Bonds lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson* ”



Greg & Kathy Bonds - January 06, 2024 at 10:37 AM

LM

“ *Lakeya Moore lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson* ”



Lakeya Moore - January 06, 2024 at 09:34 AM

JB

“ *Julie Bunn lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson* ”



Julie Bunn - January 06, 2024 at 08:57 AM

CC

“ *Carlton Clemons lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Carlton Clemons** - January 05, 2024 at 09:54 PM

DC

“ *My sincere condolences to all who knew and loved Shirley! She was a kind, loving, caring, funny soul who was always there for my family during some of our most challenging times! My Mama absolutely loved you Shirley; please give her a hug for me. -Debra Purvis Clayton, classmate - Roanoke High 1978*



---

**Debra Clayton** - January 05, 2024 at 05:15 PM

AW

“ *Anita Wynn lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Anita Wynn** - January 05, 2024 at 05:06 PM

SH

“ *Shirley Harris lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Shirley Harris** - January 05, 2024 at 05:00 PM

EL

“ We extend our sincere condolences to you at this time. Wishing you peace, comfort, courage and lots of love.

*Blessings!*

*Mother Gladys Little and Family*



---

**Evelyn Little** - January 05, 2024 at 04:33 PM

ML

*My condolences to you and family*

---

**Mr Bennie Little** - January 06, 2024 at 07:38 AM

RB

“ Roberson family you all have our deepest sympathies! We will keep you in our prayers during this difficult time. 🙏🙏

---

**Robert & Minnie Brown** - January 05, 2024 at 11:19 AM

RD

“ Sending prayers up for and sincere condolences to the entire Roberson family!!!

---

**Ronald Dolberry** - January 05, 2024 at 09:37 AM

LD

“ Lorie Dixon lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



---

**Lorie Dixon** - January 05, 2024 at 08:10 AM

JA

“ *Judy Andrews lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Judy Andrews** - January 04, 2024 at 07:23 PM

SL

“ *MY DEAR SISTER AS YOU WOULD ALWAYS CALL ME YOUR BABY SISTER. YOU LEFT US TO SOON BUT GOD KNOWS BEST. IM LOST FOR WORDS FOR THIS COMES SO UNEXPECTED. REST EASY MY SISTA. OUR PRAYERS BE WITH PASTOR RUSSELL ROBERSON & FAMILY DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. I PRAYER GOD GIVES US ALL THAT PEACE THAT PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING.*



*SHELIA LITTLE*

---

**SHELIA LITTLE** - January 04, 2024 at 04:54 PM

RJ

“ *My deepest condolences to the family. God promised us he would be with us in our time of trouble and that weeping may endure for night but joy will come in the morning. Praying for the family during these difficult days. Stay encouraged, God is faithful!*



*Rev. Walter Cherry, Jr*

---

**Rev. Walter Cherry, Jr** - January 04, 2024 at 03:15 PM

DS

“ Russell and the Crandell Family, May God grace provide comforts, strength and peace at this difficult time. The loss of my first cousin, Shirley, has impacted all of us. We trust God's call and her work was done.

*Donald Stancil*

---

**Donald R Stancil** - January 04, 2024 at 11:15 AM

MB

“ My Sincere Condolence's to the family of Evangelist Shirley Roberson. 🌸🌸🌸



---

**Mary L. Best** - January 03, 2024 at 07:25 PM

JW

“ We pray that God comforts and strengthens the entire Roberson/Crandell family during this difficult time. God bless each of you.



---

**James R. & Karen Wallace** - January 03, 2024 at 06:30 PM

DA

*Pastor Roberson and Family, Shirley will be missed. My prayers are with you and may God comfort and strengthen you and your family during this difficult time. Deborah Andrews Moore*

---

**Deborah Andrews** - January 04, 2024 at 02:53 PM

PM

“ Patricia M. Modica lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Patricia M. Modica - January 03, 2024 at 03:06 PM

MB

“ Milton " Monk Bryant lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Milton " Monk Bryant - January 03, 2024 at 12:01 PM

JB

“ James & Amy Brown lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



James & Amy Brown - January 03, 2024 at 12:45 AM

DG

“ Delsie R Gray lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Delsie R Gray - January 02, 2024 at 10:09 PM

PK

“ Polly Knight lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Polly Knight - January 02, 2024 at 09:37 PM

SP

“ With our deepest condolences to the Roberson Family in the passing of your love one. Staris and The Pines Chapel MBC youth department.



Staris Plemmer - January 02, 2024 at 07:06 PM

DL

“ Debora Lloyd lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Debora Lloyd - January 02, 2024 at 05:47 PM

MW

“ Michele Williams lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Michele Williams - January 02, 2024 at 01:15 PM

EC

“ We pray for strength, peace and continual guidance from our Lord Jesus to the Roberson Family as you press forward through the passing of Evangelist Roberson. Even tho her physical presence is no longer with her, we will always hold her memory in our hearts...Belmont Church Family



---

**Evan. Faye Chance** - January 02, 2024 at 12:31 PM

GB

“ Glenda Barnes lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



---

**glenda barnes** - January 02, 2024 at 08:57 AM

RB

“ Hearing of Shirley's swift translation made me reflect on the last conversation we had together. She was getting ready for church and had to be ready when pastor Roberson was ready to leave for church. Her commitment to God and your husband blessed me that Sunday morning. The joys of God from her facial expressions will be void and missed in my life. Blessings your way in Jesus name. Rev. Mildred Carroll Brown

---

**Rev.Mildred Carroll Brown** - January 02, 2024 at 08:29 AM

MJ

“ God bless you and keep you in his care  
sending prayers and condolences Mary Joyn



Mary Joyner - January 02, 2024 at 05:16 AM

EB

“ Eleanor Broadie lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Eleanor Broadie - January 01, 2024 at 08:08 PM



“ Joseph & Peggy Slade sent a virtual gift in  
memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell  
Roberson



Joseph & Peggy Slade - January 01, 2024 at 07:02 PM

MP

“ Michael Purvis lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Michael Purvis - January 01, 2024 at 05:18 PM

RP

“ *Rebecca Page lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Rebecca Page** - January 01, 2024 at 05:07 PM

BR

“ *My friend Karen and the family I am so sorry to hear about your sister the family is in our prayers Praying that God will continue to give you all the strength to go thru*



---

**Barbara Rodgers** - January 01, 2024 at 02:48 PM

PC

“ *Patrice Cox lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Patrice Cox** - January 01, 2024 at 02:39 PM

NM

“ *Norma (Spruill) Murphy lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Norma (Spruill) Murphy** - January 01, 2024 at 01:47 PM

RB

“ *Rep. Gloristine Brown lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



Rep. Gloristine Brown - January 01, 2024 at 11:15 AM

RC

“ *Richaunda Carr lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



Richaunda Carr - January 01, 2024 at 09:13 AM

RC

“ *Growing up I witnessed my mother having friends . However , the relationship my mother had with Mrs. Shirley was one of a kind . They were best friends . From as far back as I can remember , Mrs. Shirley's smile was heartwarming. I have so many memories with our families being together laughing, eating , and having a good genuine time . I am certain that so many loved ones greeted Mrs. Shirley in heaven , especially one of her best friends -my mother.*

*I pray for strength during this time for Latoya, Little Russell, and of course Pastor Roberson .*

*Love Always ,  
Richaunda (LeeLee) Carr*

Richaunda Carr - January 01, 2024 at 09:06 AM

LC

“ My condolences to the family. Evangelist Shirley was a dependable volunteer for 15 years with the SMRCO (St. Mary) food box distribution. She was a hard worker, always on time, one of crew leaders. She will be missed. Larry Chance

Larry Chance - January 01, 2024 at 05:47 AM

JC

“ I'm praying for comfort for the Crandell and Roberson family.



Jessica Carroll - January 01, 2024 at 05:46 AM

TS

“ Tracie Smith lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Tracie Smith - January 01, 2024 at 12:36 AM

MP

“ Michelle Purvis lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Michelle Purvis - December 31, 2023 at 11:22 PM

PB

“ *Pastor And Mrs Michael Bridgers lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Pastor and Mrs Michael Bridgers** - December 31, 2023 at 09:36 PM

PB

“ *Pastor Michael And Lady Wendy Bridgers lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Pastor Michael and Lady Wendy Bridgers** - December 31, 2023 at 09:33 PM

NW

“ *Nelson & Ethel Wallace lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Nelson & Ethel Wallace** - December 31, 2023 at 09:04 PM

EW

“ *Evette Washington lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Evette Washington** - December 31, 2023 at 08:49 PM

TM

“ Praying for the family....



Tonette Hudgins McNeil - December 31, 2023 at 07:46 PM

PC

“ Praying For The Roberson Family Only God Can Heal A Broken Heart.



Patrice Cox - December 31, 2023 at 07:09 PM

D?

“ Darius & Leslie Hudgins 🙏❤️ lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Darius & Leslie Hudgins 🙏❤️ - December 31, 2023 at 07:07 PM

DL

“ Donny Lynch lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Donny Lynch - December 31, 2023 at 06:22 PM

JB

“ *Juanita Purvis Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Juanita Purvis Brown** - December 31, 2023 at 06:21 PM

DB

“ *Will surely miss our talks and laughs. Thanks for the Love you always showed me. Praying for the entire family 🙏*



---

**Deborh Battle** - December 31, 2023 at 04:08 PM

PH

“ *Phyllis C Howell lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



---

**Phyllis C Howell** - December 31, 2023 at 03:18 PM

DL

“ Mrs Shirley, we will miss your presence at our annual Making Strides for Breast Cancer Walk. You have always been one of our biggest supporters. I know Karen, Van, and I will feel your presence as we continue the fight. You have been such a blessing to so many others as well. Our prayers are with Karen, Pastor Roberson and the family during this difficult time. God Bless You!❤️



Debra Lee - December 31, 2023 at 09:26 AM

IM

Our deepest condolences to the family, may God continue to keep the family strong.

Inez Moore - January 01, 2024 at 06:51 AM

EH

Thank you deeply

Earnest Hudson - January 01, 2024 at 08:05 AM

JH

“ Jaunese Hines lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Jaunese Hines - December 31, 2023 at 09:07 AM

DL

“ Debra Lee lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



---

**Debra Lee** - December 31, 2023 at 09:04 AM

BF

Praying for my family. Sending our Deepest condolences 🌸 from Aunt  
Thedell family 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤�

---

**Barbara Stancil-White & Family** - December 31, 2023 at 06:56 PM

LW

“ Louise Weathersbe lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



---

**Louise Weathersbe** - December 30, 2023 at 09:42 PM

BH

“ Barbara Hollis-Carr lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



---

**Barbara Hollis-Carr** - December 30, 2023 at 09:23 PM

DC

“ *My prayers are with you at this time of bereavement.*



**Donte Crowell** - December 30, 2023 at 08:49 PM

PC

“ *Patricia Crandell lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Patricia Crandell** - December 30, 2023 at 04:51 PM

OP

“ *Odessa Keel Pugh lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Odessa Keel Pugh** - December 30, 2023 at 04:51 PM



“ *Joyce Purvis lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Joyce Purvis** - December 30, 2023 at 03:34 PM

TF

“ Teresa Fleming lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Teresa Fleming - December 30, 2023 at 03:17 PM

CW

“ Condolences to the family! 🙏

Kenneth & Cathy Wallace



Cathy Wallace - December 30, 2023 at 01:23 PM

KW

“ Keanna Womble lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Keanna Womble - December 30, 2023 at 11:19 AM

JW

“ Jennifer Womble lit a candle in memory of  
Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Jennifer Womble - December 30, 2023 at 11:19 AM

TH

“ Terry Ross Howard lit a candle in memories of Shirley Roberson



Terry Howard - December 30, 2023 at 11:06 AM

SC

“ Shirley Cox lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Shirley Cox - December 30, 2023 at 10:55 AM

PP

“ Pastor Renee Pearsall lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Pastor Renee Pearsall - December 30, 2023 at 10:19 AM

ML

“ Our condolences goes out to the Roberson family...Philippians 4:7...And the Peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ...🙏  
😊❤️



Mildred And William Little - December 30, 2023 at 10:09 AM

JC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



James H Cratt - December 30, 2023 at 09:16 AM

JC

“ James H Cratt lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



James H Cratt - December 30, 2023 at 09:12 AM

CH

“ Carolyn Harrell lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Carolyn Harrell - December 30, 2023 at 09:06 AM

PF

“ Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family - December 30, 2023 at 08:37 AM

PF

“ Pastor God Bless you and your family. (Cecily) "I will always remember First lady, we use to always laugh together whenever we were in each other's presence. She was my flower and great friend. The last time we laughed was at my nieces graduation 🎓 but her love for me and the love I have for her will always shine. 🌞🌹 Family be proud and let Mrs. Shirley's Memories live in your hearts 💕💕 You can make it through love and perseverance.

Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family - December 30, 2023 at 08:36 AM

GB

“ Gregory Bonds lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Gregory Bonds - December 30, 2023 at 08:36 AM

EH

“ Earnest Hudson lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Earnest Hudson - December 30, 2023 at 07:49 AM

TD

“ Our deepest sympathy. We will continually pray for you and your family & the. Crandell family Dr. Roberson. Tony & Bobby Jo Dixon



Tony Dixon - December 30, 2023 at 07:44 AM

SC

“ *My sincere condolences even though I only met her once. I had felt like I been knowing her for ever. Mother Mamie Barnhill taught highly of her so I knew her. My condolences praying strength for you all*

-----  
**Sadie C Clark** - December 29, 2023 at 10:47 PM

LB

“ *Larry Barnes sent a virtual gift in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



-----  
**Larry Barnes** - December 29, 2023 at 10:37 PM

SH

*Our prayers are with you Mr Russell Roberson and family. Sophia, Jay , Landon.*

-----  
**Sophia Highsmith** - January 02, 2024 at 07:33 PM



“ *Brenda Purvis lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



-----  
**Brenda Purvis** - December 29, 2023 at 09:25 PM

HD

“ Hazel Brown Davis lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Hazel Brown Davis - December 29, 2023 at 08:49 PM

PC

“ Priscilla Cooper lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Priscilla Cooper - December 29, 2023 at 06:47 PM

HR

“ Helen Randolph lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Helen Randolph - December 29, 2023 at 06:17 PM

AC

“ Agnes Purvis Clemons lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson



Agnes Purvis Clemons - December 29, 2023 at 03:38 PM

HR

*Rev Roberson and family, you all have my deepest sympathy.*

**Helen Randolph** - December 29, 2023 at 06:19 PM

DP

*May God be with you and your family in a time like this our love and prayers are with you lovingly Bishop Kelly Purvis and family*

**Delois Purvis** - December 30, 2023 at 08:11 AM

ZB

“ *Zachary Bunns lit a candle in memory of Evangelist Shirley Crandell Roberson*



**Zachary Bunns** - December 29, 2023 at 03:29 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** - December 29, 2023 at 11:54 AM

TH

*Terry Ross Howard is sending prayers and sincere condolences to the Roberson family*

**Terry Howard** - December 30, 2023 at 11:00 AM

MF

*My condolences to the families sending prayers Hold Onto your Faith*

**Mr Bennie Little and family** - January 01, 2024 at 07:21 AM

GH

*Gloria Hunter is sending prayers and condolences to the Roberson family*

---

**Gloria Hunter** - January 01, 2024 at 11:24 AM

RC

*Sending our deepest sympathy to the family; know we are praying for you now and days ahead ; god will see you through.*

*Rev Dora Cox /Dec William Cox*

---

**reverend dora cox & dec william cox** - January 04, 2024 at 07:34 PM