



## Raymond M Dickenson Sr

November 22, 1937 - June 26, 2020

Presiding Elder Raymond M. Dickenson, Sr.

November 22, 1937 – June 26, 2020

Presiding Elder Raymond McDonald Dickenson, Sr. born on November 22, 1937 in Russell County, Virginia, attained true freedom when he was called to eternal rest at his home on Friday, June 26, 2020. Presiding Elder Dickenson, affectionately called Johnny by family and friends, spent his formative years in Johnson City, TN and graduated from Langston High School. It was at Langston where he met his sweetheart Ola Marie Rollins. After high school, he served several years in the United States Air Force and then returned to marry Ola Marie in 1959.

Presiding Elder Dickenson was predeceased by his mother, Lillian Dickenson Echols, father, Isaac “Ike” Wade, and sons Raymond, Jr. and Eric. Presiding Elder Dickenson leaves to mourn his wife of 60 years, Ola Marie, brother Herman Echols (Libby) Johnson City, TN, daughters Tina McDaniel (William) Bristol, TN, and Carmen Burton (Jeffrey Sr.) Salisbury, NC, six grandchildren Tyson McDaniel, Matthew Dickenson (Julie), Taylor Glanzman (Tyler), Jeffrey Burton Jr., Anthony Dickenson and Erika Dickenson, three great grandchildren (Eric, Kylie and Everett), daughter-in-law Abbe and special daughter Miriam Luna, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other beloved family members, friends and colleagues.

Raymond gave his life to Jesus Christ at Friendship Baptist Church in Johnson City, TN and later responded to the call on his life to preach the Gospel. He was ordained as a minister under the leadership of the late Bishop Sylvester Anderson in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and was later ordained as Presiding Elder by the late Bishop James Clinton Hoggard. Presiding Elder Dickenson pastored several A.M.E. Zion congregations throughout East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia (Limestone, Chuckey, and Jonesboro A.M.E Zion Church, Hood Memorial A.M.E. Zion/Bristol TN, Brown's Chapel A.M.E. Zion/Elizabethton TN, Harris-Anderson A.M.E. Zion/Bristol VA, Bluff City A.M.E. Zion/Bluff City TN, Long's Chapel A.M.E. Zion/Dante VA, Bundy's Chapel A.M.E. Zion/Castlewood VA and Lebanon Chapel A.M.E. Zion/Lebanon VA. Presiding Elder Dickenson faithfully led the Bristol District of the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal area and represented the conference as General Conference delegate on several occasions. Upon retirement, Elder attended Jones Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church in Greeneville, TN and served faithfully until his health declined. He was a faithful teacher and student of the Bible who considered his calling a privilege and honor. Presiding Elder Dickenson was truly grateful for God giving him the opportunity to serve in His Great Church.

While the church played a vital role in Presiding Elder's life, he retired in 1991 from Eastman Kodak where he was a maintenance repairman. He was an avid learner and completed studies from Moody Bible College in Chicago, IL and graduated with his Associate in Biblical Education from Graham Bible College in Bristol, TN. Presiding Elder Dickenson received his FAA Pilot's License and was the first black flight instructor in the Tri-Cities. After retirement, Presiding Elder continued his studies by taking courses at Northeast State Community College. Presiding Elder's love for God, family, people and sense of humor will be missed.

Special thank you to David and Anita with Home Instead Senior Care, community members and many others for the love and care given Elder during the past six months.

Birchette Mortuary in Johnson City, TN is in charge of arrangements. Due to covid-19 restrictions, private services will be scheduled with a memorial at a later date. The family will be receiving friends at the home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Raymond M Dickenson Sr*

January 29, 2023 at 10:28 PM



“ *I was saddened to hear of the passing of my dear friend Presiding Elder Raymond Dickenson, who was also my flight instructor. As one of the Presiding Elder of the East Tennessee and Virginia Conference it was a blessing to be around him. He had a great sense of humor with a postive attitude and thought before he spoke. He will definitely be missed.*

**Angelo Newman** - July 05, 2020 at 08:14 PM



“ *Angelo Newman lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



**Angelo Newman** - July 05, 2020 at 07:41 PM



“ *Stella Pyles lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



**Stella Pyles** - July 05, 2020 at 07:00 PM

CP

“ Though I did not personally know Taylor's grandfather, through Taylor I know the spirit of God was upon him and God looked from heaven and said, "this is my son Raymond in whom I am well pleased."



Caye Perry - July 04, 2020 at 06:40 PM



“ Phyllis Askew sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr



Phyllis Askew - July 03, 2020 at 10:20 AM



“ Reading the loss of this dear man, brought tears. Raymond was my Flight Instructor and became a friend to me and my husband, Clyde Cash. (Deceased). We had the utmost respect for Raymond and his values. We were always met with a big smile. He had that special glow about him that made one know immediately that he was a man of GOD. Oh, how this world needs more men like Raymond Dickenson. Marie, My heart aches for you and your family for your loss. But he's in Heaven now, and God will help you through this time of sorrow, because He said he would never leave us. Thank you, Jesus. And may God bless you and yours. Sincerely, Vivian Cash (Mrs. Clyde A. Cash). Clydes Auto Repair, Jonesborough

Laneith Kinsey - July 03, 2020 at 10:05 AM

SS

“ *Sandra Sylvers lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



Sandra Sylvers - July 03, 2020 at 08:20 AM

RS

“ *Rest In Peace Rev. Dickenson my mom loved you and your wife praying for you Tina and the family.*



Roz Saunders - July 03, 2020 at 04:52 AM

MF

“ *Moricina Fain sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



Moricina Fain - July 02, 2020 at 03:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Raymond M Dickenson Sr.*



July 02, 2020 at 09:22 AM

RF

“ *Renea Hall And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



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**Renea Hall and Family** - July 02, 2020 at 09:15 AM

DB

“ *Heaven gained a angle. Going to miss all of our talks. Thank you Rev Dickerson for always believing in me and for the huge impact you have made on my journey.*



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**Dr. Jovan Bass** - July 01, 2020 at 05:26 PM

CC

“ *Prayers to the family  
He was my pilot instructor at tri city airport and a very kind and easy going teacher*

*God's blessings*

*Chris Carter*

*Boones Creek*

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**Carol sells carter** - July 01, 2020 at 04:03 PM

RC

“ *Rev Sharon Comage lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



Rev Sharon Comage - July 01, 2020 at 03:59 PM

RC

“ *Rev Sharon Comage sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



Rev Sharon Comage - July 01, 2020 at 03:58 PM

MJ

“ *Mary Ann Janes lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



Mary Ann Janes - July 01, 2020 at 01:39 PM

VP

“ *Viola Patton sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



Viola Patton - July 01, 2020 at 10:35 AM

DG

“ *Deborah Grey sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



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**Deborah Grey** - July 01, 2020 at 10:13 AM

RA

“ *Elder was special to me, i called him dad he was so kind and told it like it was he was frank and honest and i loved every moment i spent with him my heart is heavy but my tears flow because heaven just received a angle who i know will take charge*



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**Robin Arnett** - July 01, 2020 at 08:35 AM

JW

“ *Jim & Karen Warren lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



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**Jim & Karen Warren** - July 01, 2020 at 07:21 AM

R(

“ To the family of Presiding Elder Raymond M. Dickenson Sr. Eighteen years ago my family and I had the proud privilege to meet Elder Dickenson and work together with him in ministry. My husband pastored Hood Memorial AME Zion. My condolences on the passing of your loved one. I am deeply saddened by the loss that you and your family are experiencing. May my continual prayers ease the pain of your loss. I offer you my thoughts, prayers, and well-wishes during the time of your bereavement.



*Rev. Dr. Frances Ann Murray (Reid) - Anchorage, Alaska*

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**Rev. Frances Murray (Reid)** - July 01, 2020 at 12:10 AM

JS

“ Will miss one of my favorite Uncles...Uncle Johnny! I am so thankful to the Lord for sharing him with us for a little while. Prayers go up for the family in the loss of a wonderful Godly man who modeled what it is to live for Christ...he labored for the Lord to save souls. Aunt Marie, I know he is now at peace with his Lord...no more suffering...no more pain...only now joy being with his Savior. Love you family!



*Rev. & Mrs. John and Karen Rollins*

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**John Rollins Sr.** - June 30, 2020 at 11:25 PM

TT

“ To the Dickenson Family,  
Prayers to you and your family during this time. Ola you are always special to me and Tina you was there for us during the loss of both of my parents. So sorry I cannot share the love and hugs to you. Continue prayers to you and your family.  
Love and blessings to you all.

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**Theressa Taylor** - June 30, 2020 at 10:51 PM

MC

“ Marvin & Pam Cain lit a candle in memory of  
Raymond M Dickenson Sr



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**Marvin & Pam Cain** - June 30, 2020 at 07:36 PM

DR

“ Dear Family,thank you for sharing Rev.  
Dickerson with all of us.  
What a beautiful spirit he had giving his all to  
all of us. I cannot  
thank you enough for all that he did for me  
and my family. May  
God's love comfort you all His care strengthen you and may His  
blessings be yours day by day. Mrs. Ola, he love you and the  
girls so much. He will be missed more than you will ever know.  
Much love, Doug and Vivian All you have to do is call me.



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**Douglas Releford** - June 30, 2020 at 07:06 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Raymond M Dickenson Sr.*



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June 30, 2020 at 04:30 PM



“ *Frazier & Elbert Lyons sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



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**Frazier & Elbert Lyons** - June 30, 2020 at 04:05 PM



“ *Margaret Huntley lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



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**Margaret Huntley** - June 30, 2020 at 03:48 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Raymond M Dickenson Sr.*



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June 30, 2020 at 01:44 PM

NW

“ I will always cherish the memory of my conversation with Uncle Johnny. I send my love, prayers and deepest sympathy to the family. May God continue to comfort and strengthen you.



Nannette Wade - June 30, 2020 at 01:37 PM

BB

“ Betty Blue lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr



Betty Blue - June 30, 2020 at 01:25 PM

WS

“ Woody And Mamie Scott lit a candle in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr



Woody and Mamie Scott - June 30, 2020 at 12:44 PM

JW

“ Janice Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr



Janice wells - June 30, 2020 at 12:23 PM

CA

“ *Crystal Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of Raymond M Dickenson Sr*



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**crystal anderson** - June 28, 2020 at 02:59 PM

WT

*Rev. Raymond Dickenson, Sr. was I believe my first instructor pilot (FAA Flight Instructor) at Aero Flight when I started my flight training at TRI back in 1987. He was a great instructor and had such a keen sense of humor. May the Lord bless his dear wife, children and extended family during this most difficult time. I was truly blessed to have know him.*

*Wesley Alan Taylor, FAA Private Pilot, SEL*

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**Wesley Alan Taylor** - July 02, 2020 at 10:30 AM