

# *The Life and Service of Carolyn Peters*

Carolyn Marie Peters was born the oldest of seven children on February 17, 1952 in Kingfisher, Oklahoma to Claudette Peters and Wayne Stevenson.

Carolyn accepted Christ at the age of twelve, and united with the St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, OK under the pastorage of the late Rev. W. K. Jackson. She was faithful in Sunday school, Youth Ministry, Youth Usher Ministry and the Youth choir. As a child Carolyn was always eager to attend church services.

Later she united with the Fairview Baptist Church where she served and was very faithful until death. Carolyn served as a Sunday school teacher for over 20 years, member and past Group Leader of the Elusta Holloway Mission Action and Study Group and served on the Adult Usher Ministry. She served as Evangelism Coordinator for the Women's Ministry, member of the Witnessing and Evangelism Team, Co-Director of the Discipleship Ministry for twelve years; and in 2008 became the Director, Co-Director and later Director of the Singles Ministry, organized and sponsored the Youth Usher Ministry for seventeen years, member of the Grief Committee, Prison Ministry and once served as one of the Announcement Clerks for the church.

Carolyn also served as Evangelism Coordinator for the Women's Ministry of the East Zion District for several years. She was a student of the bible and enjoyed sharing the word with others.

Carolyn attended Truman and Dunbar Elementary Schools, John F. Kennedy Junior High School and graduated from Douglass High School in 1970. She went on to attend Langston University where she obtained a BA degree in Sociology in 1974. While at Langston University she was listed in "Who's Who among College and University Students." She attended Central State University, studying in the area of Counseling Psychology and later graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1983 where she received a Master's Degree in Human Relations.

In 1990, Carolyn became an entrepreneur investing in rental properties. She not only owned the properties but also managed them. It was not uncommon for find her actually doing some of the repairs. She developed good relationships with her tenants and was always inquiring about their relationship with God.

She was a life-time member of the Langston University Alumni Association and a member of the NAACP. In 2010, Carolyn received her Certificate of Progress for the First Phase of the Christian Education Diploma presented by the Christian Education Accreditations and Credentials Sunday School Publishing's Board, National Baptist Convention, USA, INC. She also taught in the East Zion Consolidated District Congress of Christian Education and the Leadership school at Fairview.

After graduation, she served seven years as a volunteer for the Department of Human Services in the Family Services Unit; a service she truly enjoyed as she served as a mentor for troubled youth. She was nominated for Volunteer of the Year and was also nominated for the Channel 5 "Who Cares Award." Carolyn's consuming and passionate desire to be of service to mankind directed her life and it was evident in all her endeavors. She was a woman of noble character, unwavering integrity, with a compassionate spirit and was always found helping her family, friends and anyone she came in contact with. Her strength, support and talent for making others feel special was a blessing to all who knew her.

She had a special concern and passion for leading the lost to Christ. From her youth you could always find her in the marketplace sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others. She

volunteered her services with prison ministries, the homeless, the elderly and various other areas where she felt led by the Master. She tried to do all things as doing them unto the Lord for she was sure she had been redeemed.

In 1995, God blessed Carolyn with a son, Devin, whom she loved dearly. She devoted her life to loving, raising him and teaching him the ways of the Lord. They had a beautiful, loving relationship. She believed he was truly a blessing from the Lord.

Carolyn was employed by Tinker Air Logistics Center and retired on January 3, 2009, with over 35 years of service. While employed by Tinker, she was Supervisor and Team Lead in the Item Management Section of the Avionics Branch which was later changed to 848th Combat Sustainment Group. She also received several performance awards and was nominated and received the first Air Logistics Center's People in Action Award in 1988 for her community involvement and genuine concern and compassion for mankind.

In 1998, she was nominated for the Angel of the Year Award. In 2006, she received a Notable Achievement Award and was nominated for the Blacks in Government (BIG) Distinguished Service Award. Carolyn was also a Team Captain of the Team Tinker Tutoring Program for 13 years tutoring in both Oklahoma City and Mid-Del School Districts. It was important to her for children to be able to succeed and reach their fullest potential. She believed that all children can learn. Educators have to find the way or method in which they learn. She served for several years as a Presenter for One Church One Child.

Carolyn leaves a beautiful legacy of unconditional love for mankind because of her love for God. She was sincere about all that she would do and had a heartfelt desire to please the Master.

Her father, Wayne Stevenson and stepfather, Thurman Gaines, both of which she loved very much preceded her in death. Both maternal and paternal grandparents preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish her homegoing, her beloved son, Devin Dewon Peters of Midwest City, OK; her mother, Claudette Gaines; two sisters: Brenda Gaines and Linda Gaines, both of Oklahoma City; four brothers: Gregory (Mattie), Larry, Terry (Beverly) and Reginald (Renae), all of Oklahoma City, OK; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and very dear friends.



## *To Those I Love and To Those Who Love Me*

When I am gone, release me, let me go. I have so many things to see and do.

You must not tie yourself to me with tears; be happy that we had so many beautiful years.

I gave you my love, you can only guess how much you gave me in happiness.

I thank you for the love each of you has shown, but now it's time I travel alone.

So grieve for me awhile if you must, then let your grief be comforted by trust,

It's only for awhile that we must part, so bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on. So if you need me, call and I will come.

Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near.

And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear all my love around you soft and clear.

And then, when you come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile and say, "Welcome Home!"