

Harvey Lee Hunt

September 7, 1928 – February 10, 2015

Harvey L. Hunt was born September 7, 1938 in Cleveland, Ohio, the second of two children of John McCurry and Lois Hunt.

Harvey graduated from Williamsfield high School in Williamsfield, Ohio in Ohio in 1958. At Williamsfield he was a scholar-athlete, having held the countywide record for the most points scored in a high school basketball game, a record only broken three decades later. He was elected to the Ashtabula County Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006 and remains one of Ohio's Top 201 All-Time high school shooters.



After graduation from high school, Harvey attended Kent State University (KSU) where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963. He was a scholar-athlete at KSU, playing football and basketball and was admitted to the Epsilon /delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. It was at KSU that Harvey met Thelma Hill, his wife of 28 years and the mother of his three children.

After matriculating from KSU, Harvey enlisted in the United States Air Force (USAF) as a Non-Commissioned Officer in 1963. He was soon asked to join the officer training corps, and received his first Lieutenant bars in 1965, rising to the rank of Captain in 1968. Harvey served for 12 years in the USAF, with postings throughout Asia and America. During his military service, he was awarded numerous honors, including the Air Force Commendation Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Air Force Medal. He retired from the USAF in 1976.

In 1980, Harvey began a second career at the Internal Revenue Service in Andover, Massachusetts where he served as an Equal Opportunity Officer, later, as the Facility Security Officer. He served at the IRS for 20 years and was liked and respected across the Service.

Harvey's move to Massachusetts also marked an important period in his spiritual growth. He came to Christianity late in life, but after he gave the Lord his hand, he never let go and never looked back. He became an active member and church leader at Saint John's Baptist located in Woburn, Massachusetts. Throughout his adult life, Harvey served in numerous roles in the church and lent his perfect pitch and rich baritone voice to many services and occasions including at all of his children's weddings. While at Saint John's, he also began his studies at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary where he earned a Master's Degree in Urban Ministry and self-published a book, Blacks in the Bible. He put his Master's Degree to good use at Metropolitan Baptist Church (MBC) in Dorchester, Massachusetts where he served on the ministerial staff as chairperson of the Christian Education Ministry with his dear friend and brother in faith Rev. Dr. John Womack. After several years at MBC, he retired to Mableton, Georgia in 2008 to be near his family.

Harvey was a noted conversationalist and debater, with an archivist's memory of the minutest production details from films ranging from Casablanca to The Return of Jedi. In fact, if ever there was an armchair Jedi, Harvey was it. A true renaissance man, Harvey was gregarious, loud, erudite, a greater listener and always willing to put another's needs before his own. He was a big man, but it takes a big man to contain such an open and generous spirit.

Harvey is survived by his wife, Thelma; three children: Anthony and wife, Deborah; Vivian and husband, Nicholas; and Jonathan and wife, Ashanti; four glorious grandchildren: Kiana, Gabriel, Norah, and Jonathan II, all of whom he loved "a bushel and a peck." His family will miss him terribly but take comfort in knowing that he is with God.

Harvey is predeceased by his older brother, Ralph and survived by two half-siblings, Sharane Carr of Jersey City, New Jersey; and John Michael McCurry of New York, New York.

Resolution Minister Harvey Hunt

Whereas: It is with a mixture of sadness and longing and on the other hand, utmost joy that we remember Minister Harvey Hunt, whom God has called home to be with him in Paradise. Joy, because he will join all the Saints gone home before; and sadness that we cannot share his loving presence among us.

Whereas: Minister Hunt was a devoted member of Metropolitan Baptist Church for several years. He truly loved the Lord and gave his all in worship, praises, service, teaching, training, making disciples. He was a man of greatness in every respect and yet, a "gentle giant". Who can ever forget his big heart and his tender compassion, or his magnificent talented voice singing the songs of Zion with such love and grace?

Whereas: Metropolitan remembers how he was a part of every program, whether associate minister, preaching the Gospel, Sunday school superintendent, Bible study class teacher, men's fellowship, vacation Bible school, youth department, choirs, conventions, conferences, everything and every place he was needed. We remember he was a real historian, teaching about the place of Black folk in the scriptures and with all his knowledge he was bold in the word yet humble in spirit. He never tried to usurp authority, but he showed himself to be as good a follower of God's leadership as he was a leader of God's people. We love and miss him. Rev. 22:12 "Behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me to give every man according as his work shall be".

Whereas: Just as Minister Hunt served his country in the military, he served in the churches by fighting in the Army of the Lord against the enemies of God, always putting on and wearing the whole armor of God. And just as a soldier receives his reward for valor, Minister Hunt has gone home to receive his reward in Glory with the words "well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the Joy of your Lord".

Therefore: We resolve that we will lift up the family in prayer and keep Minister Hunt in our hearts with love and thanksgiving to God for allowing his wonderful spirit to bond with us. We pray for God's comfort to keep you as you mourn your loss in the days ahead. We resolve also to present this resolution to the family and keep a copy in our archives at Metropolitan Baptist Church. God bless you.

Done by order of Pastor Ronel W. Gunn, on this Seventeenth Day of February in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Fifteen.

Humbly Submitted,
Metropolitan Baptist Church,
Barbara J. Johnson, Church Clerk

