



## Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry

February 1, 2025

In Remembrance of Rev. Robert W. Perry

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-4

" To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

Robert W. Perry experienced and journeyed through many seasons in his life, each one with his Heavenly Father cradling and holding him so closely as he navigated him through diverse changes, obstacles and courses. This prophetic scripture is a reminder that Robert only endured what the word of GOD declares.

### A TIME TO BE BORN

Robert W. Perry's life journey began 93 years ago when he was born in Brooklyn, New York to the late Sabra Purdie and Robert W. Perry, Sr. He was the only child and his parents' pride and joy.

### A TIME TO DIE

On Saturday, February 1, 2025, Robert peacefully departed from his body so that he might rest from his labor here on earth. GOD in His infinite wisdom and sovereignty brought an end to this season for Robert on this day. His final days were spent surrounded by the family that he nurtured and loved, and that

loved him as well. This new season is not as fleeting as the others. It is the everlasting one that his Heavenly Father promised: no more pain, no more heartaches, no more suffering- only peace as he rests in aster. It is a time when he can now dance and rejoice with the angels.

#### A TIME TO LOVE

Robert was joined in holy matrimony to his high school sweetheart, Odessa Brown of Portsmouth, VA. God blessed them with 71 beautiful years of marriage prior to his passing. Through their union three beautiful children were born- Jacquelyn Anderson (Ernest), Vincent Perry, and Crystal Perry Holden (Curtis), four grandchildren, Michael Reed (Allie Reed) of Columbia, South Carolina, Vincent Perry II, Sierra Perry, Jordan Perry, and three great grandchildren, Ariel Reed, Mya Reed, and Aliyah Reed of Columbia, South Carolina.

#### A TIME TO PLANT

Rev. Perry is a graduate of Virginia Union University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Master of Divinity Degree from the School of Theology. He attended Law School at American University, Washington, D.C., Union Theological Seminary, New York, New York and matriculated in the Master of Science Degree program at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut. Two Honorary Degrees were awarded to him from Virginia Seminary and College, Lynchburg, Virginia, in addition to an Honorary Degree from Virginia Union University. Rev. Perry is a Veteran of the Korean War where he received three bronze stars and attained the rank of Sergeant.

Dr. Perry brought diverse experiences into his ministry, becoming the first African American to be employed as a tariff agent for United Airlines in New York City. He was a social worker for the city of New York, an instructor at Norfolk State University, and Director of OIC, Southeastern Tidewater, Virginia.

Dr. Perry held many leadership positions, as Past President of the Hampton University Ministers Conference and Musicians' Guild, Past President of the Stamford Council of Churches and Synagogues and Past President of the Connecticut State Missionary Baptist Convention. He served as the Convener of the Interdenominational Ministers and Pastors Alliance Coalition (IMPAC), membership in the Judah Baptist Association of the Connecticut State Missionary Baptist Convention, and member of the Board of Directors of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., USA. As Senior Pastor of Union Baptist Church of Stamford, where he served for 47 years and completed a 5.3 million dollar church construction, with the church serving as its own contractor in 1998. As a community activist in Connecticut, he was the first African American to serve on the Board of Ethics of the City of Stamford. He has served as Fire Commissioner for the City of Stamford, Stamford Police Chaplain and served two terms as the Police Commissioner for the City of Stamford. He additionally served on the advisory board for Fleet/Boston Bank Corporation. He was appointed to the Governor's Task Force on Human Rights under Governor William A. O' Neill of Connecticut. He was the recipient of The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award from the State of Connecticut. In 2013, he was recognized as one of the most influential 100 Blacks in Connecticut, by the Connecticut State Conference of the NAACP. He is also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, initiated at Virginia Union University.

Under Dr. Perry's leadership, Mission outreach flourished with the establishment of the Union Baptist Church in Whittlesea, South Africa, birthplace of President Nelson Mandela. Reverend and First Lady Odessa Perry also served as ministerial ambassadors during an evangelistic mission to the Soviet Union. Ecumenical services were exchanged with Agudath Shalom Synagogue and other churches. He participated in many meetings,

panel discussions and services with the Interfaith Council of Southwestern Connecticut. Throughout the years Reverend and Dr. Odessa Perry hosted spiritual and cultural excursions with congregants of the Union Baptist Family to the Holy Land and the Motherland of Africa.

Rev. Perry often prayed in the sanctuary of the church during the early hours of Sunday morning before any other persons arrived. He demonstrated profound compassion and endearing love for his Church Family, by rendering prayer during telephone conversations, making hospital and home visits.

As Reverend Dr. Robert W. Perry closed this chapter of his life, we thank Almighty God for the anointed wisdom which he has shared with us for a half a century.

May we continue to be sustained by our reflections upon his spiritual teachings. The blessings of his Prophetic Preaching, Prolific Discipleship and Progressive Ministry will exist as a profound monumental legacy. To God be the Glory, Great Things He Has Done!

“ And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

Romans 8:28 (Rev. Perry's favorite scripture)

Visitations will be held on Friday, February 7th, 2025 from 5:00PM – 8:00PM and Saturday, February 8th from 10:00AM – 11:00AM followed by a service of celebration at 11:00AM at Union Baptist Church, 805 Newfield Ave., Stamford, Connecticut. Officiant: Pastor Andre L. Bradley  
Interment will follow at Spring Grove Cemetery.

Saturday February 8th visitation and service will be streamed at 10:00AM via:

Union Baptist Church, Stamford, CT Facebook and YouTube also Zoom ID:  
82267680186

# Cemetery Details

## Spring Grove Cemetery

41 Hecker Ave.  
Darien, CT

# Tribute Wall

AR

“ i love you granddaddy an I truly miss you , its hard to say that ur gone ! I know that I am ur favorite granddaughter because we had are secrets I'm still ur baby Lele I promise , ! -aliyah Reed , love two Jackie Anderson Crystle perry Odessa Perry & Vincent Perry I love all of youu guys !

Aliyah reed - February 18, 2025 at 09:22 AM

RS

“ To Lady Odessa, the Perry descendants, family, friends and loved ones, and the Union Baptist Church family. We extend our sincerest condolences to you on the transitioning of your husband, father, grandfather pastor and God's Faithful servant leader who labored unselfishly in the vineyard of Jesus the Christ for many decades and is now resting in the arms of God. He was a good friend and supporter of our ministry. Thank you for sharing your loved one with us. We are praying your strength in the Lord now and in the days that lie ahead. Rev Dr James R Cook Sr, Lady Marian A Holmes Cook and the Christ The Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church family.

Rev.Dr James R Cook Sr - February 10, 2025 at 05:45 PM

GA

“ My sincerest condolences to the Perry family

Godfrey L Aekins

GODFREY AEKINS - February 08, 2025 at 06:12 PM

KS

*My condolences to Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry's family and his church family. I remember growing up in Union Baptist Church and listening to Rev. Perry preach many powerful sermon, including being baptized as a young person. Blessed memories I will always cherish. My thoughts and prayers continue with the Perry family as well as the UBC family.*

**Kare Spears** - February 08, 2025 at 06:38 PM

DC

*“ We send our deepest condolences to the entire Perry family on the passing of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry. Years ago he had a vision to build a larger church, and with the commitment of his flock his vision came true on Newfield Ave. He is going to be missed by many. We pray comfort, Peace and strength.*



**Deacon Howard & Jill Cook** - February 08, 2025 at 04:50 PM



*“ Heavenly and Harmony was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.*



February 08, 2025 at 01:44 PM



*“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.*

February 08, 2025 at 01:44 PM

OS

“ *My deepest condolences and prayers to family and friends. RIP Rev Perry*



---

**Ophal sutton** - February 08, 2025 at 10:02 AM

CG

“ *To The Perry Family,*

*I am deeply sadden to hear of Reverend Perry's passing. May God's unfailing Grace and Mercy bring you peace, comfort and healing during this time.*



*He touched and impacted many from all walks of life and I know he will be surely missed but not forgotten.*

*"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them-not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be"*

*1 Peter 5:1-4*

*Cynthia Greenhill  
Apopka, FL*

---

**Cynthia Greenhill** - February 07, 2025 at 10:28 PM

JT

*The Perry Family so sorry to hear that Reverend Perry transitioned, but he lived to accomplish much and touch so many people. My parents were members of Union Baptist Church when they lived in Stamford and I had the opportunity to hear many uplifting spiritual sermons he preached. May God continue to comfort the family. Jessie Wright Tyler  
Ridgeland, South Carolina*

---

**Jessie Wright Tyler** - February 08, 2025 at 10:53 AM

JT

*The Perry Family so sorry to hear that Reverend Perry transitioned, but he lived to accomplish much and touch so many people. My parents were members of Union Baptist Church when they lived in Stamford and I had the opportunity to hear many uplifting spiritual sermons he preached. May God continue to comfort the family. Jessie Wright Tyler Ridgeland South Carolina*

-----  
**Jessie Wright Tyler** - February 08, 2025 at 11:02 AM

MB

“ *To the Perry family and congregants of Union Baptist Church my heartfelt and sincere condolences. As member of the Stamford Fire Department, I had been interviewed by Reverend Perry. In 2007 Rev. Perry drove to Norwalk to console and pray with my mother Ernestine Brown who was in Hospice care as a result of lung cancer. It meant so much to mother that he cared so much about her well-being. It also meant so much to me her son. Thank-you so very much Reverend Perry! Your caring for the individual and community commitment will be recognized and remembered for all time.*

-----  
**Michael Brown** - February 07, 2025 at 09:13 PM

BM

“ *Sending my sincere heartfelt condolences to the family and church family of Reverend Dr Robert Perry. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.*



-----  
**Bernadette McCall** - February 07, 2025 at 07:28 PM

 William  
E Stinson  
Sr.

“ *Dr. Robert Perry Was Truly A Giant In The Kingdom. This Man Of God Was A True Servant And Expositor Of The Gospel.*

-----  
**William E Stinson Sr.** - February 07, 2025 at 06:21 PM

TB

“  My deepest condolences to the Perry family.



*I was first introduced to Reverend Perry at a young age when mom use to take us to church on Adams Avenue. He baptized me as well as my children. There were times he would start his sermon off with a story about himself. He shared parts of his life with the congregation.*

*To Mrs Perry, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, thank you for sharing Reverend Perry with the world, congregation and the community. He touched and inspired so many lives. His legacy will forever be remembered by those who knew him.*

*Tammie Billie and family*

---

**Tammie Billie** - February 07, 2025 at 04:44 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.*



---

February 07, 2025 at 04:12 PM

TL

“ *Tonya Lake lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry*



---

**Tonya Lake** - February 07, 2025 at 01:20 PM

SM

“ *Rest in peace Reverend Perry. I will always have fond memories of my time at UBC. My deepest condolences to the entire family.*  
*Simone Morris & Family*

---

**Simone Morris** - February 07, 2025 at 01:15 PM

SH

“ To Crystal and family, my sincerest condolences.

*I remember the first time I visited Union Baptist Church. Rev. Perry Called on people to worship the Lord during the beginning of the service. He said to worship in the way the lord called us personally to worship, whether it was crying, dancing, being silent.... He didn't tell anyone how to worship. I knew he was real by the SPIRIT in which he said that.*

*I remember years ago when he was the keynote speaker for a Norwalk, CT Dr. King Day celebration. His spirit was so honest and the words he spoke were so profound. I remember them more than any other I've heard spoken for that occasion.*

*He spoke about the Muslims being good brothers to him in Virginia and how deeply entrenched he was in the Civil Rights Movement, so much so that as he had to travel for the work, he feared for his mother's life. He asked the Muslims to keep an eye on her. They told him he didn't have to ask, that they'd being doing that all along. I imagined the joy and relief he must have felt with that type of unselfish, ever-watchful love and brotherhood, knowing his mother would be protected during his absence.*

*He said that type of bond made him seriously consider joining the Muslims, but that he just couldn't give up his Jesus!*

*May he rest in peace! <https://www.bible.com/bible/111/1TH.4.13-17>.  
NIV*

*<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Corinthians%205%3A1-8&version=KJV>*

---

**Sherelle Harris** - February 07, 2025 at 10:26 AM

AF

*My Sincere Condolences to the Rev. Dr. Perry Family. He was the most sincere and kind Understanding Man of God. ! We had the most heartfelt experience from his annointed Presence- always felt Holy Spirit attendance in his Message and in his Ultimate Worship to God ! He will be in our hearts Forever ! Thank you Family for your Loving Support to your wonderful Dad and Grandad ! Amen 🙏*

**Audrey Bartlette & Family** - February 12, 2025 at 12:49 PM

GB

“ *Gail P. Brown lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry*



**Gail P. Brown** - February 07, 2025 at 10:23 AM

CJ

“ *Clifford Jones and Milton Jones purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.*



**Clifford Jones and Milton Jones** - February 07, 2025 at 09:52 AM

TH

“ *Rev. Perry was the epitome of a pastor. There will never be another. May his legacy live on in all who he taught, disciplined, prayed for, married and comforted. You have done what you were called to do. You have earned your rest. Well done Pastor Perry, well done.*

**Twanda Hall** - February 06, 2025 at 09:13 PM

RE

“ 2-6-2025

*Respected and loved by many. He touched numerous lives across the USA and around the World*



*Our prayers for a wise, humble and faithful servant/pastor of God.*



*Sincerely in Christ,*

*Rev. E L Smallwood and family*

*chaplainemeritus@gmail.com*

*Member Baptist World Alliance*

---

**Rev. E.L.Smallwood** - February 06, 2025 at 07:26 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.

---

February 06, 2025 at 06:13 PM



“ *Divine Light* was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.



---

February 06, 2025 at 05:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry.

---

February 06, 2025 at 05:47 PM

JP

“ To The Perry family may God be the Glory for the great things he has done. I and my family want to give my sincere condolences to a great pastor Rev Perry a man a prophet a leader a shepherd that share his love upon us all a pastor who baptized me and my children and a embracer who share his love with his warm hugs. A pastor where you can call on anytime a visitor who always do his missionary work to visit the sick in the hospital and shut in.A fashionista where all his suits was cut to the T.And last A praying man who love his Famiy and Union family. Rev Perry May your loving kindness always be carried on and I know you are walking in Jerusalem just like John. Resting in God Heaven love you always Joy Poteau

---

**Joy Poteau** - February 06, 2025 at 02:45 PM

JM

“ Janice L Major lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry



---

**Janice L Major** - February 06, 2025 at 01:34 PM

JM

Let's give thanks for this good soul who touched the lives of so many, no more trouble, no more sorrow in this trouble world. Just peace, rest and joy. I Thank God for the fifty plus year with my Pastor, and his family is truly a blessing.

---

**Janice L Major** - February 06, 2025 at 01:53 PM

SB

“ *To First Lady Odessa, Jacqueline, Vincent and Crystal - my sincere condolences. I will continue to hold on to the memories that fill my heart of your husband and father, my forever pastor of UBC; may his legacy live on.*  
*Stephanie Bell (former UBC member)*



---

**Stephanie Bell** - February 06, 2025 at 12:50 PM

DS

“ *Dawn Solomon lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry*



---

**Dawn Solomon** - February 06, 2025 at 12:04 AM

PF

“ *To the Perry family we are sorry for your loss. My condolences to all of you.*

---

**Pettiford family** - February 05, 2025 at 04:16 PM

SR

“ To The Family of Rev. Dr. Perry:

*We all mourn the loss of Rev. Perry. There are not enough words to describe the impact he had on our lives.*

*I grew up in Union Baptist with my memories going back to when I was four years old. From the little wood church on the corner to where the church is now*

*Although I have since moved from Stamford, I kept in touch with Rev. Perry over the years whenever I could. He always was there for me, to pray for me, and whatever else he could provide to me and my family. In fact, he dedicated my youngest daughter Stephanie to the church in 1983. His death comes as a shock because two days ago, my daughter and I were talking about the day of her dedication.*

*What a great man we have lost. He is now with God.*

*My heartfelt condolences to Rev. Perry's family and to all who knew and loved him.*

*Sandra Holmes-Rayford and Family*

---

**Sandra Rayford** - February 05, 2025 at 03:26 PM

AJ

“ Deaconess Addie Jordan, from Fayetteville, NC sends her condolences in the lost of Rev. Perry.

---

**Addie Jordan** - February 05, 2025 at 03:07 PM

CM

“ *Carol McGhee lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Robert W. Perry*



---

**Carol McGhee** - February 05, 2025 at 03:04 PM



“ *We are deeply saddened for your Loss, Rev. Perry was an inspiration to me, and my family. Yours in Christ, Rev. Curtis and Betty Langley, of North Carolina*



---

**Betty Langley** - February 05, 2025 at 12:46 PM