

*“God saw the road was getting rough, the hills were hard to climb; and gently closed those weary eyes and whispered, “Peace be thine.” The days of toil, the nights of pain, the weary years are past. The patient, worn-out, tired frame has found sweet rest at last.”*

*~ Obituary ~*



**Melvin Crawford**, 66 of Trenton, New Jersey, passed away on Monday, March 14, 2016. He was born on October 21, 1949 in Dillon, South Carolina, the son of the late Samuel and Lizzie Ramble Crawford.

**Melvin** attended the Dillon County Public Schools and was a graduate of Gordon High School, Class of 1967. He then attended Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina and graduated from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, where he received a BA degree in Social Work in May 1975. He served as Senior Class President, and was an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. He then furthered his education by attending graduate school at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where he obtained a MA degree in Social Work and a MA degree in Public Administration in 1979. After college, **Melvin** established residence in Trenton, New Jersey and worked for different Social Service Agencies serving persons with disabilities over the years. He was currently employed with the State of New Jersey, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Service for over twenty years and at the time of his death he was serving as Chief of Field Services.

**Melvin** was a member of Union Baptist Church in Trenton, New Jersey, where he was active with the Men’s Fellowship Ministry. As a youth he joined Manning Baptist Church in Dillon, South Carolina where he was baptized and came to know the Lord.

**Melvin**, also known as “Zelmo” and “Boss Man” enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, especially his beloved sisters. He adored his late mother and would return to his hometown on regular basis to provide her with love, care, and support up until the time of her death. He also enjoyed watching sports, and playing the lottery and visiting the casino. He was also an avid fan of the Philadelphia Eagles.

**Melvin** was predeceased by his parents, Samuel and Lizzie Crawford. He leaves to cherish fond memories: one brother: Billy (Rosemary) Ramble of Atlanta, Georgia; five sisters: Dorothy (Robert) Carmichael, Barbara Williams and Corine Rawlison all of Dillon, South Carolina; Emma Shirley Pittman of Mount Laurel, New Jersey and Deborah (Thomas) Wilson of Bristow, Virginia; he will also be missed by his nieces: Yvette, Zabrina, Jewanna, Tanya, Shataya and Tiffany; his nephews: Billy Jr., Jonathan, Raphael and Timothy, other relatives and friends. He also leaves a number of special friends including: Alice Lyman, Oliver Francis, Lacey Peppers, Patricia Davis Scarver and Johnny Moore and a special cousin who was like a mother: Pastor

Gaybrella McClellan of Swedesboro, New Jersey; one aunt: Lula Mae Salmon-Pernell of Dillon, South Carolina.

**Melvin** was a beautiful person and was so full of love. He will truly be missed by those whose lives he has touched ~

*“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”  
Revelation 21:4*

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
A time to be born, and A time to die; A time to plant, and  
A time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and  
A time to heal; a time to breakdown, and a time to build-up;  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and  
A time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and  
A time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and  
A time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and  
A time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
A time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and  
A time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate;  
A time for war, and a time for peace.*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11*

**~ In Memory of a Wonderful brother, Melvin ~**

*We hold onto our memories  
The ones that are so dear  
To try to keep you always close  
Now that you are not here  
You were called. It was your time  
But it is so true  
You have left a legacy  
There was no one like you  
You were very special  
And we want to say  
We feel lost in many ways  
Because you are not here today  
But we will never forget you  
And we know that we have been blessed  
To have had you for our brother  
Because you were the best.*

**Love forever,  
Your Brother & Sisters**