



Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower

August 1, 1956 - August 8, 2023

Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower, a man of unwavering faith, was born on August 1, 1956, in the serene town of Gobler, Missouri. He gracefully transitioned from this earthly realm on August 8, 2023. Bishop was the cherished son of the late Edward and Daisy Hightower. He was more than just a collection of titles and achievements, he embodied the essence of a father, husband, community leader, humanitarian, and socially conscious soul. His role as a spiritual father and guide added to this tapestry of his life. When we remember Bishop, we recall a life that embodied wholeness. His journey was marked by unwavering faith, boundless love, and an unyielding commitment to the betterment of humanity. While he may have moved beyond this world, his spiritual legacy continues to guide those who seek a path of purpose, faith, and compassion. Bishop Hightower's journey began in Alton, Illinois, where he was nurtured through his formative years. His pursuit of knowledge led him to Eureka College, where he graduated

with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Setting out on a path of professional development, he traversed various landscapes, from the vibrant streets of Chicago to the picturesque landscapes of California and eventually settling in Fayetteville, North Carolina. His hunger for growth was evident through his participation in esteemed training programs, such as Tom Hopkins' techniques for overcoming objections and Napoleon Hill's success principles.

Bishop Hightower's path to becoming a spiritual father began when he accepted Christ as his savior, embarking on a journey that defied human limitations. His calling was undeniable, and in 1991, under the leadership of Reverend John McKoy, he was ordained as a minister. Through steadfast devotion, he transitioned from a deacon to a pastor to a spiritual father who embraced his role with humility and grace. His ministry wasn't just about sermons but about nurturing souls, mending broken hearts, and guiding individuals on their own spiritual paths. He was presented with an honorary doctorate degree of divinity from Jacksonville Baptist Theological Seminary. He was also a lifetime member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.

The Spiritual Father and Bishop:

In the heart of Bishop Hightower's existence was his profound spiritual journey, which led him to embrace his role as a pastor, spiritual father, and bishop. His relationship with God

was the cornerstone of his being, guiding him through every endeavor, challenge, decision, and interaction. He didn't just lead a congregation, he nurtured a spiritual family, providing guidance, solace, and a steady hand in times of trial. He founded works, supported missions, sat on boards, and catalyzed revivals. With humility and grace, he delivered messages that challenged, comforted, and uplifted the spirits of those in need. He was a man of unwavering faith, a true apostle who devoted his life to spreading the message of love, compassion, and the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom. His ministry was not just a profession but a calling, a divine mission to bring hope to the hopeless and solace to the troubled. He tirelessly preached the Gospel, sharing the good news and leading countless souls on the path of righteousness.

The Shepherd:

As a visionary, servant of God, and spiritual leader, Bishop Hightower's wisdom and compassion shone through. He provided a haven for individuals seeking refuge from the storms of life. His counsel wasn't just based on knowledge but on his unwavering faith and deep connection with the divine. He walked alongside those in need, offering a listening ear, guiding light, and compassionate heart. As a pastor, he led his congregation with a heart full of love and in the spirit of Christ. He created a sanctuary where all were welcomed,

regardless of their background, beliefs, or circumstances. He didn't just preach the Gospel, he lived it, exemplifying the teachings of Jesus in his daily life.

The Man of Faith:

Bishop Hightower became a man of faith to many. His unwavering belief in the transformative power of God's love inspired those around him to seek a deeper connection with their own faith. His words were a balm to wounded souls, offering hope, healing, and a reminder that God's light could guide the way even in the darkest moments.

Previous Events

Viewing

AUG **22**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
118 Johnson St
Fayetteville, NC 28303

Funeral

AUG **22**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church
118 Johnson St
Fayetteville, NC 28303

Burial

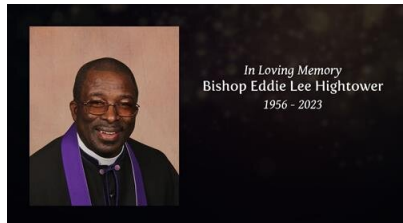
AUG **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery
8220 Bragg Blvd
Spring Lake, NC 28390

Tribute Wall



“ Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - August 18, 2023 at 09:22 AM

DE

“ "In shock and disbelief to hear about the passing of Pastor High Tower. He was a good man who had known me since I was a child. His presence and guidance meant the world to me, especially during the difficult time when my son passed away. Rest in peace, Pastor High Tower, you will be deeply missed. 🙏 #RIP #ForeverInMyHeart"

Diamond Elliott - June 26, 2024 at 03:37 AM

TL

“ Theresa L. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

Theresa L. - August 23, 2023 at 06:15 PM

AT

“ Bishop Hightower!! I will forever love and cherish everything you taught me to stay a strong and wise mother and wife! Thank you for never giving up on me☐☐☐

Ashley Thomas - August 22, 2023 at 06:39 PM

SC

“ It is so hard to hear the news of Hightower passing away. Do to circumstances, I am unable to pay my respects in person but wanted to at least post a message that the many folks that loved him could read. I met Hightower through the world of basketball. Before I ever knew he was a reverend, a business man, a pillar to a community, I could tell he was simply a good man. He had a tremendous passion for the young fellas in the community and he poured his soul into them. He gave them direction, he gave them boundaries and most of all he gave them love. There are so many young men now in society who have had a true chance to persevere in life because of him. Some of these young men already know, some will realize as they continue to mature and have adult experiences, but make no mistake, Hightower's guiding hand put them in a winning position. As I got to know Hightower more and more, I realized he was not that trusting of other adults that were in these kid's lives. He had to learn you and see your heart before he would give his trusting endorsement. One of my greatest accomplishments and achievements in life was when I realized he trusted me enough to work with me to put these young fellas in the best position to succeed. He and Coach Bond were truly blessings to these kids. It us tough to see a man like Hightower leave this world. They don't make many like him. To the family and his congregation, I send my condolences. Although I never witnessed that side of him, I know the genuine "good man" I once met, had to be every bit of the same blessing to you. Fly high Hightower. Your finger prints are every where and the world is a better place because of it.

Coach Scott Clanton

Scott Clanton - August 22, 2023 at 11:34 AM

AB

“ *Apostle Ricky/Pastor Linda Bethea/Increasing Word Ministry will continue to lift Bishop Eddie Hightower's Family and New Salem International Ministries Church Family in prayer, love, and condolences during this time of grief and sorrow. The Lord comfort and keep HIS loving arms around all of you.*



Apostle Ricky Bethea - August 22, 2023 at 05:43 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*



August 22, 2023 at 01:52 AM



“ *Our Condolences to Lady Hightower & John. Mr. Roy L. Mayhew Sr & Family*

Doanie Lenoir - August 21, 2023 at 04:11 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*



August 21, 2023 at 09:50 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

August 21, 2023 at 09:50 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



August 20, 2023 at 09:04 PM



“ Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower!! What can I say? I am going to miss you, I miss you, and this all feels like a dream. Know that we have it from here, you have equipped us for the next level and Now Is The Time! Rest up and I will tell you all about it, when I see you again!
Love you,
LaToya & LJ



LaToya Nix - August 20, 2023 at 08:22 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



August 19, 2023 at 02:12 PM

TS

“ *In the memory of Bishop Eddie Hightower, a pillar of strength whose unwavering convictions and visionary spirit shaped many lives, he fulfilled his purpose. The privilege of knowing him is a treasure that will forever be cherished. His legacy, woven into the fabric of his personal and church family, community, and state, as well as resonating across the expanse of the US, stands as a testament to his profound impact.*

As Bishop Eddie Hightower now rests with his well-earned crown, his earthly journey may have ended, but his presence will forever remain in the hearts he touched. In this time of loss, I extend my heartfelt sympathy and offer my continued prayers. May you find solace in knowing that his legacy lives on and that he watches over you from a higher place.

May the blessings and protection of God be a source of comfort and strength for you during this challenging period and the days ahead.
Dr. Teresa A. Smith

Teresa Smith - August 18, 2023 at 02:01 PM

AF

“ *Our condolences to Lady Hightower and the New Salem Church Family, keeping you all in our prayers*

Apostle Michael & Evangelist Tammy Fulle - August 18, 2023 at 09:24 AM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*



August 17, 2023 at 07:19 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



August 17, 2023 at 06:29 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



August 16, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

August 16, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ *To the Family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower: My deepest and most sincere condolences to all those he leaves behind--be strengthened and encouraged. My brother, "Eddie Lee", fought the good fight of faith. ...everlasting joy shall be upon his head--sorrow and mourning shall flee away. Isaiah 51:11. God is the greatest comforter. May His love and that of family and friends be a source of peace. To Pastors Bobby and JoAnne; siblings; children grandchildren--I love you family. God bless.*

Lillian A. Casey-Shaw - August 16, 2023 at 12:55 PM



“ *Bishop Hightower and I met at Oklahoma State watching John Michael play Basketball. He was so proud of his family and even on weekends when he preached he would come to see John Michael play. April and Ebony are such a joy and I know there family will miss his smile, hugs and words of Love. I know I will miss seeing him across the court.*

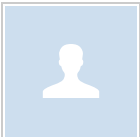
Claudia Humphreys - August 16, 2023 at 12:24 PM

JS

“ *I send my sincere condolences and prayers to The Hightower Family and New Salem International Ministries. Bishop Hightower was a blessing to the Kingdom of God and will be sorely missed.*

Japera Smith

Japera Smith - August 16, 2023 at 09:12 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*



August 15, 2023 at 03:40 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*

August 15, 2023 at 03:40 PM

DD

“ *My Condolences to The Hightower Family And Church Family, Rev Hightower was a Mighty Man Of God Full of The Holy Spirit, You could not go to a service of his and not be Blessed. Take you rest now Sir, even though your work here is Done, You touched every life you came in contact with. You will never be forgotten.*



Deirdre Douglas - August 15, 2023 at 02:36 PM

PM

“ *Praying that God will comfort and continue to bless the family and love ones.*

Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church



Pastor and Members - August 15, 2023 at 01:20 PM

IW

“ *Irish Robinson Williams lit a candle in memory of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower*



Irish Robinson Williams - August 14, 2023 at 08:45 PM

PT

“ *Our sincere condolences to the Hightower family and New Salem International Ministries. May God continue to give you all strength during this time of sorrow. T.W & Lady Campbell*

Pastor T.W.Campbell - August 14, 2023 at 08:09 PM

DW

“ Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Wilson purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Wilson - August 14, 2023 at 11:43 AM

DW

“ Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Wilson - August 14, 2023 at 11:43 AM

SC

“ Our Condolences and Prayers are with You Bishop Hightower was definitely a pillar in the community.

Shady Grove FWB Church - August 13, 2023 at 08:12 AM

FT

“ Felmer And Marlo Tyler lit a candle in memory of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower



Felmer and Marlo Tyler - August 12, 2023 at 06:37 PM

JP

“ Sending our prayers and deepest condolences to First Lady Hightower, Ebony, Emily, John, James and the entire family. Bishop Hightower was truly a blessing to our family. Over 20 years ago while stationed there, he became our Bishop, Father in Ministry and friend. This continued even after PCS moved us away. He reminded me so much of my dear late father who was a Pastor and has gone on to glory as well. Bishop will truly be missed on this side of heaven, but I find comfort knowing He is with Our Father God and when our work is done we will all be together again in Our Father’s Kingdom. Until we meet again Rest Bishop Father Hightower. Ministers’ Jacqueline & Reverend Eric Porchia, Porchia and Marks family.



Jacqueline Porchia - August 12, 2023 at 08:06 AM

GL

God is good. Condolences to the Hightower family.

glenn Lott - August 12, 2023 at 09:27 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



August 12, 2023 at 12:49 AM

AM

“ My condolences are extended to the Family in your loss. I pray you will know the peace of God that surpasses all understanding during the difficult days ahead. Blessings and love to each of you.



Anita Matthews McKoy - August 11, 2023 at 11:10 PM

NU

“ My pastor my friend you were a force of nature that made your mark on this world a preaching machine a man of faith you taught me a lot I will never forget take your rest now in God's loving arms



Nellie Upchurch - August 11, 2023 at 04:50 PM

DG

“ Our prayers and condolences go out to the entire family of Bishop Eddie Hightower. We were saddened to hear about the transition of your dear loved one. May you find comfort and strength during these difficult times. Dr. Joanie T. Greene

Dr. Joanie T. Greene - August 11, 2023 at 02:40 PM

JB

“ Bless you and all you did for our community!! Going to miss you buddy!!

John Briggs - August 11, 2023 at 08:21 AM

LH

“ He will truly be missed he was my pastor when I first moved to Fayetteville he would help anybody to absent from the body is to present with the lord



Lillie Henderson - August 11, 2023 at 08:02 AM

PP

“ May God comfort the family & friends of Bishop Eddie Hightower during this difficult time and give you strength and comfort to endure the pain of your loss.
Bro. Perry Pullum & Mother Rhonda Pullum



Perry Pullum - August 10, 2023 at 11:36 PM

CJ

“ May God comfort you all during this bereavement time. My prayers are with you!
You will be missed! Bishop Eddie L Hightower....
Sister Crystal Jackson and Family



crystal jackson - August 10, 2023 at 11:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

August 10, 2023 at 11:24 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



August 10, 2023 at 11:24 PM



“ Vance & Lori Hunter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

Vance & Lori Hunter - August 10, 2023 at 05:31 PM



“ Vance & Lori Hunter purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



Vance & Lori Hunter - August 10, 2023 at 05:31 PM



“ Gaynelle Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Eddie Hightower



Gaynelle Brown - August 10, 2023 at 03:32 PM

JC

“ James Teresa Cameron lit a candle in memory of Eddie Hightower



James & Teresa Cameron - August 10, 2023 at 02:34 PM

DG

“ My condolences are extended to the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower. My prayer is that You will not waiver in knowing that God will be with each of You during this time of bereavement. God rewards those that diligently seek and serve Him. May His face shine upon each of You!

Deacon T. George
Spring Lake Memorial Missionary Baptist Church

Deacon T George - August 10, 2023 at 02:33 PM

SW

“ May God comfort the family & friends of Bishop Eddie Hightower during this most difficult time and give you strength to endure the pain of your loss.
Sincerely,

Sheriff Burnis Wilkins - August 10, 2023 at 02:32 PM

JW

“ SENDING MY CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS TO THE FAMILY OF BISHOP EDDIE LEE HIGHTOWER.@THIS TIME.



Jacqueline Williams - August 10, 2023 at 02:19 PM

DC

“ *Denzell Cromartie lit a candle in memory of Eddie Hightower*



Denzell Cromartie - August 10, 2023 at 02:12 PM

LT

“ *LaToya Thomas lit a candle in memory of Eddie Hightower*



LaToya Thomas - August 10, 2023 at 01:41 PM

DL

“ Truly devastated and heartbroken by the loss of this great man of God. I am rarely speechless, but at this time I truly can't sum up words to describe how much he meant to me and countless others. I only ask that you pray for his family, our church that he pastored (New Salem International Ministries), the numerous organizations he lead or was a vital member of, the businesses he ran, the community he impacted as a source of support and guidance, and me and my family whom he treated as family and made us feel special, valued, loved, and secure, as he did so many others. Love you deeply Bishop Hightower. Thanks for inviting me to share in Kingdom work with you. The countless hours of service together, flights, road trips, sessions, has made me a much better and prepared man. You were truly a visionary and Godsend. I committed many things to God and you, and as a disciple of yours, I like Elisha have asked God for a double portion of His spirit that He poured into you. Rest well Bishop, Pastor and friend. “Well done thou good and faithful servant”

Deacon Aaron Lee - August 10, 2023 at 01:21 PM

LT

“ For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20-21).

LaToya Thomas - August 10, 2023 at 01:17 PM

LT

“ Latoya T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

Latoya T. - August 10, 2023 at 01:14 PM

GB

“ *Gaynelle Brown lit a candle in memory of Eddie Hightower*



Gaynelle Brown - August 10, 2023 at 10:11 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.

August 10, 2023 at 09:06 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*



August 10, 2023 at 09:06 AM

GW

“ *Cousin. I'm sending my most deepest condolences to you and your family. Love you*

Gail Wheeler - August 10, 2023 at 09:03 AM

JJ

“ *Jim Jackson lit a candle in memory of Eddie Hightower*



Jim Jackson - August 10, 2023 at 09:02 AM

VM

“ *Virginia M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.*

Virginia M. - August 10, 2023 at 09:02 AM

NG

“ *A fine man. Loved the lord. Loved people. A man of action, character and determination. This world has lost one of its best.*

Sincerely NeilGrant

Neil Grant - August 10, 2023 at 07:58 AM



LaVonda Jones

“ *Rest In Paradise, Bishop Eddie Lee (High School Classmate). Sending My Condolences, and Prayers for Comfort and Peace To His Immediate Family, Siblings, Church Family and To All Who Knew and Loved You.*

LaVonda Jones - August 10, 2023 at 07:23 AM

MJ

“ I had the pleasure of working with Bishop Hightower on conferences and conventions. He was dedicated to God and his ministry. He served his community well. God Bless you Sir. Myron Jones

MYRON L. JONES - August 09, 2023 at 09:57 PM

TM

“ My condolences to the Hightower family. I just visited his church a few months ago to see one of my students during Youth Sunday. May God give peace to Lady Hightower and family as well as the church during this transition.



Theresa McGill - August 09, 2023 at 09:42 PM

PJ

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Pearson Jenkins - August 09, 2023 at 07:52 PM

SS

My deepest condolences to the family. I will miss Pastor Hightower. May his soul Rest In Peace.

Sharon Marie Smith - August 11, 2023 at 10:58 PM

JW

“ Sending my condolences to the family of
Bishop Eddie Lee Hightower.



Jacqueline Williams - August 09, 2023 at 05:45 PM

EM

Wow what a powerful man of God. I can remember many years ago when my wife and I went to hear him preach. I was new to the ministry back then. Thank God for me being there. What a blessing. I know that it's such a difficult time for so many. But he lived so that he could live again. And the reward he has received is what he labored so hard for. Rejoice as the angels in heaven are rejoicing. And praises to our God for allowing us to be the recipient's of his great gifts. How great is our God. May God give you peace that surpasses all understanding, in this hour.

Elder S.A. Shaw , Miracle Ministries. - August 12, 2023 at 01:41 AM

EF

Our prayers are with you today and in the days ahead. Take comfort in knowing that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

Elder S.A. Shaw , & Regina L. Shaw & F - August 12, 2023 at 01:50 AM