



## Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons

January 17, 1942 - October 27, 2025

Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons, age 83, transitioned from labor to reward on Monday, October 27, 2025.

Final arrangements for the Lyons family are in the care of Chestnut Funeral Home, 18 NW 8th, Ave, Gainesville, FL, 32601.

The live stream for the service is posted here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/tpy6lilhXU4?si=Uq8jCKzTsSGqjRFh>

# Previous Events

## Wake

NOV 5. 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Johnson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church  
1334 NE 4th Ave.  
Gainesville, FL 32641

## Funeral Service

NOV 6. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Springhill Missionary Baptist Church  
120 SE Williston Road  
Gainesville, FL 32601

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Henry J. Lyons. I will forever cherish the honor of singing at his wedding to Mrs. Willie B. Lyons, and later being invited to minister a son in Miami, FL, before he stood to preach the Word. That moment spoke volumes of his humility, trust in God, and love for worship.

*Dr. Lyons was a man who made space for God's presence and for others to serve. His life and ministry left an indelible mark, and his legacy will continue to speak through every life he touched.*

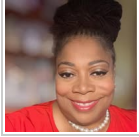
*Sending love, prayers, and sincere condolences to Mrs. Lyons and the entire family. May God's peace and comfort surround you, and may his memory remain a blessing always.*

*Sincerely,*

*Patricia (Patrice) Haynes, Author | Speaker*

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**Patrice Haynes** - January 13 at 03:56 PM



“ *file:///var/mobile/Library/SMS/Attachments/a8/08/DC221BB1-7BB1-4DD2-B39F-C29CD454532E/IMG\_9686.png*

*To the Family of Rev. Dr. Henry Lyons,  
With deepest sympathy, I honor the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Lyons. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity he gave me to preach under his historic leadership as the first woman he welcomed to the pulpit. His vision and faith opened doors for many, and his impact will endure.  
May his soul rest in peace.  
Sincerely, Rev. La'Rae Hardy Shabaka Youth Pastor, Bethesda Baptist Church New Rochelle, NY*

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**Minister Shabaka** - November 18, 2025 at 07:15 AM

RS

“ *To First Lady Willie B. Lyons and the entire Lyons Family*

*It is with profound respect and from a heart of great sympathy, sadness and love that I express my deepest condolences to First Lady Lyons and Family in the Homegoing of a long time friend and confidant. For 50 plus years Dr. Lyons was not only a co-laborer in kingdom work, but we traveled the road of friendship through out thick and thin. I have always held his friendship close and treasured and shall continue to do so. I know though he is absent physically his friendship is eternal. It is my prayer that the comforting Spirit of our Christ rest upon you today and in the days to come. Kept By His Great Name, Rev. Dr. George R .Scott, Sr.*



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**Rev Dr George R Scott, Sr** - November 05, 2025 at 12:46 PM

BS

“ The Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons gave me the proverbial seat at the table while running for and serving as President of the National Baptist Convention USA. Inc. I served as a Special Assisant and introduced him for his first Annual Address in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. cared and looked out for the uncared and overlooked. He made known the unknown. I was an unknown, pastoring a small church membership and sometimes, nonpastoring. He sought my advice and candor. He provided for my going and accommodations to the Convention. He invited me to preach at his church on several occasions in St. Petersburg. It would take lifetime to list all of the favors that he did for others and me. I'm eternally grateful to him and his memory. Of course, everyone who heard him preach knew that he was a "preaching machine". He never did let his greatness undermined or supplant his humbleness. I wish his wife, Willie and children God's enduring comfort. B. J. Choice, Sr. Pastor Emeritus, St. John Baptist Church, Hobbs, New Mexico, The Rev. Undra B. Choice, Pastor.

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**B. J. Choice, Sr.** - November 04, 2025 at 01:17 PM

NG

“ NTPFC Women of Grace purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons.



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**NTPFC Women of Grace** - November 04, 2025 at 12:45 PM

B1

“ To the Lyons family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all 🙏💕  
Rev. Dr. Henry Lyons was our Commencement Speaker at Lincoln High School. The former all Black high school here in Gainesville. We the Lincoln High School Graduate's, Class of 1969, were honored to have him accepted the invitation from our former high school principal, John Dukes, Jr. The LHS Class of 1969 was the last graduate's to complete the full year before the federal government ordered the closure of the school. May God bless each of you during this time 🙏🙏🙏🙏



Barbara Watson Andrews/ LHS Class 1969 - November 04, 2025 at 08:51 AM

CB

“ Christine Brown lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons



Christine Brown - November 04, 2025 at 08:18 AM

BS

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**B. J. Choice, Sr.** - November 04, 2025 at 07:39 AM

JS

“ From the Shelton, Bryant and Williams Family, we send our condolences to the Lyons Family. Dr. Henry J. Lyons, Rest in Peace in God's every loving arms.

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**Jennifer Shelton** - November 03, 2025 at 03:02 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons.



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November 02, 2025 at 08:08 PM

GB

“ Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. With deepest sympathy,  
Gwendolyn B. Haynes & Family.

Gwendolyn B.Haynes - November 02, 2025 at 12:04 PM

EF

“ My condolences to the Lyons family. I truly enjoyed Dr. H.Lyons preaching. He was somebody's preacher.

Earlene Smith, Jacksonville, FL - November 01, 2025 at 08:43 PM

CB

“ Christine Brown lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons



Christine Brown - October 31, 2025 at 08:01 AM

JT

“ *Rev Dr. Henry J Lyons preached for us in Alabama on a regular basis. In Prattville Al, Northport Al and Tuscaloosa Al. We are grateful for the love and care that Mrs W. Lyons displayed until the end.*



JC Thompson - October 29, 2025 at 10:14 PM



“ *Sending prayers and condolences to the entire Lyons family. May your soul forever rest in Peace 🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️ God bless.*



Catina Smith - October 29, 2025 at 08:34 PM

DT

“ *May God bless the Family, Friends and those that followed and were led by Dr. Lyons: he kept his 'confidence': let us keep our confidence in the Lord, as we all work out our Salvation! Lord God, Bless us All!  
Dr. Melva Ford Thibodeaux  
2025*

Dr. Melva Ford Thibodeaux - October 29, 2025 at 07:33 PM

C(

“ Charlotte Short (Louisiana) purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons.



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**Charlotte Short (Louisiana)** - October 29, 2025 at 06:00 PM

CB

“ Christine Brown lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Lyons



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**Christine Brown** - October 29, 2025 at 12:36 PM