



**The Family Tribute**  
*Mr. Melvin Claire Powers*

*A smile for all, a heart of gold,  
 one of the finest this world could hold  
 Never selfish, always kind;  
 these are the memories he leaves behind...*

**Mr. Melvin Claire Powers**, 63, of 611 Elmwood Court, Wake Forest, North Carolina, was born in Alexandria Virginia on December 21, 1959. He was the son of the late Charles William Powers and Cora Lee Shuford Powers. He departed this life on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at White Oak Manor of Burlington, N. C. following a lengthy illness.

He was a 1978 graduate of Statesville High School in Statesville, N. C. He furthered his education at Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory, N. C. and also Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. He served with the United States Army and was honorably discharged in July 2005 with the rank of Major. Prior to his disability, he was employed by Choanoke Area Development Agency as a Deputy Director.

He leaves to cherish the memory his wife, Gail Letterlough Powers of the home; his daughters, Jacqueline Yvonne Powers of Greensboro and Melanie Denise Powers of Wake Forest; his grandson, Luke Powers of Greensboro; his brother, Carl Powers of Statesville; his sister, Sheena (Eugene) Jones of Mocksville; several cousins including, Stephanie Connor, Kacina Meadows and Laura Thompson; and a host of other relatives, neighbors, and friends.

*In tears we saw you sinking, and watched you fade away  
 Our hearts were almost broken, because we wanted you to stay  
 But when we saw you sleeping, so peacefully and free from pain  
 How could we wish you back with us to suffer that again.  
 It breaks our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone  
 For part of us went with you, the day God called you home  
 Lovingly submitted,  
 The Family*

**The Order of Service For**  
*Mr. Melvin Claire Powers*

**Highland Acres Church of Christ**  
*Statesville, North Carolina*

**Brother Al Simmons, Officiating**  
**Brother Mike Hinrichs, Eulogist**

**The Visitation**

**11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.**

The Processional  
 The Gathering of Family and Friends

**The Order of Service**  
**12:00 p.m.**

The Opening and Invocation ..... Brother Al Simmons  
 The Congregational Hymn ..... George Stevenson, Leader  
 The Scripture Reading:  
     Old Testament: Psalm 23 ..... Melwood Davis  
     New Testament: John 14:1-6 ..... Selwyn Tabor  
 The Prayer..... Mason McCullough  
 The Congregational Hymn ..... George Stevenson, Leader  
 The Remarks ..... David Pharr  
 The Eulogy and Committal ..... Brother Mike Hinrichs  
 The Recessional

*At National Cemetery*

Salisbury, North Carolina  
 The Placing of the Casket  
 The Military Rites  
     *The 21 Gun Salute*  
     *Taps*  
 The Folding and Presentation of the Flag  
 The Final Departure

As We Remember  
*Melvin Claire Powers*



*We Love You!*

Services Entrusted to:  
**Rutledge and Bigham Funeral Home**  
603 South Center Street, Statesville, North Carolina 28677  
(704) 873-3611  
Visit the Book of Memories for Melvin  
at [www.rutledgeandbigham.com](http://www.rutledgeandbigham.com)



**Highland Acres Church of Christ**  
Statesville, North Carolina  
Tuesday, February 7, 2023  
12:00 p.m.  
Brother Al Simmons, *Officiating*  
Brother Mike Hinrichs, *Eulogist*