

# PLAYBILL

The Final Curtain Call

LEADING MAN IN A LIFE PERFORMANCE



*Gary Swindell, Sr.*

September 4, 1961 - December 26, 2020

THE MINISTRY, THE MAN, THE LEGACY

Graveside Service at  
Magnolia Memorial Gardens  
5532 Silk Hope Rd. | Savannah, GA 31405

January 9, 2021 at 11am  
Gary Swindell Jr., Officiant

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# O B I T U A R Y

**Gary Swindell Sr.** was born on September 4, 1961 to the late Curtis and Mable Atkins Swindell. He was the youngest of 7 children of a closeknit and loving family. He was educated in the Savannah Chatham County School System where he was a 1979 graduate of Savannah High School. He went on to attend Savannah State College. While enrolled at SSC/SSU he became a prominent member of Players by the Sea and Music department. In 1985, Gary married Priscilla Anderson Swindell to which their 2 loves were born, Nia and Gary Jr. On April 20, 1986, Gary and Priscilla became members of Pentecostal Miracle Deliverance Center under the leadership of Apostle Dr. Idell Cheever where he served as the Minister of Music for over 30 Years. He served as a Sunday School teacher and later the Superintendent, President of the Deacon board, Ordained a minister in 2013, and an advisor in the Youth department.

Gary dedicated his life to the fine arts and honing his craft. He was one of the founding members of the Eastside Players Black Theater company. You could find him performing in numerous venues such as The Overlook Dinner Theater in Hilton Head, The Hilton Head Playhouse, The Savannah Theater, The Black Box, Rancho Alegre Restaurant, Good Times Jazz Bar, and City Lights Theater. He was a musician that played various instruments, gifted songwriter, poet, thesbian, voiceover actor, wedding/event singer, jingle creator, and artist. He was honored to be a part of the Savannah Songwriters Series. One of his greatest accomplishments was bringing the arts together through PAC: Performing Arts Collective with the late Clinton Powell and Muriel Miller. For 10 years, Gary served as the musical director of "Black Nativity", which he deemed Savannah's greatest Christmas tradition.

Gary Sr. also served as an educator in the Savannah Chatham County School System. He taught at Coastal Georgia Comprehensive Academy, Wilder Middle, Beach High, Groves High, Savannah Arts Academy, and Building Bridges. He also worked in the mailroom at Savannah College of Art and Design for several years. Not only was he an educator but a mentor, father figure, vocal and acting coach, and musical instructor.

Gary Swindell Sr. wanted to cultivate everyone's artistic abilities and creative thought process through the arts and the Love of Christ. He loved his hometown of Savannah, Georgia and served his community with his whole heart. Gary Sr.'s presence will be greatly missed but his graceful essence will live on forever!

He leaves to cherish his loving memory: his wife Priscilla A. Swindell, daughter Nia Swindell White, son, Gary Swindell Jr., adoptive son Clifford Mills, and Son-in-law Carlos White. His Sister: Kurtina (Thomas) Garner, and 5 Brothers: Curtis Jr. (LuEllen), Marshall Sr., Lawrence, Anthony Sr. (Brenda), and Gregory Sr. (Sonia). Father in law: David Anderson Sr. 2 Sister in laws: Yolinda German, and Felicia (Charles) Ross, and one Brother-in law: David (LaTonya) Anderson Jr. A special cousin Ms. Betty Williams, and a host of Godchildren, Nieces, Nephews, Relatives, Mentees, and Friends. And to honor Gary Swindell Sr. we are all Choosing Joy!

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# O R D E R   O F   S E R V I C E

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## **Presiding and Opening Prayer**

Bishop James Wright

## **Scripture Readings**

*Old Testament*

Dr. William Padgett

*New Testament*

Dea. Aaron Wright

## **Violin Solo**

*“Amazing Grace”*

Jalin Graham

## **Remarks (2 minutes please)**

*As a Family member*

Marsha McGregor and Yolinda German

*As a Sunday School member*

Dr. Gertrude Robinson

*As a Minister and Choir member*

Prophetess Brenda Holmes

*As an Educator*

Larry Jenkins

*As an Actor*

Rodney Creech

## **Resolution**

Evang. Louvenia Grant

## **Solo**

Shayla Loadholt

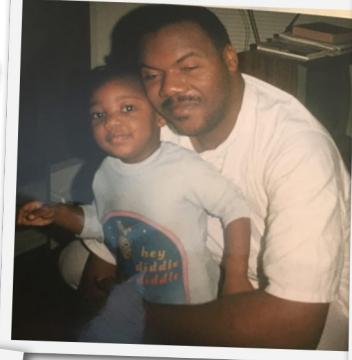
## **Words of Comfort**

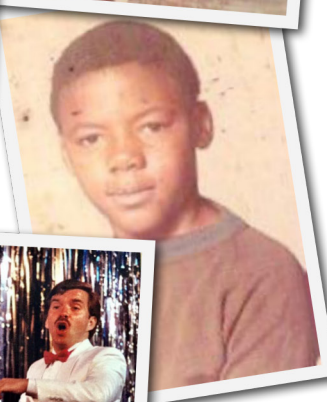
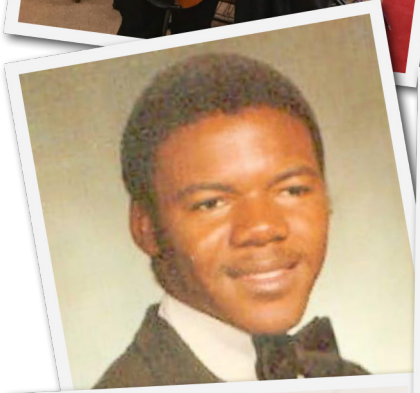
Pastor Gary Swindell, Jr.

## **Closing Prayer**

Bishop Michael Burney

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# “ P U R E   A N D   S I M P L E ”


**Written by: Gary Swindell for Priscilla A. Swindell**

*Don't complicate this love with questions  
Don't complicate this love by asking why  
Can't you perceive my pure intentions  
Pure and simple love, pure and simple love  
I just love you cause I love you  
I just love you Pure and Simple  
I just love you cause I love you  
I just love you Pure and simple love*

*My feelings have no hidden meanings  
There's no agenda on the floor  
Can't you perceive my pure intentions  
Pure and simple love like you've never known before*

*It's like asking  
Why do the rivers flow  
And why do eagles soar  
And why does the water fall from a waterfall*

*Rivers flow because that's what river do  
And it's just the same with me loving you*



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# “THE KIND OF LOVE YOU’VE SHOWN”

**Written by: Gary Swindell Sr. for Curtis and Mabel Swindell**

Verse:

*When I was small you held my hand and wouldn't let me fall You  
taught me how to hold my head up high.*

*And as I grew you gave me all the wisdom that you knew And I do  
appreciate all you've done*

Chorus:

*I do appreciate all you've done  
And as I grow I won't forget the love you've shown.*

*I do appreciate all your care  
And as I grow I won't forget to share  
The kind of love you've shown.*

Bridge:

*I won't forget to share and tell some child that he is special I won't  
forget to share and give of everything I owe  
I won't forget to share and lend a hand when I see someone in need I  
won't forget to share the kind of love you've shown.*

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# A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

The Swindell Family would like to express our deepest appreciation and sincere thanks for all of your prayers, expressions of love, and every act of kindness. It has given us spiritual support and strength during this time of bereavement.

A special thanks to the ICU and Covid unit staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, Allendra Harris, PMDC Family, Branded Hearts Ministry, Building Bridges, Princess White, WTOC, WSAV, and PAC: Performing Arts Collective.

*- The Family -*



## P A L L B E A R E R S

Clifford Mills  
Nicholas Gibbons  
Andre McGregor  
Carlos White  
Derrick Akins  
Elijah Jones

*Professional Services Entrusted to:*



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