

**PALLBEARERS**

Douglas Eaton                      Marc Raphael  
Carl Irby                                Herbert Williams  
Joe Njoloma                          Herbert Zumazuma

**SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO—**

McKay's Family Mortuary  
16918 Baseline Avenue  
Fontana, California

**INTERMENT**

1:30 P.M.  
Riverside National Cemetery  
22495 Van Buren Boulevard  
Riverside, California

**REPAST**

La Sierra University Cafeteria  
4500 Riverwalk Parkway  
Riverside, California  
immediately following the burial.



The family of Lindsay Thomas, Jr., Ph.D., thanks you  
for the warm embrace of love with which you have encircled us  
in this time of profound grief and loss.

**The Ministry**

*of*

*Dr. Lindsay Thomas, Jr.*

**on the Continent of Africa**



Wednesday, July 1, 2015, at 9:00 A.M.

All Nations African Seventh-day Adventist Church  
2282 East Pumalo Street  
San Bernardino, California

Elder Asiamah Amponsah, Officiant

*Dr. Thomas worked in and/or visited the following African countries:*

Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Republic of South Africa, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Dr. Thomas's ministry included the following, thanks in large part to the support and contributions of USA donors and partners:*

- Lay preachers trained and employed through the Laymen's Bible Institutes
- Spirit of Prophecy Seminars for African Seventh-day Adventist church leaders conducted by visiting pastors from the United States
- Leadership training seminars conducted for local church elders
- Food distributed to widows and orphans
- Clothing and shoes distributed to the needy
- Churches and chapels erected
- Wells dug
- Tapes, CDs, DVDs, Bibles, and Spirit of Prophecy books distributed
- Scholarships for the underprivileged funded
- Tents for evangelistic meetings provided
- Bicycles for lay preachers provided
- Gestetner copier-printer machine and overhead projectors distributed
- Evangelistic campaigns sponsored
- Wheelchairs contributed
- Pastors and their wives financially assisted
- Parsonages financially supported
- Medical information provided and a dental fair sponsored

**THE PROGRAM**

*Musical Prelude*

*Processional*

Ghanaian Choir, Flags, Participants, and Family

*Anthem*

"Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika" ... *Enoch Sontonga*

*Greetings and Remarks*

Elder Asiamah Amponsah

*Scripture*

Psalm 90:1, 2, 10-12

Elder Marvin Opiyo (Swahili)

Elder Obed Rutebuka (French)

Pastor Martin L. Howard, Sr. (English)

*Prayer of Consolation*

Pastor Howard

All Nations African Church

*Musical Selection*

All Nations African Church Children's Choir

Jill Phiri, Director

"What the Lord Has Done for Me"

*Life Profile*

Pastor Jonathan Mthombeni

*Work in Africa*

PowerPoint presentation

*Remarks*

Family and Friends (limit 3 minutes)

*Benediction*

Pastor Kofi Tuwmasi

Queens Ghanaian Seventh-day Adventist Church  
(New York)

*Musical Selection*

All Nations African Church Children's Choir

"He Knows My Name" ... *Tommy Walker*

*Recessional*

## THE MAN FROM WAYNESBOROUGH, GEORGIA

Lindsay Thomas, Jr. was born in Waynesborough, Georgia, on January 28, 1929. He was the last survivor of eleven children born to Lindsay Thomas, Sr. and Eliza Sapp Thomas.

At 4 years of age, Lindsay became aware of his mother praying beneath their house in the early hours of the morning; and he began urging her to let him pray with her, and she did—which indicated the beginning of his search for God. By 5 years of age, he was already a budding missionary who would lead a blind neighbor to the train station in the city where he helped him sell peanuts so that he could survive. As an industrious 7 year old, he collected and sold wood and gave his earnings to his mother.

When he observed parents taking their children to school, Lindsay followed them one day. Arriving at the schoolhouse, he said to the registrant, “Me wanna go school” and attempted to register himself. She urged him to return with a parent so that he could be registered; but he informed her that his parents were working in the fields and would not be able to register him because they could neither read nor write. Then he astonished her by saying: “You my mamma; you sign for me”—and she did.

During the Great Depression, food was scarce for the Thomas family; and tomatoes became part of their daily fare. Food distributed by the government was 10 miles away; and once at the site, Blacks had to wait until the Whites were served. During these difficult years, three of Lindsay’s sisters took jobs at a restaurant so that he and another sister could go to school. It was at this restaurant that he ate daily.

At 14 years of age, Lindsay became secretary of Connors Temple Baptist Church, the largest Black congregation in Savannah, Georgia. Still exhibiting the industry that was so characteristic of him even from an early age, he delivered newspapers to 300 customers daily.

In high school, Lindsay was an excellent student who also excelled in sports, particularly soccer and football. He was so fast in football that he earned the nickname “Skeeter.” His graduation with honors attested to the academic distinction he had achieved.

When he was 17 years of age, with his mother’s consent Lindsay joined the United States Air Force. His objective was to secure the GI Bill of Rights so that he could further his education. While serving in the military, he became a Seventh-day Adventist. While stationed in Arizona, he was a strong church supporter and attended services regularly. The missionary zeal that had been evident at a young age again manifested itself as Lindsay invited men from the base to attend church with him and as he studied the Bible with them. Some of these men later became Seventh-day Adventist ministers and educators.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the Air Force, Lindsay began his pursuit of higher education by enrolling first at Oakwood College (now University); then at La Sierra College (now University), where he met his future wife, Evelyan Patterson; and later at the Seminaire Adventiste in Collonges-Sous-Saleve in France in order to study French. Although he was initially failing his classes at Collonges (which were all taught in French), he refused to accept an accommodation that would have allowed him to complete assignments and take examinations in English. He worked diligently, often going into the woods to practice and perfect his language skills. He persisted and raised his grades semester by semester until he succeeded in earning all A’s in his senior year. A Frenchman once commented that he spoke the language better than some native French speakers. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in French and in theology and was elected president of his graduating class.

Upon his return to the United States, Lindsay enrolled at Boston University, where he completed a Master of Arts degree in romance languages. At the University of California at Los Angeles, he was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree in French. He also studied African languages at the University of California at Los Angeles; Duquesne University in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and the State University of New York at Buffalo; as well as linguistics at the University of Illinois, the State University of New York, and California State University at Long Beach.

Dr. Thomas’s professional teaching career, which he began as a fellow at the University of California at Los Angeles, spanned four decades and included faculty appointments at the Seventh-day Adventist Secondary School in Bouake (Ivory Coast), California State University at Long Beach, La Sierra College, and Victorville Community College.

For 56 years, Dr. Lindsay Thomas was joined in marriage and in mission ministry by Evelyan Patterson Thomas, M.D. To their union, one son—Jean-Pierre Kouadio Thomas—was born.

On June 17, 2015, Dr. Lindsay Thomas peacefully went to rest. Left to grieve his loss and to support his legacy are his wife and son; as well as his nieces—Mary Walker, Shirley Onu, Charlie Mae Donaldson, and Lucy Coleman; nephew, Earl Simmons; grandnieces—Carol, Lisa, and Kimiko Donaldson and Karen Williams; grandnephews—Ronald, Willie, and Gregory Coleman and Tobias Simmons; and numerous other family members and friends.