

## Obituary

Mr. John Henry Thomas "Papa John," the oldest child of Mary Alice "Agnes" and Versie Thomas, was born January 22, 1902, in Lincoln County, Mississippi.

He accepted Christ at a very early age and became a member of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Estill, Mississippi.

Papa John was married to Lula Mae Edwards and to this union one daughter was born. On December 13, 1936, he married Rosie Lee Washington and to this union eleven children were born; five daughters and six sons.

Throughout his life he was quiet, well-loved, and respected by every-one.

Papa John departed this life on Tuesday, December 26, 1989, at 5:21 p.m. at Hinds General Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi.

He leaves to mourn his passing a wife Mrs. Rosie Lee Thomas of Mobile, Alabama; six daughters, Mrs. Johnnie Mae Washington of Brookhaven, Mississippi, Mrs. Ethel Powell of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Mrs. Ora Arnold of Mobile, Alabama, Mrs. Mary A. Williams of Los Angeles, California, Mrs. Rosie Thomas of Jackson, Mississippi, and Captain Flora Tate-Davidson of Dayton, Ohio; six sons, Mr. Sylvester Thomas of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Mr. Henry L. Thomas of Mobile, Alabama, Mr. L.C. Thomas of Walnut, California, Mr. Virgil Thomas of Mobile, Alabama, Mr. James E. Thomas and Mr. McArthur Thomas of Jackson, Mississippi; four sisters and three brothers, Bernice Jones, Missouri McCullin and Elijah Thomas of Alton, Illinois, Fannie Scott and Eddie Thomas of Chicago, Illinois, Versie Mae Anderson of Detroit, Michigan, and Winfield Thomas of Camden, New Jersey; thirty-three grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren, a host of other relatives and friends. Three brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

*God saw you were getting weary,  
So He did what he thought best.  
He came and stood beside you,  
And whispered, "Come and Rest."  
You bade no one a last farewell,  
Not even a "good-bye."  
You were gone before we knew it,  
And only God knows why!*