



## Rev. Melvin Clay Austin

December 29, 1932 - April 7, 2017

Rev. Melvin Clay Austin, 84 of Salisbury passed away Friday, April 7, 2017 at the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House surrounded by family.

Born December 29, 1932 in Salisbury, he was the son of the late Joseph Calvin Austin and Lula Troutman Austin.

He was educated in the Salisbury schools and graduated from Boyden High School where he participated in all sports. Mr. Austin was a veteran of the US Army's 82nd Airborne.

Rev. Austin was a Minister and served at New Hope Baptist Church. He also owned and operated Mel's Upholstery.

He was a member of Safe Harbor Baptist Church, was a singer, songwriter and authored numerous books.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a wife, Shirley Breeden Austin and his 5 brothers and sister.

Those left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Patti Austin Clifton (Curt Porter) of Greer, SC and Penny Austin Curtis (Johnny) of Salisbury; son, Michael Clayton Austin; the mother of his children, Edith Whitted of Taylors,

SC; seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 11 AM-12:30 PM Thursday (April 13) at Safe Harbor Baptist Church followed by the service at 12:30 PM with the Rev. Josh Montgomery and Rev. Michael Austin officiating. Interment will follow at the Historic National Cemetery with Military Graveside Rites conducted by the NC National Guard and the Rowan County Veterans Honor Guard.

Memorials may be made to Safe Harbor Baptist Church, 270 Dunns Mountain Church Rd., Salisbury, NC 28146.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Austin family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Historical Salisbury National Cemetery

200 Government Rd.  
Salisbury, NC

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 13. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Safe Harbor Baptist Church  
270 Dunns Mountain Road  
Salisbury, NC 28146

## Service

APR 13. 12:30 PM (ET)

Safe Harbor Baptist Church  
270 Dunns Mountain Road  
Salisbury, NC 28146

# Tribute Wall

NP

“ I have great memories of Preacher Mel when he pastored New Hope Baptist Church years ago. He was a blessing to everyone that knew him. My husband Larry and I enjoyed his preaching and he was our friend. My Larry just passed March 16 and he greeted Mel when he arrived in glory. What a halalugh time they are having right now. Heaven is much sweeter now that they are there together. Heaven is getting sweeter all the time. I am sorry Patti Penny and families. He was a good dad. Praying for you all.

*Love you all Naomi Poole*

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**Naomi Poole** - April 12, 2017 at 07:58 PM

PA

“ Uncle Mel was one of a kind and will be missed dearly. Love you!!!  
Poogy

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**Poogy Austin** - April 10, 2017 at 12:25 PM

KC

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Bro. Melvin. I probably would not be saved if not for him and his family. His ministry helped me grow in the Lord more than I can express. I loved him like a father and his daughters like sisters. I know he will be missed.

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**Kim Cline** - April 09, 2017 at 09:15 AM

VR

“ Sorry to hear of Bro. Melvins passing. Another soldier of the Lord gone home. What a time he is having right now seeing for the first time all that he preached about for so many years. Makes my heart rejoice for him. I know my dad will welcome him home.  
My fondest memory of Bro Melvin was when I was around 15. He took his church kids to camp and invited our church. I had never been to camp so it was quite an experience for me. I can still see him carrying luggage to the cabins. He has made his last trip and he didn't have to carry any luggage this time.  
He will be missed.  
Keeping the family in prayer.

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**Verna (Walters) Roach** - April 09, 2017 at 06:32 AM

DH

“ Debbie Hinson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Melvin Clay Austin



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**Debbie hinson** - April 08, 2017 at 10:34 PM

EA

“ Was a great man who loved the lord and was a blast to be around and Will be missed alot!!!! Loved him alot!!! Eddie

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**Eddie austin** - April 08, 2017 at 08:59 PM

MH

“ Will miss you our friend. Our church will not be the same without you. Enjoy what you have been looking forward to since God saved you. Heaven just became a reality. We can only imagine but now you know

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**Mike and Rita Hiatt** - April 08, 2017 at 08:42 PM