

**Memorial Resolution**  
**Presbytery of St. Augustine**  
**The Reverend James Peyton Hopkins**  
**September 8, 1945 – August 17, 2018**

*Whereas* James Peyton Hopkins entered the world in Prague, Oklahoma on September 8, 1945. Son, brother, friend, artist, singer and poet from the beginning.

*Whereas* Peyton grew up playing pool at his father's bar, playing guitar, writing songs, and poetry and began his education at Oklahoma State University earning four bachelor's degrees in Speech, Drama, English and Religion.

*Whereas* he heard the call of the Lord and attended Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis Missouri where he earned his Master's of Divinity and was ordained into the Disciples of Christ Church in 1974.

*Whereas* he married his beloved wife Darline in 1987, and he was the loving father of two sons, James and John, stepfather to Ariane and grandfather. He adored his children, nephews and nieces, and especially his grandchildren.

*Whereas* he was ordained in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. in 2002 and began serving as the Associate Pastor of Community Presbyterian Church in Atlantic Beach, FL.

*Whereas* he dedicated his life to servanthood, mission, community, and caring for all of God's people. Peyton visited the sick, he prayed for the hurting, he never hesitated to stop and help someone in need. and he loved everyone he ever met with open arms.

*Whereas* Our Father's Housewares, a furniture ministry helping the poor and needy in the Jacksonville Beaches area, became his life's work. He drove all over the beaches giving out furniture, especially beds, to those who were down on their luck and in need. He answered hundreds of calls of people in need, he listened to thousands of stories, he prayed millions of prayers and he visited the homes of many and filled them with furniture.

*Whereas* Peyton was an avid poet and song writer. His recorded songs can be found in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C.

*Whereas* his teaching and preaching inspired many. His love and compassion helped many. His dedication to the community upheld many. His life shall now be a witness to all to the healing power of Jesus Christ and the love of God for all.

*Whereas* on August 17, 2018 Peyton's Baptism was complete in his death as he returned home to his God whom he worshipped and adored for 73 years. His labors be rested, and his hope be in the resurrection and eternal life of us all.

*Now be it resolved* that the Presbytery of St. Augustine does remember in love our brother James Peyton Hopkins and we give thanks for his unique ministry among us and offer praise to God for his presence in our midst and in our hearts, for we have learned much from his life and faithful witness and we will miss his ever-loving presence dearly. We further resolve that this resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of the 2018 Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of St. Augustine.