

Stephen Thomas Hill, 55, was born Oct. 2, 1956 in Kirksville, Mo. and finished his Earthly assignment on Aug. 5.

He was a life-long professional musician, singer, and songwriter. Stephen graduated from Woodmont High School in Piedmont, South Carolina in 1973. Stephen was a lover of life and people. He was an avid reader, Bible student and an ordained Baptist minister. His solo music ministry has taken him to many countries around the world. His voice is heard on countless recordings by some of the music industry's most popular performers. He has been a part of the Gaither Homecoming Video Series for over 15 years, and was a background singer on the Nashville Network's Prime Time Country television program. His songs have been featured on projects by many award winning artists. His timely song "Why Can't All God's Children Get Along" was nominated for the Gospel Music Association's Song Of The Year in 2010.

He is survived by: wife, Kathy Mullinax Hill whom he married in 1978; children, Melody Hill of New Orleans, La., Miriam Hill of New York, NY and Caleb Hill of Los Angeles, Calif.; mother, Bernice (Ray) Roach of Greenville, SC; father, Gordon E. Hill of Tucson, Ariz.; brother, Sidney (Christina) Hill of Louisville, Ky.; Sister, Cheryl Childress of Greenville, SC; niece, Stephanie Childress of Greenville, SC.

Just days prior to his unexpected death, these words were posted on Stephen's Facebook page: "Jesus said a lot of great things. He did a lot of great things. He changed the course of history with His words and deeds. The best thing He said was to love God and everybody else. We can't judge, and that's hard. Loving people doesn't mean changing them. That's even harder. I hope He gives me a break when I see Him face to face. I also hope that He forgives the mistakes I make in my zeal. Love and forgiveness. I'll let God change what He wants to in other people. Change me first, Oh, Lord. Take the plank from my eye before I take the speck from another's.

The Celebration of Life service was conducted Monday, Aug. 13 at Grace Church of the Nazarene, 2620 Pennington Bend Road, Nashville, TN. Visitation was at the church from Monday.

**Stephen Thomas Hill**

Tuesday, August 14, 2012

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The family requests that memorials be made to The Gospel Music Trust Fund, P.O. Box 932, Brentwood, TN 37024 ([www.gospelmusictrustfund.org](http://www.gospelmusictrustfund.org)).

Arrangements by Bond Memorial Chapel, N. Mt. Juliet Road and Weston Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN. (615)773-2663. Obit Line (615)641-2663, [www.bondmemorial.com](http://www.bondmemorial.com).