

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, a native born in Baltimore, Maryland, Dr. M. Thurston Cox received his undergraduate degree in Biology from Bowie State University in 1977, he then went on to receive his Doctor of Medicine from Meharry Medical College in 1981—he did his Post Doctoral Training in Internal Medicine at Howard University; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, he moved to Mississippi where he practiced until his untimely death—for the last several years, he practiced at Mallory Community Health center and the East River Physicians Group; and

WHEREAS, as talented as he was in medicine, he was equally so as a musician—his love for music began at a very early age and at age eleven, he began to use his God-given talents (without formal instruction) to play piano/organ at his father's church; and

WHEREAS, for nearly a decade, he has been an integral part of the Anderson United Methodist Church Music Department and has accompanied some of the greats of gospel music such as Rev. James Moore, Dorothy Norwood, Vanessa Bell-Armstrong, The Jackson Southernaires, Melvin Williams and others; and

WHEREAS, his most fulfilling musical accomplishment was when he was asked by David R. Curry Jr. to play for the Mississippi Mass Choir—he remained a faithful member for over thirteen years and penned the triumphant song “The Lord Shall Reign” on the choir’s Grammy and Stellar nominated recording “Emmanuel;” and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday night, July 16, 2002, Dr. M. Thurston Cox died in a one-vehicle accident in Madison, Mississippi—funeral services will be held Monday July 22, 2002, at 11:00 a.m.:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim July 22, 2002, as

DR. M. THURSTON COX DAY

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, July 22, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR