

In Loving Memory of



Maurice Emmett Chessa

Sunrise
May 19, 1933

Sunset
December 25, 2012

Service

Thursday, January 3, 2013 - 3:00 p.m.

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

191-02 Linden Blvd.
St. Albans, New York 11412

Obituary

Maurice Emmett Chessa was born on May 19, 1933 in Brooklyn, New York to Cecile Marie Pease and Michel “Joe” Chessa. He was the last born of seven children Conrad, Patricia, Gerald, Lloyd, Michel and Keith and he has now joined them all in eternal rest.

He attended Sacramento City College and Sacramento State College in California and he served honorably in the United States Air Force. He also worked for the United States Air Force and the United States Army Corps Reserve.

Maurice was a consultant to numerous corporations on the development of labor, social, educational and employment programs. He worked for the United States Post Office, New York State Department of Labor and he held leadership positions with many organizations, including the Apex Technical School, Training Resources for Youth, Inc. (Project TRY), Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc., Off Track Betting Corporation, Mentor Incorporated, Bedford Stuyvesant Youth in Action Community Corporation, and Commercial Envelope Manufacturing Co., Inc.

His passion for human services, his willingness to create hope and possibility for young people and his brilliant program planning and development skills are reflected in his most recent leadership positions which included a near twenty year Directorship with the Bedford Stuyvesant YMCA. He would later become President and Chairman of the Bedford Stuyvesant I Have A Dream Foundation. He was Executive Director of the Robin Hood Foundation, as well as a very active Board Member, and he helped develop programming that is changing the lives of thousands of New Yorkers.

He was an extraordinary writer and enjoyed reading, swimming, boating, bowling, skiing, playing pool and movies. He was active in civil rights with numerous speaking engagements, to include radio and television. He wrote several articles on manpower, training and employment for various publications. He was a regular member of the Proctor Hobson Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Family and friends affectionately called him “Reecy”, or “Moe”, or “Maurie.”

Maurice was a father, grandfather, friend, mentor, teacher, leader and visionary. He departed this life on Tuesday, December 25, 2012.

He is survived by: his daughter, Cecile Anderson (George) from Pasadena, California; his son, Maurece Chesse from Hollywood, California; his daughter, Drewlyn Simone Chessa (Earl) from Durham, North Carolina; his grandchildren, Perris, Brianna, Denise and Danielle. He also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, as well as faithful friends, Paul Tudor Jones, David Saltzman, Noel Carrington, Frank Logan III and Col. Raymond Smith.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection “Precious Lord” by Lisa Ray

Scriptures

and Prayer of Consolation Pastor Lawrence Saunders

Special Tribute Paul Tudor Jones

Musical Selection “Ave Maria” and
“Heaven Took You Much Too Soon” by Caroline Dorothy Jones

Reflections David Saltzman, Joe Grimes, Paul Sharar,
Win Adkins, Sidney Rosenberg, Roscoe Reynolds, colleagues and friends

Obituary Reading by George Anderson

Poem by Earl David Joe “Parrotto”

DVD Tribute

Eulogy Pastor Lawrence Saunders

Closing Prayer

Benediction

Final Disposition
Fresh Pond Crematory
Mount Olivet Crescent • Middle Village, NY

*There will be a reception following the service at
Manhattan Proper, 217-01 Linden Blvd.
Cambria Heights, NY. 11411*

Gone From My Sight

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side, spreads its white sails to the moving breeze and starts for the blue ocean. It is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch it until, at length, it hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, it is gone." Gone where? Gone from my sight. That is all. It is just as large in mast, hull and spar as it was when it left my side. And, it is just as able to bear its load of living freight to its destined port. Its diminished size is in me - not in it. And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, it is gone," there are other eyes watching it coming and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here it comes!"

by Henry Van Dyke

Acknowledgements

*The family of **Maurice Chessa** acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.*

God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.

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