

Sunrise September 21, 1948

Sunset September 18, 2012

**Memorial Service** Saturday, September 22, 2012 - 4:00 p.m.

## **MOUNT CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

348 Beach 71st Street (Beach Channel Drive at 71st Street) Rockaway Beach, New York **Rev. Darren Ferguson, Pastor** 

## <u>Obituary</u>

After a courageous battle with cancer, **Ralph Eugene Abraham** passed away, peacefully, on September 18, 2012 - the 23rd anniversary of Hurricane Hugo. Ralph was born September 21, 1948 in Brooklyn, New York. He later graduated from St. John's University in 1970. From there, Ralph relocated to St. Croix, USVI where he began his life as a community leader and family man. During his time in the Virgin Islands, he ignited pride in the young men and women of the community through his leadership in the Boy Scouts of America. On the Island, he was known affectionately as the Boy Scout Man. In 1989, almost twenty years later, Hurricane Hugo blew him to Hampton, Virginia where he continued his influence on the life of young men and women as an educator.

Ralph was one of two children born to the late Rufus and Geraldine Abraham and was the beloved husband of Harriet Abraham. Ralph will forever be remembered by his uncles, George "Cliff" Abraham and Teddy Baptiste, his aunt, Cynthia Marshall, mother-in-law, Lily Newell, loving sister-in-law, Peggy Newell, his five beloved children, Ramadan, Faisal, Tajama, Nsilo and Serene, his caring children-in-law, Patrick, Sondra, Mia and Dineen, his eleven treasured grandchildren, Aaron, Jalir, Naja, Patrick II, Isaiah, Leylani, Nala, Jordan, Sophia, Marissa and Nsilo, all of his loving cousins, along with countless friends and family who were blessed to know him, especially Cleveland Monroe Thornhill, his brother, from another mother.

Ralph loved basketball, the beach, music, singing, dancing and educating others on life through his experiences. He loved life, however, his greatest passion was talking about and spending time with his greatest treasure - his children and their respective families.

The Boy Scout Man touched and inspired the lives of many people with his smile, spiritual energy and words of wisdom. He was a great man, father, husband and child of God. Ralph will be greatly missed, but the legacy he left behind in his children will allow his blessings to live on through them.

<u>Order of Service</u>

Processional

Selection

Scripture

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

**Eulogy** Rev. Darren Ferguson

Committal

Viewing

Recessional



Endless Run

He laces up his winged adidases And made his final run This arena had no boundaries He scored goals between the posts of our heart He rose and blazed through the universe He shook hands with Wilt Chamberlain when he passed the big dipper... but he didn't linger cause Jesse Owens had a big head start He's at the gates of heaven He's in the end zone... Doing a cha cha Victor Cruz would love We cheer bravo! Encore! But he is gone in a flash Like a bolt of lightning Powerful and illuminating He left a rainbow of memories Of colorful times Sandy beaches ... and the sea His eternal song can be heard by placing a sea shell to your ear

Dedicated to the memory of Ralph Abraham Written by Clifford Parris

## Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.



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