

*A Celebration of Life for*

**William Zimmerman**

Sunrise  
October 11, 1953

Sunset  
October 21, 2012

Service

*Saturday, October 27, 2012 - 9:00 a.m.*

**CHRISTIAN LOVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
830 Lyons Avenue • Irvington, New Jersey

*Rev. Ron Christian, Officiating*

# Obituary

**Mr. William Zimmerman** was born on October 11, 1953 in Manhattan, New York. He relocated at the age of sixteen with his mother and siblings to Newark, NJ.

William is predeceased by his parents, Thelma Danois and Johnnie Jones.

William attended the Newark Public School system, graduating from Barringer High School in 1973, continuing onto higher education William got accepted into Seton Hall University and graduated in 1978 at the top of his class as Sigma Cum Laude. He excelled in his studies while at Seton Hall University. William studied extensively by enrolling in classes that were considered African American History. William majored in Criminal Justice and minored in African American History. He obtained his BA Bachelor of Arts Degree from a university that is an Ivy League College. William returned to his Alma Mater to work with the Upward Bound Program as a college advocate much of his influence came from the Director of the Upward Bound Program, Dr. Judy Miller who would ultimately become his mentor and longtime friend.

In 1978 William married Shirley Kinchen out of that union they had a beautiful daughter, Kenyata who would return to her maker after only one month on earth. William was blessed a year later (1979) with a handsome son, William Zimmerman Jr. William's work career comprised of many positions. He was a shift supervisor at Gino's Chicken. William worked as a city code inspector for the city of Newark, he worked as a counselor for delinquent young males in Newark on Norfolk St. William was a volunteer abuse counselor at Newark Beth Israel Hospital. All of the various positions William held, his most fulfilling and dedication of the love he had for people was working as a special education teacher. He worked in various school districts, as a substitute teacher for many years to finally secure a position for Elizabeth permanent Public School system at Thomas Edison Career and Technical School. He worked for fourteen years and eight months.

Mr. Zimmerman affectionately known by his colleagues, peers and students as "Mr. Z". William was a teacher to his students who made a difference in their lives by concerning himself with not only their academic ability but their personal lives. William made sure that his students were given everyday equal opportunities to learn in any educational environment. William knew the obstacles many of his students were challenged with that is why he taught subject matter but he also gave sound advice to allow his students to progress with the most available tools (educational) that were given by him in order to empower his students. His goal mission and zeal for life was attainable because "Mr. Z" always kept life simple, practical and fair.

William was privileged as a teenager to live at his aunt Gladys home and become not only her nephew but her God son. His (Mr. Z) cousin, Michele and uncle, John were privileged to have William be part of an extension to their immediate household. William advocated for all people regardless of race, religion, gender or economic status, he loved everyone and never chided anyone.

William was a member of Welcome Baptist Church as a young teenager, he sang in the young adult choir. In his adulthood he was a member of various churches where he served the community and outreach ministries. In his final chapter in the Lord William was a member of Abundant Life of Worship in Nutley, NJ, where his Christian walk was in the Lord.

We will remember William Zimmerman as a man who exemplified what the meaning of love was as it related to family and a sense of urgency to teach all who was a student of his or not. His love of family, education and serving others will always be kept close to our hearts. His hobbies were bowling, music, good food and African American Studies.

"To This End" William would say I quote, "There will be many things that can be taken from you, but knowledge is not one of them because knowledge is power and power is empowerment."

William leaves to mourn: his son, William Zimmerman, Jr.; granddaughter, Brielle Lucille Keyo Zimmerman; his stepchildren, Nashonda and Henry and their children; his siblings, Lawrence, Daryl, Darlene, Charlene and Trina; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

# Order of Service

Prelude

Processional ..... Clergy and Family

Viewing of Remains

Scripture Reading ..... Reverend Ronald Christian

Old Testament - Psalm 23:1-6

New Testament - John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort ..... Antwan Zimmerman

Musical Selection ..... “Precious Lord”

Obituary ..... Silent Reading, Antwan Zimmerman

Musical Selection ..... “His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Condolences/Sympathy Cards

Acknowledgements/Remarks

Eulogy

Recessional

## **Interment**

Evergreen Cemetery

Hillside, New Jersey

*Please join the family immediately following the interment for a repast at Central Assembly of God.*

## **Pall Bearers**

Jason Zimmerman                      Keith Zimmerman Jr.

David Zimmerman                      Kevin Zimmerman

Antwan Zimmerman                      Al-Jalil Zimmerman

Wayne Link                                  Tyrone Boyd

Kaseem Link

## **Honorary Pall Bearers**

Lawrence Zimmerman                      Daryl Zimmerman

Roland Zimmerman                      James Burse

Alim Zimmerman

## **“God’s Final Chapter”**

**We are born, so shall we die  
Ashes to ashes, dust to dust  
in god we must trust.**

**The time we spend on this earth is pertinent  
but eternal life is relevant**

**Each day we must make count,  
In the end God’s reward is greater.**

**My father, my brother, my friend  
Do not consider this the end.**

**God has turned a page of  
This final chapter, you are the plot.**

**God spoketh and said  
“Consider not this of being the end.”**

**My brother earth’s journey has ended  
and eternal life must begin  
enter into my mansion**

### ***Acknowledgement***

*The family of William Zimmerman would like to  
thank all of you for your kind words, thoughts,  
prayers and deeds during our time of bereavement.  
“God bless you all”*

In lieu of flowers send to  
Development Office  
457 Centre Street, South Orange, NJ 07079  
*In Memory of William Zimmerman “1978”*

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James E. Churchman Jr. Funeral Home*

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