

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



TRUSTEE GEORGE "BUDDY" SPEARS

Sunrise

August 4, 1940

Sunset

October 26, 2012

"FOR ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST AND TO DIE IS GAIN."

PHILIPPIANS 1:21

Service

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 ~ 10:00 AM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

929 DILL AVENUE

LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

REV. DERRICK R. DUMAS, PASTOR

Thank you

Dear Grandpa,

We never thought this day would come when we couldn't walk in the house and yell your name. Walking through the hallways, things just don't feel the same. The truth is, it's here. We never knew how much we loved you, until you weren't here to dry out tears. It hurts knowing you won't be able to laugh with us again but we know you're in glory with your hands in your pockets looking down at us with that unforgettable grin. On how we miss you, words can't say it enough. You taught us to live by God's word even when it gets tough. As we sit in the house you and grandma built with nothing else to do. Our hearts are heavy but we lift our heads and say thank you. Sarah is running around I'm sure she misses you.

Zaire said you were a great man. Zion said she's going to miss the times you teased her just to work her up for a good laugh.

Antoine said he'll never forget your handshake. You taught him how to look people in the eye. Britt said you grabbed her hand and told her everything will be alright.

Bre said she'll never forget the days when we would watch TV in your den and run out when we heard the garage open. We forgot to change the channel back but I'm sure you knew.

Ronald said thanks for the times you let him do yard work with you and taking him to school. As for me, thank you for being the greatest example of a man that I have ever seen.

By the way Veronica and I got married. I know you wanted to be there but no matter where we are in life, you will always be there. The family is strong and your legacy will live on. We love you!

~ Your Grandchildren

Life Reflections

Trustee George Spears (affectionately known as “Buddy”), the son of the late Beatrice Bethea and Sam Spears, Sr., was born on August 4, 1940 in Elizabethtown, North Carolina. He was the oldest son of 15 children and was predeceased by his step-mother, Nora B. Spears, brother, Edward Spears and two sisters, Mary Eaddy and Estelle Hyman.

George attended the public schools in Florence, South Carolina. Reared in a Christian home, George received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and was baptized at an early age, uniting with the Elizabeth Baptist Church in Florence, SC.

In his early years prior to moving to New Jersey, George was a school bus driver in Florence, SC; this is where he first laid eyes on Ella Mae Mason.

George and Ella captured each other’s hearts more than 51 years ago while in school and working in the farmlands. During their courtship, Ms. Eula (Ella’s Grandmother) had a rule: George could **only** visit Ella at home on **Wednesdays** and **Sundays**. They were united in Holy Matrimony on July 29, 1961 by Rev. E.W. Cole, Pastor of the Wesley Methodist Church where Ella attended. The ceremony took place in Ella’s grandparent’s home in Florence, SC where Sam Spears, Jr. was George’s “Best Man” – but it still remains a mystery who Ella’s “Maid of Honor” was.

After they were married, George and Ella moved to NJ. This union was blessed with three children, Terri Anita, George Christopher and Ronald Edward. New Jersey is where the era of the **DOUBLE PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY SANDWICHES** with every meal began.

A “Machinist by trade”, George began working for Schnitzer Alloy in Elizabeth, NJ and American Products in Union, NJ for a total of 48 years of work experience before retiring in 2007.

George joined the First Baptist Church of Linden, under the leadership of the Late Rev. Dr. Samuel E. Schell in 1970. He served as a Trustee for over 25 years; 14 of those years as the Chairman. George had valued friendships in the spirit of brotherhood with Trustees Richard Carter and the late Ulysses Givens. He was an active member of the Male Chorus, Mass Choir and the Senior Usher Board.

Trustee George Spears leaves to cherish fond memories, his wife, Ella Mae Spears; three children: Terri (Jeff) Johnson of Linden, NJ, George Christopher (Andrea) Spears of South Plainfield, NJ and Ronald Spears of Linden, NJ; eight grandchildren: Brandon (Veronica) Johnson, Brittany Johnson, Ronald, Breana, Antoine, Zion, Zaire and Sarah Spears; six brothers: Sam (Whilamedea), Jr. of Linden, NJ, Rollie (Jessie Mae), Johnny L. (Iris), Charles (Carrie), and Harry (Jacquelyn) Spears and Harry Joe (Sherry) Scott, all of Florence, SC; five sisters: Mary Sue (Calvin) Bethea of Latta, SC, Florean Ellerbe of Sellers, SC, Mildred Nelson of Latta, SC, Rosa S. (David) King, and Evelina Ellis, all of Florence, SC; five brothers-in-law, Clifton Mason, Gary White, Charles Rush, Jerome White all of Florence, SC and David (Janet) White of Charlotte, NC; an aunt, Doree Bostick of Brooklyn, NY; two goddaughters, Tina L. Spears of Newark, NJ and Chavon Parks of Somerset, NJ; close family friends, Andrea Clark, Kim Sales, and Sabrina Smith all of Linden, NJ, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Lovingly Submitted, The Family

“I'm Free”

Don't grieve for me for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call.
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow:
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full I've savored much,
Good times, good friends,
a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Author: Unknown

ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude.....Michael Reeds

Processional.....Clergy/Family

Parting View

*Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Samuel Washington
Solid Rock Church of God • Salisbury, NC*

*Scripture ReadingPastor Pattie Roscoe
Praise Temple I.C.O.G. • Linden, NJ
Old Testament – Psalm 23: 1-6
New Testament – I Corinthians 15: 51-58*

Selection.....Terri A. Spears-Johnson

*Reflections.....Sam Thomas
Sam Spears, Jr.
Brandon Johnson
George Christopher Spears*

*Words of Comfort.....Bishop Tony McNeill
Praise Temple I.C.O.G. • Linden, NJ*

Acknowledgments/Obituary.....Twonna L. Spears

Solo.....Tina L. Spears – Goddaughter

Eulogy.....Reverend Derrick R. Dumas

Recessional.....Clergy/Family

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery
Linden, New Jersey

Wednesday, November 7, 2012 10:30 a.m.

*A Repast will take place immediately following the
Interment at the First Baptist Church Dining Hall*

Services Entrusted To:

G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC

206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203

www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

“Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service”

PALLBEARERS

Timothy Cromartie

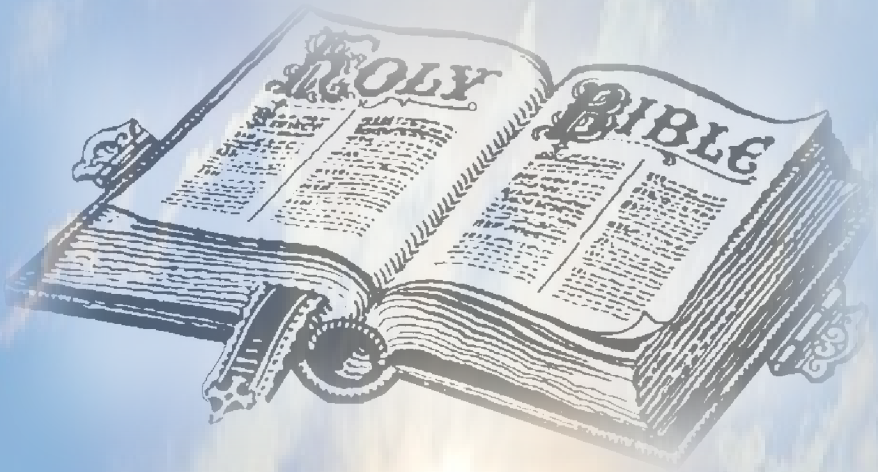
Antoine Spears

Jaime Rosado

Ronald Spears, Jr.

Brandon Johnson

Samuel K. Spears



Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Trustee George Spears** acknowledges with deep appreciation, all acts of kindness extended to us during this bereavement hour. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

~ The Family ~

