

*In Loving Memory
Of*

Calixte R. Richardson

*Sunrise
January 2, 1958*

*Sunset
April 12, 2014*

Services

Tuesday, April 22, 2014 - 10:00 a.m.

CLINTON MEMORIAL AME ZION CHURCH

151 Broad Street • Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Robert Taylor, Officiating

Obituary

Calixte Rigobert Richardson, affectionately known to his family as “Rich”, or as “Mr. Brother Calixte”, was born on January 2, 1958 in St. Martin to Calixte and Valentine Richardson, both of whom are now deceased.

Calixte received his elementary education on the islands of Aruba, St. Martin and St. Thomas. He continued his education at Nazareth Bay High School and graduated with the class of 1977. After graduating from high school, Calixte continued his education at the College of the Virgin Islands where he received his Associate of Arts degree in Accounting. Shortly thereafter, he left St. Thomas and enlisted in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1990.

Calixte worked many years for the State of New Jersey Department of Corrections, East Jersey State Prison, until his service retirement as of November 12, 2012.

Calixte grew up becoming a man who loved the Lord and dedicated his life to serve Him. In 1998 he joined Clinton Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church. He was a faithful and dedicated servant until the end. Calixte served as Preacher Steward for Dr. William McKenith and Rev. Theodore Calhoun. He also served on the Steward Board, Usher Board, Sunday School Teacher, and even taught Bible Study whenever he was needed. He loved to travel overseas to the Guyana Annual Conference. Calixte was a man of humility who did not seek the accolades of man. He was a “behind the scene” type of guy and always tried to see the positive in any situation.

Calixte’s spirit was strong as his shoulders and his arms. Whenever someone needed a word of encouragement or needed help, Calixte was there to offer himself. His facebook friends have already stated how they will miss his postings or his response to their postings. Calixte honored and respected his biological and extended families.

Though he did not play a specific sport, he was an avid sports fan. Throughout his life, Calixte maintained a sense of humor. He could certainly tell a good joke to be followed with his big smile. Calixte also enjoyed going down to South Jersey for a weekend trip to Atlantic City or to meet up with his coworkers for a “boy’s night” out. He loved some good food too and if you gave him a chance, you would find him behind the stove trying to prepare those dishes, but to be preceded with a call, “Hey, Martine, how much.....?”

Calixte happiness was his gift to our family and to his many friends. He had a big heart and his heart gave out so suddenly on Saturday, April 12, 2014. God has His reasons for wanting to call His son home and Calixte Rigobert Richardson is now in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Survivors

Brothers

Boisneuf and Edouard Richardson

Sisters

Martine, Lina, and Irma Richardson

Sister-in-law

Tasha Richardson

Special Friend

Vanessa McIver

Surrogate son

Amir LaSure

Aunts

Mildred and Berthe Chittick, Felicia Brathwaite, Lillian Layne, Bernice David, Eulalie Illidge, Albertha Janga, Bernaddine Van Veen, Daisy Carty, Elsie Badde, Adele Horsford, Marie-Ange Richardson, Cynthia Verschuren, Yvette Duzanson, Lilia Richardson and Yvonne Carty

Uncles

Jean and Boisneuf Chittick, Antoine Landerfort, Louis Williams, Hypolite, Ettienne and Leo Richardson

Great Uncle

William Arrindell

Great Aunt

Mary Bryan

Nieces

Marie Christine Richardson, Yvonne Zinhagel, Celeste and Christal Richardson, Shevonne Benjamin, Cherelle Gregoire, Monique Richardson, Teisha, Keisha and Maritsa Fleming, Brittany Richardson, Nikell Canton, and Kyra-Marie Rhymer.

Nephews

Eddie Zinhagel, Raymito Fleming, Bryan and Eddie Richardson, Jr., Jahmal Martin, Sha-Moi Lawrence, TeWann Canton, J'Vante Rhymer

Great Nieces and Nephews

18

Godson

Chauncey Nino Virgil

Host of cousins and friends world wide

Nathaniel Johnson, Gail Johnson, Dr. William McKenith

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Processional

Invocation

Hymn of Praise..... “Blessed Assurance”

Scriptures

Old Testament Celeste Richardson, *Niece*

New Testament Amir LaSure, *Surrogate Son*

Pastoral Prayer..... Rev. Berthe Chittick, *Aunt*

Reflections/Acknowledgement *2 minutes please*

Poem..... Nikell Canton, *Niece*

Selection

Obituary..... Boisneuf Richardson, *Brother*

Selection

Eulogy..... Rev. Robert Taylor

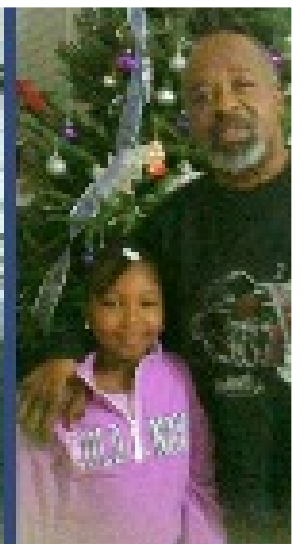
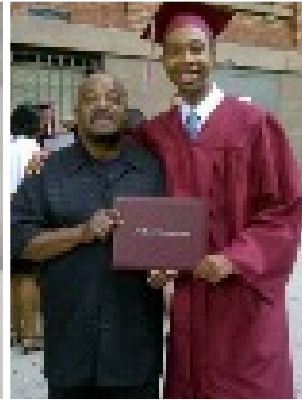
Invitation to Christ

Closing Prayer

Benediction/Recessional

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Interment</u> Fairmount Cemetery Newark, New Jersey</p>
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Immediately following the services, family and friends are invited to return to the church for the repast.



My Brother Calixte,

It's still hard to believe you're gone. I remembered Mamie telling us before she transitioned to look out for our younger siblings and to help them in whatever capacity we can. Trust me, you certainly honoured her request. You are one-of-a-kind and I miss you terribly. You gave everything you had and more to make us as happy as possible, and now it is your turn. Your sacrifices didn't go unnoticed.

You have been a blessing to every person that has been around you in your life, whether they were your biological family, church family, circle of friends, or your recently formed Facebook friends. You were someone you would be inspired by. You were a man of courage and strength, battling through each challenge you faced. These qualities made you, Calixte, the person you were and I loved you for all those things. Your love is forever appreciated and valued more than you may ever know.

I can never forget you spending some Christmas with us in Baltimore, watching you be the "taster" of food as it was being prepared for dinner, and you saying, "Ok, this is good, keep on cooking". Our Caribbean trips with the family were always filled with joyous moments. Shevonne and Sha-Moi loved having you around them; you telling jokes and having hearty laughter's thereafter. I will truly miss those weekly calls where we would check on each other. God has seen it fit to relieve you of your earthly duties and pain. 2, Chr 20:17, ---You will not need to fight this battle. Position yourselves, stand and see your salvation of the Lord, who is with you.

You may be gone from this world, but you will **always** be in my heart and I love you very much. Rest in Peace, "Rich"

Your beloved sister,
Martine Richardson

Calixte, it is difficult to tell you how deeply I feel about your untimely passing. When I heard the dreadful news, you were deceased; I was depressed about the situation. You fought a hard battle with vigor and dignity. I know you are at peace and that gives me comfort. You have been a blessing to me and to so many lives. Even in the midst of your storms, you became a hope for many others. I will always remember the good times we had together and the conversations we would have. I will always have you in my heart and you will be forever missed. May you rest in peace in your Savior's Arms.

Your Loving Sister, Irma

My Dear Calixte (Papi)



Words cannot express the sadness that fills my heart. You were truly a blessing to me and my son. Thank you for being in my life and loving me unconditionally. Thank you for all the wonderful years we shared together
Love Always & Forever
Nessa



The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

Historical Society and Quarterly Review

3225 West Sugar Creek Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28269
Dr. William McKenith, Secretary-Editor

*"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way."
Psalm 37:23, KJV*

*W*hereas, Being appointed Pastor of Clinton Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church in May 2006, I was introduced to Brother Calixte Richardson who was Preacher Steward of the Clinton Memorial Church.

*W*hereas, By virtue of his official position in the Church, he and the pastor would have a relationship thrust upon them according to Church law. It was Bro. Richardson's responsibility to ensure that the pastor's salary was raised, to assist the pastor in raising the budget for the church, and aid the pastor in advancing the cause of ministry. Should the pastor encounter any difficulties in executing any of his pastoral responsibilities the Preacher Steward was his "go to person."

*W*hereas, The Preacher Steward is one of "solid piety, knows Methodist Doctrine and The Discipline, who has given evidence of their ability, desire, and practice of witnessing to the Gospel of the Kingdom of God in and beyond their environ; whose obligation is to uphold the laws and practices of The A.M.E. Zion Church..." Such a person carries a heavy burden.

*B*e it known to all, Bro. Calixte Richardson shouldered his responsibilities as Preacher Steward faithfully at great cost to himself.

*B*e it known to all, Bro. Richardson went beyond the disciplinary requirements of a Preacher Steward. He often traveled to Guyana, South America to assist the A.M.E. Zion Church in advancing its missionary endeavors among the Guyanese, who are known as Zionities.

*L*et it be known to all, In the darken days of the pursuit of ministry, a pastor often feels alone, it is at such times a pastor needs a co-laborer and friend who will stand with him in the fiery furnace without wavering. Calixte was such a co-laborer, but more importantly, a Friend!

*L*et it be known to all, That those who remain "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...", their labors shall not be in vain" is the testimony that I, Dr. William Mckenith, General Officer of the A.M.E. Zion Church, render with regards to Brother Calixte Richardson

Given Tuesday, the Twenty-second Day of April in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and fourteen.

Reverend William McKenith, Ph.D.



Dear Uncle Calixte,

I will be forever grateful for the times we shared. I will miss you dearly. You were a role model of an uncle anyone would ever want to have in his life. I have the memories to share with my son, Miles, of the uncle you were to all of us. I am happy you had the opportunity to meet Miles. Now, you are at peace, no more suffering. Please watch over the family with grandma until we all meet again.

Love you uncle!
Shevonne and Miles

Uncle Calixte,

Words can't explain the way I feel with you gone. I can't believe you left us so soon. The memories we shared will be cherished forever especially of the family gatherings. You were so humorous and kind to me. You will always be in my heart. Rest in peace, uncle Calixte,
Sha-Moi

Uncle Calixte,

The blow was hard, shocking and severe. I never imagined your death so soon. The pain of losing you, and of you departing without a farewell sucks. To hear your voice, especially the sarcasm, to see you happy and carefree, and to be together as it was in the old times will surely be missed. My loving memories will never die of us going to the National Park and eating up a storm of mangos, and of you bringing my favorite candy, the Werther's Original. As the days, weeks, months and years go by, in my heart I will forever keep those memories of the one I love. I will never forget you, uncle Calixte.

Love,
Jahmal

It is a blessing to reflect on the time we shared together with Calixte. He was not just our neighbor, but family. He was a very warm, polite, friendly and courteous man and this attracted many people including the Blyden family to him. Calixte unfortunately took ill and never complained while he gave praise and blessing to the Lord. We admired him greatly especially in light of the fact that he could smile in the difficult circumstances and he came to accept his situation and never let that break his spirit. We had no idea that he would leave us so soon, but the Lord had other plans. We will miss you on Earth but hope to see you again in Eternity. We share this poem with family and friends who mourn your passing, and trust that you find some solace in the fond memories of the times that you have shared...

The Final Fight

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 his call,
I turned my back and left it all.

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

May your soul rest in peace.
Yolanda Paul & Family

We in Guyana are sadden of the passing of our beloved brother, Brother Calixte Richardson. I thank God for the life he lived and the opportunity to share happy moments with him in Trinidad at their Annual Conference, and most recently at our Annual Conference in 2012. We have lost a great Son of Zion. May his soul rest in peace.

*Lavern Benfield-Sansculotte
Guyana, South America*

Uncle Calixte

I will miss seeing you and having jokes with you. You always kept me laughing. Rest in peace Uncle Calixte. Love your nephew TeWann Canton

Uncle Calixte,

I remember as kids when you would come home to visit and you would always pick us up from school. I remember one year you came and you let me drive for the very first time and I left skid marks in Kmart's parking lot that got me teased for many years. I will always remember the times we had together. I love you and will miss you. Rest in peace.

Celeste Richardson, Niece

Calixte "Rich"

Words can not express the shock I felt when I got that call that you were gone. Rich as we reflect on how you continued to be strong never saying your tired and wanted to give up you prevailed earnestly to the end despite of your illness. You were a man of God. I thank God every day that you were able to travel one more time to St. Thomas last year for my eldest daughter's Wedding. Rich you always kept us laughing and you were our greatest food critic when we all came together for any occasion. Your interactions with your nieces and nephews showed your love for them tremendously. You will be missed by all. May your soul rest in peace my dear brother.

Love your sister Lina Richardson and family.

TRIBUTE TO OUR NEPHEW CALIXTE

CALIXTE

God has a resting place for us all, but we didn't know He would call you so soon. Now that He has called you home from your earthly sleep, sleep on Calixte and take your rest. We love you, but God loves you best. May He grant you eternal rest until we meet again in the glorious land.

Rest In Peace

Your Aunts & Uncles, The Chittick Family

TRIBUTE TO CALIXTE

Calixte,

You quietly took the night train and slipped away to Glory land, for the morning train would have been too late, and so you didn't want to wait. Your early departure shocked us all, but you'll live on in our hearts. May your soul rest in eternal peace.

From your Cousins on Saint Martin and New York.

God's Calling Him By Name

As we gather together
And the tears run down our face,
Let us keep our eyes on Jesus
And the goodness of His grace.
We may have lost the one we love
And we know it causes pain,
But if we were in heaven now
God is calling him by name.
He says He's glad to see him-
That it's been a long, long time.
Then he wraps His arms around him
And tells him all in fine.
God shows him all His mansions
With the rolling hills and plains
And reminds him up in heaven,
He won't suffer any pain.
So as we sit in silence,
Let up bow our heads in prayer,
Praising God for all is blessings
And thanking Him for being there.
May God walk beside you,
'Til your time on earth is through.
In God's time we'll go to heaven
And will see our loved ones too.

God Bless you, Calixte.
The Battle Family



Compassionate, Affectionate, Loving, Interesting, Xtraordinary, Trustworthy and Empathetic Those characteristics were just the tip of the iceberg on what a wonderful and caring man Calixte Richardson was. Though humble and reserved, his actions were often huge and authentic. The lives that you have touched are numerous and I know that they all can testify to how genuine you were and never expected anything in return. Calixte, you always saw the good in everyone and loved all with the love of CHRIST! You were never judgmental and I admired your selflessness. Calixte, you were full of knowledge, wisdom and experience and to sit and engage in a conversation with you was a treat because one will always walk away full and a little more knowledgeable. Calixte, you were a part of the McIver family and Tatyana and I will truly miss your physical presence but you will ALWAYS, ALWAYS be remembered in our hearts. Love you Always, Cheryl & Tatyana

CHERYL D. McIVER

BE BLESSED

Bro. Calixte,

I would just like to say thank you for everything you have done for my entire family. I got very upset when the people came out of the ambulance and asked if any of your "real" family is present. I consider you my family and blood could not make us any closer. I can hear you saying that life continues to go on and that everything happens for a reason. You are a father, uncle, and friend all wrapped up in one. You were always there whenever anyone needed you, and no one can ever say otherwise. You showed me what it meant to be a good man and that family is extremely important. I write this tribute with a heavy heart, Goodbye Bro. Calixte.

Sincerely,

Amir La Sure



To my loving Uncle Calixte,

All these years as a kid growing up you weren't around all the time, but when you came around I knew exactly what time it was... WERTHERS CARAMEL CANDY TIME! Maybe you're the reason why I have this one cavity..hmm. lol But honestly Uncle, you have been more than just an uncle to me you were a great supporter in everything I did. When I was in high school and you were home for the summer you would make it to my Rising Stars summer concerts and make fun of me because I didn't know all my music and to this very day before you left us to be with the Lord, me being in college now you were a big supporter and also a great financial relief, because we all know that college is NOT cheap. Even though I knew that you were sick I never imagined in a million years that you would actually leave us. I bet you and grandma are up there having one big conversation about us all and how much she has missed out on and how much we all missed her down here. I already had it in my head that May of next year that all the family would come together again for my graduation from college and I just knew for a fact that you would make it to see me walk across that stage. I know you were so proud of me and I never once gave you a reason not to be. You will forever be missed uncle and you will continue to live on in each and every one of us. You didn't die in pain or sorrow. Even though we may grieve for you leaving us physically, we have come together to celebrate the wonderful, fun spirited life that you have live and your spirit and a piece of you will forever be in all of our hearts.

Love always your favorite, blabber mouth niece, who always have a plaster for everything
Nikell



It seems like it was just yesterday that we were in High School together. It makes me wonder and think when Martine mentioned to me "Calixte been living away over 31 years ago", I said wow. May God comfort your family in times of sorrow. John 14:1-3 Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. May your soul rest in peace my Nadir Hill neighbor. Love, Melanie (Melo) Donovan and Family

Uncle Calixte,

There is no more –
No more seeing you
No more hearing your voice
No more talking to you and asking you a million questions
No more funny jokes
No more playing board games
No more traveling with us at camp in the summer
No more spending time with you
But, most of all, no more pain for you.

May you rest in peace. We love you and miss you.

LOVE ALWAYS,
Nephew J'Vante & Niece Kyra-Marie

Our Tribute to you.

We can no longer see you,
With our eyes.

We can no longer touch you,
With our hands.

But we will always remember you,
in our hearts.

You have always meant so very much
and we will miss you..

Love, Cousins Alice, Yvette & Monique...

In loving memory of Uncle Calixte,

I never wished to be writing this today, but I'm sitting and reflecting on the times we spent together. You opened up my heart, my eyes, and mind and you inspired me in so many ways. Christine and the rest of Mammy's children are going to miss you so much. We kept in touch via facebook and we are going to miss hearing from you. It hurts to say good bye. May your soul rest in peace.

Much Love,
Nephew Eddie and his extended family

My brother Calixte,

The brother with whom we grew up, loved, and will miss. As the big brother of the family, Calixte has always carried the load of second in command, taking the role of man of his household. I recalled as a child growing up, when mom wasn't up to preparing a meal for us, Calixte would get in the kitchen and do his "thing". Oh yes, he loved to eat too, so him being in the kitchen he was sure to get his great portion or the left overs. Calixte was a very humble person. He was a mentor to us all; we looked to him as big Brother for guidance and for advise. "Rich", as he was affectionately known to us, had a sense of humour that kept us together and he will be missed by all who knew him for his caring, approachable and loving demeanour. "Rich", as the "little brother" of yours, I will never forget the days, nights, and good times we had growing up. As we got older, we never grew apart keeping the family together. You have been an icon for us all. Your presence will be missed, but we know you will be watching over us. We all love you, and we all will miss you, but God has good place for you. I will always keep you close to my heart and I know you'll be there in spirit for us. Rest in peace big Brother. Take care until we meet again.

Love, Eddie, "little brother"

Uncle Calixte,

The times we got to spend together, it never felt that years passed until we saw each other again in St. Martin when you came back for a vacation. Your stories always made us laugh and when we all got together, it was always a good time. With time, the pain shall go away, but the scar will remain. We will always remember the good times we shared and I know that you are in heaven smiling down along side grandma and your sister. Love you forever.

Love, Raymito and extended family

When I remember Uncle Calixte, I'm simply reminded of how caring he was. Even with everything going on with his own life and with his health, he made sure he checked up on me to see how I was doing all the time. He was very warm, very personable, and thoroughly entertaining and that's such a phenomenal and memorable way to have lived his life. We all know that though he may be gone, he will never be forgotten. - Christal, Niece

Uncle Calixte

I am very saddened by your passing. Uncle Calixte I was so happy when you changed your vacation to come home for my wedding. You doing that was the best wedding gift. Just seeing you. You had a heart of gold always caring for others and helping. I loved how you always crack on my weight telling me "Ah Cherrille put a extra piece of meat on your plate" and I need to go eat. Uncle Calixte you are out of suffering. May your soul rest in peace. Your loving niece Cherrille Vanterpool-Gregoire, nephew-in law Louis Gregoire and kids

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 found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, 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 savored much.
Good friends, good times, 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

Pallbearers

Edwin Chittick
Michael Jabbari Morton
Sha-Moi Lawrence

Jahmal Martin
Roy Reid
Amir LaSure

Honorary Pallbearers

Boisneuf and Edouard Richardson
Jean and Boisneuf Chittick
Antoine Landerfort
Louis Williams
Hypolite
Ettienne & Leo Richardson
William Arrindel

Acknowledgements

The family of **Calixte Rigobert Richardson** would like to thank all of their family, the church family, and their friends who have extended their support and acts of kindness during their time of bereavement. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services by:

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

