

*In Loving Memory of*



*Ronald Powell*

*Sunrise*

December 14, 1960

*Sunset*

April 23, 2014

Service

Monday, May 5, 2014 - 11:00 a.m.

**GREATER REFUGE TEMPLE CHURCH**

2081 7th Avenue • New York, NY

*Bishop Charles Wright, Officiating*

## *Obituary*

**Ronald Powell**, was born in New York City on December 14, 1960, to the late Mildred and Perry Powell. At an early age, he accepted Christ and was Baptised at the Mott Haven Reformed Church in the Bronx, NY. He was called home on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at the age of 53.

Ronald was affectionately known as "Bear". Bear was raised in the Patterson Houses in the South Bronx. He received his secular education from the New York Public Schools. He attended and graduated from Elijah D. Clark Junior High School in the Bronx, NY. During his early teen years, Bear moved to Newport News, VA where he graduated from Ferguson High School. Bear completed a course for the "Black Christian Education Ministry" he earned a Certificate of Training for "Black Leadership Development" from the Mott Haven Reformed Church Educational Ministry. Their moto was "If You Don't Know, Learn; If You Know, Teach".

In 1980, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corp Reserves. While serving his country in the Reserves he was also employed for the Newport News Shipyard. In 1983, he relocated back to New York City. In 1984, Bear married his childhood sweetheart Stephanie Greene. His good work ethics continued throughout his employment history. He worked various jobs before accepting a position with the New York Transit Authority in 1986 and remained there for twenty-three years at which time he retired due to injuries sustained from an accident.

Bear had many talents, one of his passions was caring for others. He was a loving husband, father, and provider. His kindness extended far beyond his own family and into the neighborhood. He loved sports especially mentoring and coaching children in the Harlem Little League. He would supervise and walk large groups of children from the neighborhood to their scheduled games. Bears' favorite professional team was the Dallas Cowboys. He welcomed everyone to his home, making sure you were well fed and comfortable. Bear started a "Cookout" tradition that he organized for family and friends to get together every year. He enjoyed having fun, listening to music, cooking, fishing, traveling, and repairing almost anything. Bear was a self-taught Carpenter. He especially loved working on automobiles, his own and everyone else's. Bear is remembered saying "Don't worry, I'll fix it".

He leaves to cherish his memory: his loving wife of almost thirty years, Stephanie Powell; two daughters, Carletta Perry (fiance' Wenzale Gibson) of Virginia, Madeline Powell of New York; four sons, Ronald Perry of Virginia, Tyshon Lewis(Loressa) of Virginia, Ricky Perry (Ebony) of Virginia, and Nicholas Powell (fiance' Tarsheena Conyers) of New York; five grandchildren, Angeleah, Davion, Uzziah, Cameron, and Brayden; two sisters, Juanita Powell, and Donna Powell both of New York; two brothers, Gregory Powell (Marcelle), Anthony Powell (Carol); special aunts, Helen Artis, and Joyce Miller of Virginia, and Velma Abdulah; two uncles, Wayland Sessoms of North Carolina, and Charles Sessoms (Linburgh) of Georgia; father-in-law/stepmother-in-law, Melvin Greene, Sr. (Dissree) of Indiana; five sisters-in-law, Joann Reid (Curtis) of New York, Melisa Hill (Kenneth) of Virginia, Rhonda Greene of New Jersey, Leann Henderson (Frances) of Indiana, Erica Perry (William) of Maryland; two brothers-in-law, Melvin Greene, Jr. (Trina) of Indiana, Jamaal Greene of Arizona; god-children, Shawn Gray, Wesley Lucks, and Chanel Elvin; extended family, David Lucks, Kenneth Hart, Jeffery Bryant, (Burn) Steven Scippo, and (ET) Michael McCarter. He also leaves to cherrish his memory a host of aunts, uncles, neices, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection.....“Precious Lord”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Matthews 25

New Testament - Psalm 46

Selection.....“I Know Who Holds Tomorrow”  
Mrs. Debera Greene

Reflections.....Mr. Melvin Greene

Acknowledgements

Remarks.....(2 Minutes Please) Ministers

Selection.....“I Won’t Complain”.....Mrs. Disree Greene

Eulogy

Committal

Recessional

**Interment**  
Woodlawn Cemetery  
Bronx, New York

## Pallbearers and Flower Girls

Family and Friends



### *Psalm 23*

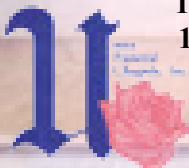
*The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

### *Acknowledgement*

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

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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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