

Home Going Celebration
for
Edmund Bernard Symister, Trustee
Sunset
May 6, 2015



Memorial Service
Thursday, May 14, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

CHRIST TEMPLE GREATER INTERNATIONAL
25 Oak Street • White Plains, NY 10603
Bishop Dr. Wilbert G. Preston, Pastor
Elder Bernard B. Richards, Presiding
Elder Randy Cannon, Organist

Order of Service

Musical Prelude & Procession Elder Randy Cannon

Invocation Bishop Eric Agee

Solo “Going Up Yonder”
Sis. Naomi Beamon

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3:1-12 Elder Florence Preston

New Testament: John 14:1-6 Pastor Debra E. Morris
Church of the Living God

Prayer of Comfort Pastor Roger J. Cannon
New Beginnings Faith In God

Scripture Reading Job 14:1-12
Anthony Justin Minott (grandson)

Solo Minister Carla Brice-Talley

Words of Comfort (2 minutes)

Acknowledgement Sis. Naomi Beamon

Obituary Edmund Tyron Symister

Letter to PaPa Ed Richard Alexander Minott
(grandson)

Solo Pastor Marie Staley
Hebron Evangelistic Ministries

Eulogy Bishop Dr. Wilbert G. Preston, Pastor
Christ Temple Greater International

Benediction



Obituary

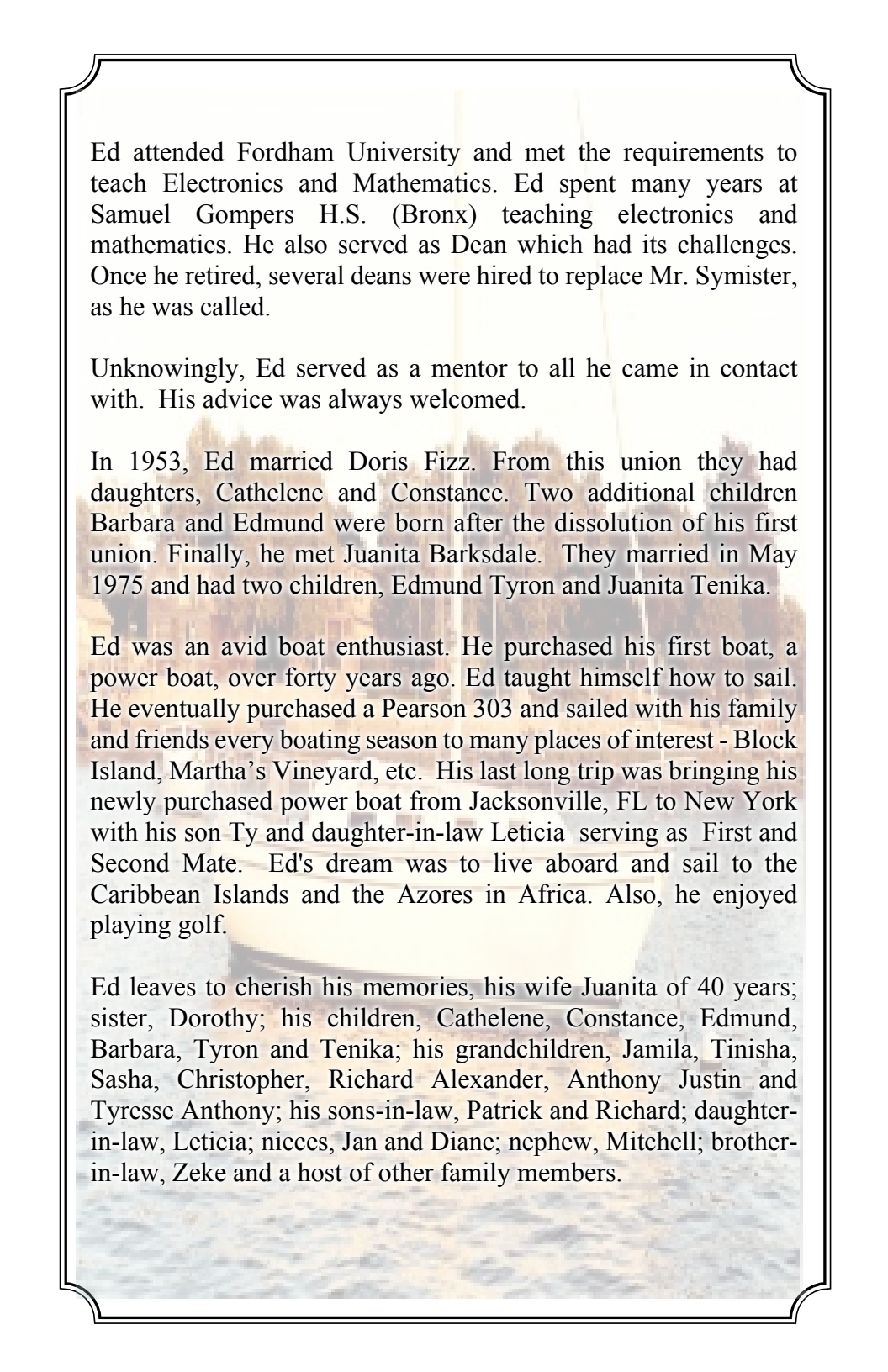
Edmund Bernard Symister made his transition at the Westchester Medical Center on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 12:45 p.m.

He was born at home in the Bronx on August 12th. Ed was the third child of the late Christine and Eddie Symister. His mother, Christine, was born in Montserrat, BWI and his father, Eddie, in Antigua, BWI.

As a member of Christ Temple, Ed served as a devout Trustee and was Chairperson of the Men's Ministry. He drove the Church van and sang with the Men's Choir. Ed created an after school program at Christ Temple; arranged trips to Rye Playland, Shomberg Library (Harlem), college tours, etc.

Ed attended schools in the Bronx where he grew up; he graduated from De Witt Clinton High School. Ed loved Writing and English Composition and was encouraged to pursue Journalism by his instructors. He attended Pierce School of Radio & Television in Manhattan. He joined the US Air Force where he chose to go into Electronics training and excelled. Ed was sent to Anchorage, Alaska in September 1951. Upon arrival to Alaska, his advanced training and superior skills were immediately recognized and he was placed in charge of a Transmitter site. Advancement to Sergeant came rapidly. Ed was discharged on January 23, 1954. On one occasion, while in the Air Force, set to come home, he was bumped from his flight by a higher ranking official and that flight subsequently crashed into the side of a mountain killing all aboard. From this experience Ed developed a fear of flying. We all knew that it just wasn't his time to go.

Ed had a strong work ethic. He believed in Entrepreneurship. Thus, he owned several businesses, namely Radio and TV, Bar, Package Store, Ladies Clothing Store, Car Repair Shop and Car Rental Agency.



Ed attended Fordham University and met the requirements to teach Electronics and Mathematics. Ed spent many years at Samuel Gompers H.S. (Bronx) teaching electronics and mathematics. He also served as Dean which had its challenges. Once he retired, several deans were hired to replace Mr. Symister, as he was called.

Unknowingly, Ed served as a mentor to all he came in contact with. His advice was always welcomed.

In 1953, Ed married Doris Fizz. From this union they had daughters, Cathelene and Constance. Two additional children Barbara and Edmund were born after the dissolution of his first union. Finally, he met Juanita Barksdale. They married in May 1975 and had two children, Edmund Tyron and Juanita Tenika.

Ed was an avid boat enthusiast. He purchased his first boat, a power boat, over forty years ago. Ed taught himself how to sail. He eventually purchased a Pearson 303 and sailed with his family and friends every boating season to many places of interest - Block Island, Martha's Vineyard, etc. His last long trip was bringing his newly purchased power boat from Jacksonville, FL to New York with his son Ty and daughter-in-law Leticia serving as First and Second Mate. Ed's dream was to live aboard and sail to the Caribbean Islands and the Azores in Africa. Also, he enjoyed playing golf.

Ed leaves to cherish his memories, his wife Juanita of 40 years; sister, Dorothy; his children, Cathelene, Constance, Edmund, Barbara, Tyron and Tenika; his grandchildren, Jamila, Tinisha, Sasha, Christopher, Richard Alexander, Anthony Justin and Tyresse Anthony; his sons-in-law, Patrick and Richard; daughter-in-law, Leticia; nieces, Jan and Diane; nephew, Mitchell; brother-in-law, Zeke and a host of other family members.



Dear Papa Ed,

I miss you here on Earth. I miss so many things about you. I miss talking to you. I miss hearing you talk so calmly. I even miss just seeing your appearance. I also remember a lot of things we did while you were living your life. Like when our family all went to Long Boat Key in Florida. I also remember you telling us stories about your childhood. But what I remember the most was your nice calm soothing voice. You would never yell or scream if we got into trouble. You would just talk really really calmly. But you're in a better place where you do not need a wheelchair and where you do not have any trouble. You are in heaven and I should just accept that. One day I hope to visit that place.

Love,
Richard Alexander
Your grandson

Job 14:1-12 New Living Translation (NLT)

14 “How frail is humanity!

How short is life, how full of trouble!

² We blossom like a flower and then wither.

Like a passing shadow, we quickly disappear.

³ Must you keep an eye on such a frail creature
and demand an accounting from me?

⁴ Who can bring purity out of an impure person?
No one!

⁵ You have decided the length of our lives.

You know how many months we will live,
and we are not given a minute longer.

⁶ So leave us alone and let us rest!

We are like hired hands, so let us finish our work in peace.

⁷ “Even a tree has more hope!

If it is cut down, it will sprout again
and grow new branches.

⁸ Though its roots have grown old in the earth
and its stump decays,

⁹ at the scent of water it will bud
and sprout again like a new seedling.

¹⁰ “But when people die, their strength is gone.
They breathe their last, and then where are they?

¹¹ As water evaporates from a lake
and a river disappears in drought,

¹² people are laid to rest and do not rise again.
Until the heavens are no more, they will not wake up
nor be roused from their sleep.



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