

*Celebrating the Life
of
Honorable Eugene Holmes 33°
"Gene"*



Sunrise

January 26, 1930

Sunset

July 1, 2015

Viewing: 9:00 – 11:00 am

Ritualistic Service: 10:00 am

Service

Friday, July 10, 2015 ~ 11:00 am

Shiloh Baptist Church

95 Murray Street

Elizabeth, New Jersey

Reverend William H. Ingram, Pastor

A Loving Husband

Gene,

I will forever cherish our lives together.

You were a loving and devoted husband.

*You had a special love for me and the children,
especially the grandchildren.*

*You were kind and considerate of others,
regardless of the circumstances.*

You took life as it was –

You never complained.

There is a void in my life.

*The days ahead will be difficult,
but what helps me is*

*knowing that you are at peace in the arms of
The Almighty God.*

*You lived in a house by side of the road
and you were “a friend to man.”*

(Sam Walter Foss, Poet)

We will meet again, until then,

Gene, Rest in Peace.

I will Always Love You.

Your Loving Wife,

Tina



Celebrating the Life of Honorable Eugene Holmes 33°

Organ Prelude.....Michael Reeves

Processional.....Family & Clergy

Call to Worship.....Reverend William H. Ingram

Invocation

Solo.....“I Won’t Complain”..... Brother Alexander Frazier

Holy Scriptures

Old Testament: Proverbs 3:1-6.. Reverend Bro. Arthur L. Jackson 33°

New Testament: John 14:1-6..... Brother Ronald McCray

Remarks & Remembrances (2 minutes please)

Honorable Robert L. Miller 33°

Bishop Jethro C. James, Jr.

Honorable George Johnson 33°

Family & Friends

Solo.....“The Lord’s Prayer”.....Ms. Keva Holman

Acknowledgements

Obituary.....Mr. Pete Severino

Solo.....“Wind Beneath My Wings”.....Ms. Keva Holman

Eulogy.....Reverend William H. Ingram

Closing Congregational Hymn.....“Blessed Assurance”.....Page 27

Benediction.....Reverend William H. Ingram

Recessional.....“I’ll Fly Away”.....Family, Clergy & Congregation

Resting Place

Monday, July 13, 2015 ~ 11:30 am

Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery
Wrightstown, New Jersey

*Immediately following the funeral service,
Family and Friends are invited for a Repast.*

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”

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Honorable Eugene “Gene” Holmes 33^o, age 85, of Somerset, New Jersey was called home to the Lord peacefully from his residence on July 1, 2015.

Gene was born on January 26, 1930 to Eugene and Emma Holmes in Clarks Hill, South Carolina in Edgefield County. He later moved to Augusta, Georgia with his parents and younger brother, Earl.

For the past 8 years, he resided in Somerset, New Jersey in order to be closer to his children. For 39 years he resided in Newark, New Jersey and previously resided in Linden, NJ as well as New York City after relocating from Augusta, GA.

Gene was educated in the South Carolina and Georgia school systems. He attended Spring Grove Baptist School in North Augusta, SC from Kindergarten to 8th Grade. In 1947, he graduated from the A. R. Johnson High School in Augusta, GA before relocating to New York City. In 1949, he graduated and received his degree from the Eastern School of Electrical Engineering, Radio and Television in NYC.

Gene was employed as a Supervisor and Systems Analyst with Kearfott Guidance and Navigation (Singer Kearfott) in Little Falls, NJ for 35 years. He worked in the Aeronautics and Aviation field and was very proud of his work. Each and every day he arrived on-time and never missed a day of work until he retired in 1992.

In 1951, Gene was drafted into the United States Army and honorably served during the Korean War. He was stationed in Fort Monmouth, NJ and was Honorably Discharged in 1954.

Gene became a Mason in 1962. He was the Past Worshipful Master of Widow Son Lodge #9 of Roselle, NJ; He was Past District Deputy of the Third Masonic District, and served as Potentate and Deputy of Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of Mystic Shrine of North and South America. He was Inspector General of St. James Conclave, the 33rd and last degree of Masonry. He served as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Oriental Grand Lodge A.F & A.M. State of New Jersey from 1989 to 1991.

Gene became a member of Shiloh Baptist Church in Elizabeth, NJ under the leadership of the Reverend George L. Harris. In recent years, he was not able to attend service as regularly as he would've liked due to his illness, but he always kept God first place in his heart.

His Favorite Scripture: "The flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of the birds is come and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."
Solomon 2:12

Gene loved sports and was a faithful, longtime fan of the New York Giants

"Go, Big Blue!" and the New York Mets. In the 1980's, he attended Met games with his family to "root for the home team" as often as possible. "Let's Go Mets!"

He loved to play chess and was a "master" at the game. It was very tough to out-smart his strategic mind. He was an engineer at heart and always used his skill to fix all the electronics around the house. He loved to bowl and even started The Third Masonic District Bowling League, under the leadership of the late Past Grand Master Husher R. Barnett, to support The Masonic Home in Rahway, NJ. He loved Science Fiction (Sci Fi) movies, especially Star Trek. He was a "Trekkie" and although a lot of people cannot, he could easily do the Vulcan salute which means "Live Long and Prosper." He loved to dance and was one of the first ones on any dance floor ready to show off his moves: "Watch out now!"

He was a charitable person who gave generously to several charities including The Disabled Veterans Organization, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, ASPCA, Police Benevolent Association, Firefighters Foundation, and the Native American Education Foundation.

He was an amazing man of strong character with a heart of gold. No matter where he went, the stunning light within him shined so bright. He touched the lives of so many in such a compassionate and considerate way. He was a strong man with a gentle spirit. He loved and adored his family. He spoiled his children and, especially, his grandchildren. To know him was to love him. He was a fun-loving, jovial people person who loved to share a joke or two. He loved to laugh and make others laugh and believed that "the purpose of our lives is to be happy." – The Dalai Lama

Gene was a devoted family man and truly loved and enjoyed the time spent with them. In addition to his wife Ernestine Holmes of 45 years, he is survived by one son, Cecil Earl Holmes (Andrea Rogers); three daughters: Jean Monique Holmes Severino (and her husband, Pete Severino), Renee Holmes-Solomon, and Regina Porter; 14 Grandchildren: Tina Holmes-Aponte, Jamaal Holmes, ShaDan Holmes, Christopher Holmes, Jordan Severino, Jada Severino, Jasmine Severino, Jiselle Severino, Darrell Bey, Valacey Bey, Ashley Bey, Janice Bey, Nakeisha Holmes Ammons, and Nasheena D. Porter; 7 great grandchildren: Kam'Ren and Karmelo Aponte, Omari Holmes, Zaire Holmes, Kayden Holmes, Korein J. Ammons and Kiyah R. Ammons; Brothers-in-law: Alfred Coleman and Kenneth Parker, Sister-in-law: Constance Parker, and a host of nieces, nephews, family, and friends.

He is predeceased by his father, Eugene, mother, Emma, and brother, Earl.

Gene was loved by so many and will truly be missed.

Humbly submitted,
The Family

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My Dad, My Hero, My Guardian Angel... and the “Wind Beneath My Wings”

(Lyrics from the song written by Jeff Silbar and Larry Henley)

“Did you ever know that you’re my hero?

You’re everything I wish I could be.

I can fly higher than an Eagle for you are the wind beneath my wings.”

Dad, you were my strength when life wasn’t so kind.

You picked me up when I was down and taught me to always let me light shine.

In your loving and non-judgmental way, you corrected me when I was wrong.

What a blessing to be taught by a man with a character so strong.

You gave me the tools I needed to figure things out on my own.

My Comforter, protector, confidant, and friend – the best I’ve ever known.

You encouraged me to soar despite the obstacles that stood in my way.

My Dad to the rescue – My Hero.... ready to save the day!

I already miss you terribly..... and my heart bleeds with the deepest of sadness.

I will forever hold on to the many wonderful moments and memories that we’ve shared.

I loved you not only because of what you knew, but because I knew how much you cared.

Just know that I’ll be ok, although I cannot bring myself to say goodbye,

for it was you who taught me to carry on and use my wings to fly.

And as the days go on, and I’m doing the best that I should.

You can rest, My Guardian Angel, until I see you again, knowing that “you done good.”

I’ll love you forever. ~ Daddy’s Girl, Monique



Grandpa, I can’t express the feelings in my heart. I will always remember and cherish the moments that I had with you. I love you with all of my heart and will never ever forget you. One day, I will see you again in Heaven. I hope you had a great and wonderful life.

~ Jordan Alexander Severino (Grandson, age 11)



Grandpa, I wish you could’ve lived longer because we wanted to spend more time with you, but we know you’re in Heaven now. We miss you, Grandpa, and we know that we’ll see you again when we get to Heaven. I know you’re looking over us and I know you miss us too, but don’t worry. We will always have your memory and soul in our hearts. We hope you have a beautiful life in Heaven and always know that we love you.

~ Jada Alexis Severino (Granddaughter, age 8)



Grandpa, we love you and will never forget about you. We will never let go of you.

We are so sorry that you passed away, but we hope you feel better in Heaven.

~ Jasmine Alexa Severino (Granddaughter, age: 5) and

~ Jiselle Alexandria Severino (Granddaughter, age: 11 months)



Emptiness, loss, hurt, and pain. Uncontrollable tears at the mentioning of your name. A silent light slowly fills our hearts. As our souls begin to bond, from this moment we shall never be apart. We’ll keep you with us everywhere we go. Through our eyes your love and wisdom will show. It was such a pleasure to have had a noble man in our lives. Who taught us respect and gave us the will to survive. We know you’re watching us, standing upon your feet. Today we say

I love you, see you again and beat-a-beat!!!

~ Forever in our hearts,

Jamaal Holmes (Grandson)



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Pallbearers

Thaddeus Milligan Stanley Carter
Kelly Hines Derek Cotton
Elliott Benson Brother Donnell Williams
 Brother Ronald McCray

Dear Grandpa,

*I have been trying to find the right words to say,
but all I can do is just think back to the first day.*

*The day that I realized that you were more than just my grandpa,
you were my father as well as my best friend.*

Now all I can do is ask myself ... Who will be my first call early in the morning?

As I struggle with this pen and paper, I know now that you're in a better place.

You are the prime example of a great man.

*I value each lesson that you've taught me,
and the strength you've given me to overcome all obstacles.*

*Your memory will be kept alive
by instilling your morals and principles into my children.*

*The selfish part of me is hurting, but I know God never makes a mistake. Thank
you for nothing but good memories! You were always so giving of yourself. No
matter what I asked for or needed, you found ways to make it possible.*

"The first law of life is to take care of yourself." ~ Eugene Holmes

As the lyrics to this song say:

"How could we not talk about family when family's all that we got?

Everything I went through you were standing there by my side.

*It's been a long day without you my friend,
And I'll tell you all about it when I see you again."*

*"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you
did,*

but people will never forget how you made them feel." ~ Maya Angelou

~ Love, Tina aka #1

Acknowledgement

The family of **Honorable Eugene Holmes 33°** acknowledges
with sincere appreciation every thought and act of kindness
expressed to us during this our hour of bereavement.

We will always keep you in our prayers. May God bless you.

