



*In
Loving Memory
of*

Deacon Avant Lowther, Jr.

Sunrise: April 6, 1946

Sunset: August 23, 2015

Friday, August 28, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

DIVINITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

227 Tremont Avenue

East Orange, New Jersey

Dr. Byron E. Lennon, Sr., Pastor

Obituary

Deacon Avant Lowther, Jr. was born on April 6, 1946 to the late Doris and Avant Lowther, Sr. at the former Community Hospital of Newark, NJ. He was called home in the early hours of August 23, 2015 after his four-year battle with cancer, while surrounded by love ones.

Avant Jr. grew up in the West Ward of Newark and attended Thirteenth Avenue Elementary and graduated from West Side High School in 1964, where he played basketball and ran track. Avant Jr. was an “A” student and was famous for his immaculate printing, penmanship and organizational skills. He attended Montclair State College where he received his BA degree in Education and Earth Sciences in 1968. Avant Jr. completed his Masters degree in Theology May 2013 and was actively seeking his doctoral degree when he was slowed down due to his health.

He retired from the Newark Public School system after 42 years of continuous service in multiple capacities, most years working through the summer as Adult Education Coordinator. He taught Science and Mathematics at The West Kinney Jr. High School. He continued offering his service by educating at-risk youth in the SOS program, prepared scores of students as a GED instructor and he taught adult education at Central High School. He also served as union representative to the Newark Teacher’s Union. He was a member of the Credit Union Supervisory Committee and served as secretary. Avant Jr. took pride in following his parent’s example of encouraging students to defy the odds of growing up in the inner city to go on to greater success after completing school programs. Both of his parents were career educators in the Newark School system.

He began his Christian journey at the Pilgrim Baptist Church in Newark, NJ as a youth, under the leadership of Pastor Arthur W. Jones. He later returned to the church as a member of Divinity Missionary Baptist Church, East Orange, NJ and grew in faith under the leadership of Dr. Byron E. Lennon, Sr. He became an active Deacon participating in the men’s group and helping to facilitate fellowship while pursuing his Christian education. In addition to his church and school, he had many interests and hobbies that he carried from young adulthood through retirement. He enjoyed model building, sports-card collecting and railroading clubs in the tristate area. He was an enthusiastic New York Yankee and Giants fan.

Avant Jr. supported his family and their pursuits: attending games, activities and special events – especially if a road trip was necessary to get there. One of his favorite past-times was mini golf, whether solo or with others. He enjoyed skiing and was an avid bowler for most of his life (a member of the former Essex County Junior Bowling Association). As team captain, a favorite team name was “Alive with Pleasure”.

He is preceded in death by his son, Jason Lowther.

He leaves behind: his wife of 19 years, Helena D. Lowther; daughters, Omega Nunnally-Muhammad and LaViv “Nikki” Younger; sons, Dane Lowther, Barry Lowther and Leroy Crawford; grandsons, Aydan Lowther and Landon Younger; granddaughters, Aminah Williams, Amaree Wilson, Suhailah Muhammad and Lana Younger; step-mother, Joan Lowther; siblings, Willette Fears (George Fears), Deborah Olivia Lowther-Jones (Travis Jones), Wilford Lowther, Kevin Lowther (Dianne Lowther) and Apryl Gamble; brothers-in-law, Kevin Grimsley (Sharon Grimsley), Curtis D. Grimsley (Bershane Grimsley), and Fuquan Grimsley; and sister-in-law, Carmen Bonamy (Greg Bonamy); and a host of nephews, nieces and friends.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Hymn of Consolation

Prayer of Comfort.....Dr. Margaret Lennon

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Selection

Acknowledgments and Remarks

Celebration of Life Reading.....Sis. Carolyn Bethea Sirmon

*Church Appreciation.....Deacon Charles Fields
Deaconess Geneva Jenkins*

Selection

Homegoing Message..... Dr. Byron E. Lennon, Sr., Pastor

Special Presentation

Recessional

Interment

Fairmount Cemetery
Newark, New Jersey

Repast

*Immediately following the Interment family and friends
are invited for a repast back at the Church.*

The Master Called



*I'm sorry I had to leave you.
My loved ones, oh so dear.
But you see, the Master called me,
His voice was very clear!
I had made my reservation
A heaven bound ticket for one,
And I knew that He would call me
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away,
But when the Master called me,
I knew that I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones, oh so dear,
But, you see, the Master called me
And, now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
And to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.*

-Author unknown

Pallbearers

- Dane Lowther
- LeRoy Crawford
- Kevin Lowther
- Wilford Lowther
- Marcus Lowther
- Talib Nunnally

Acknowledgement

*The family of **Deacon Avant Lowther, Jr.** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to our family during our time of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep you.*

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

Kyjuan T. Westry, Funeral Director - NJ Lic. No. 5065

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