

Celebrating the Life of
James E. Wilkerson, BA, MA, D.Th
April 8, 1943 – September 23, 2015



Friday, October 2, 2015 - 7:00 P.M.

Creech Temple United Holy Church
223 Hamilton Avenue
Paterson, NJ 07501
Elder Dr. Moses McKenzie (Pastor)

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James E. Wilkerson, BA, MA, D.Th
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Reflections of Life

Dr. James Edward Wilkerson, transitioned from this earthly home, on September 23, 2015 at 9:30pm. James Edward was born, April 8, 1943 in Oxford, NC. He was the sixteenth child, who was born of the union, of the late George (Doc) Sanford Wilkerson and Mary Alston. He attended the Mary Potter School of Oxford, NC. James was baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost at the age of twenty-two. He was formally known, in the Carolina's as Shack, which was short for Shadrack, one of the Hebrew boys. At the age of thirty, he was not only called, but **chosen to preach**, the gospel of Jesus Christ. He loved the Lord and would minister and speak on the goodness of the Lord throughout his life. He was a giving person, who continued to pray for others, while in the hospital, never asking the Lord to rain down some of those blessing on him. Elder Wilkerson was a former member of Greater Bible Way Church of Paterson, NJ, where Apostle Franklin Pettiford is the pastor. In his later years, the Lord would lead him to Creech Temple United Holy Church of America, in Paterson, NJ where Elder Dr. Moses McKenzie is the pastor. Dr. Wilkerson had a beautiful voice to sing praises but preaching, he would say, was his life. It is written that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. (Matthew 4:4)

James worked at S.B. Thomas of Totowa, NJ for 30 years. He would later retire from S.B. Thomas and begin working with the Paterson Police Crossing Guards for 18 years up until his passing. James performed his crossing guard duties on the corner of 16th Ave and Summer Street, adjacent to the car wash. He loved his job and took the children's safety and well- being seriously. He loved all these children and their parents and spoke of them often in the home. He was best known for his smile and over the years was frequently called "Smiley".

James would meet the love of his life, the former Iverta Jenkins. They were united in holy matrimony on November 23, 1965. Iverta would bore two children, Sharonda Denise Wilkerson and Belinda Wilkerson. James was a dedicated and loving father. After working all day, he would first kiss his wife and then hug and kiss his girls. He was a father who did not believe in sparing the rod and spoiling the child. James would sternly correct his children but then hug them and say "I only spank you, because I love you." He was a kind man, who would tell you the truth and still continue to pray for you and to love you unconditionally. James was never a fair-weather friend but was the same whether you saw him in church, in the street or at his home. In later years, he

would be given the opportunity to have a god-son. Logan John Moody was born to the union of the late Deacon Joseph Moody and Gloria J Moody. He would call him Little Logan. James also had nicknames for most of his nieces: Sherry aka "Little niece", Alita aka "Sweet baby", and Nerissa aka "Pancake girl". James also was blessed with two son-in-laws: Stanley L. Edwards Jr and Calvin Watkins. He would enjoy roasting them during a competitive game of bowling or horse-shoe. He would jokingly say, "Come on sons, let daddy give you a spanking." If he won, as he often would, you would never hear the end of it. His family continued to grow with the birth of two grand-children: Tyler Jacob Stevens and Jourdan Matthew Edwards. He was affectionately called "Daddy James". He was a devoted grandfather, who encouraged them to honor their parents, service God with their whole heart, play sports and do well in school. Daddy James would laugh and encourage Tyler and Jourdan to cut their hair and not continue to look like "Buck-wheat". James loved his family. He enjoyed laughing and kidding around with his sister and brother-in-laws. He enjoyed many years of 4th of July cookouts, family reunions, and home cooked meals. He was a sharp dresser. James was said to be clean as the Board of Health.

James always verbalized the values of obtaining a good education throughout his life. He would also amass some of his own accomplishments. Elder Wilkerson would obtain a Bachelor of Theology degree from United Bible College and Seminary of Orlando, FL in May of 1993 and a Master's of Theology in May of 1995. Elder Wilkerson would continue his education to obtain his Doctorate of Theology from the Ministerial Training Institute of NJ, on June 28, 1997.

Elder Wilkerson was never one for titles and would always say, you can just call me brother. The only title he said he wanted was to be a soldier in the army of the Lord. So, on September 23, 2015 he was called to service in this most distinguished army. This is an elite branch of the military that only takes a select few. He had already made it through the boot camp of life and was ready and willing to service. James would later say, that God is just picking his flowers for his flower garden. James was truly a magnificent addition to the collection.

Dr. Wilkerson was preceded in death by his father, George (Doc) Sanford Wilkerson; his mother, Mary Wilkerson; his 15 siblings; his niece Alita Monique (Sweet baby) VanBuren; two brother-in-laws, Lloyd Jenkins and Benjamin Jenkins.

He leaves to cherish his precious memories: His loving wife, Iveta Wilkerson (Paterson,NJ), two daughters: Sharonda Denise Watkins (Westampton, NJ), and Belinda Edwards (Westampton, NJ). Two son-in-laws: Stanley L. Edwards Jr (Westampton, NJ), and Calvin Watkins (Westampton, NJ). Two grand-sons: Tyler Jacob Stevens (Westampton, NJ) and Jourdan Matthew Edwards (Westampton, NJ). One God-son: Logan John Moody & family (N.Brunswick, NJ), Porscha Moody (spouse), Priya S. Moody and Logan John Moody Jr. (LJ)-children. One God-daughter: Tara Fischer (Paterson, NJ). Six sister-in-laws: Sara Wilkerson (Oxford, NC), Mary A. Douglas (Paterson,NJ), Theola J. Smith (Greenville, NC), Elizabeth Alston (East Oranges, NJ), Nora E. VanBuren (Paterson,NJ), Marilyn Jenkins (Frederick, MD). Two brother-in-laws: Clarence Jenkins (Fredrick, MD), Lonnie Smith (IGreenville, NC); also a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

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OF

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ORDER OF CELEBRATION

Organ Prelude

ProcessionalClergy and Family

Master of Ceremony.....Elder Gale Richardson

Prayer of Invocation.....Deacon Alford Mc Elveen

Selection.....Creech Temple Choir

Old Testament Scripture Reading.....Psalm 51:1-13.....Min. Donovan

New Testament Scripture Reading.....I Corinth. 15:51-57.....Rev. Carolyn Steele

Prayer of Comfort.....Min. Sharonda Watkins

Selection.....Creech Temple Male
Chorus

Remarks.....(2 minute limit, please) Elder Mack
Rev. Alfred Steele

Family Remarks

Saxophone Selection.....Joseph D. Smith

Praise Dance.....Jillian Walker

Resolution/Reflections of Life.....Angela Coxen

Eulogy.....Elder Dr. Moses McKenzie

Selection.....Creech Temple Choir

Interment

Lakeview Memorial Park Association

1300 US-Route 130

Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

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“A Tribute to My Husband”

Iverta Wilkerson

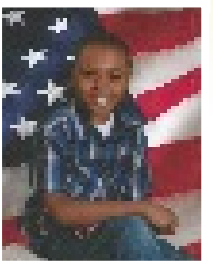
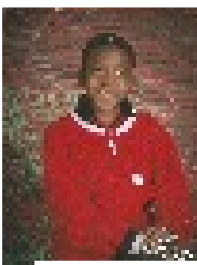
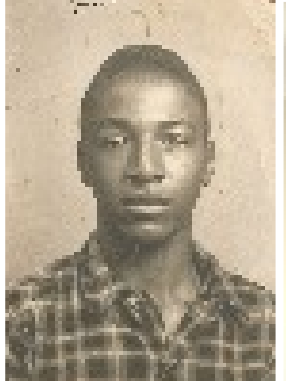
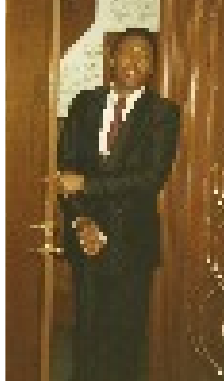
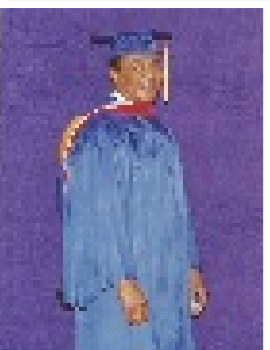
James, as I would always call him, was a loving and giving husband. He would, affectionately, call me “sugar honey” and “nug”, (which was short for his golden nugget). If he had it to give, he would give me the world. He chose to give me his heart, and for that I will always love him and miss him. He was a wonderful husband, who was second to none. I could always count on him to give me such lovely cards throughout the years and I would just like to take a moment to share one card and memory on this day.

WITH LOVE TO MY WIFE, FOR ALL YOU MEAN TO ME:



If there's one face
I want to see each day
My whole life through,
One smile
That makes a difference
In everything I do –
If there's one touch
I long to feel,
One voice I long to hear,
Whenever I am happy
Or just needing
Someone near...
If there's one joy, one love
From which
I never want to part
It's you –
That someone special
In my world, my life,
My heart.







A Message To Those Left Behind:

Dear family, friends, saints and non-believers,

Please be advised that I have moved. I received a call on September 23, 2015 from God, the chief architect. He informed me that my new home was completed. I know that my mansion needed some finishing touches and that the chief carpenter Jesus had to inspect it and give me the final approval. That was our little secret. On the evening of September 23, 2015, he let me know my mansion was completed and I could move in. He told me to eat a good meal, call my love ones and change my address. Well my new home is finished and what a sight to behold. No stairs, no one blocking my driveway. It is located on a exclusive estate area behind a beautiful pearly gate. Of course you know the streets are paved with gold and everyday is Sunday. I can walk and talk with my master without a worry or care. I can shout with a loud voice "My Lord Jesus".

My new home is much better than any other place I have ever lived. There is peace here along with joy and happiness, no pain, no struggle, only sweet serenity. I can dine at the masters table and sing in a heavenly choir but best I can be present with my Heavenly Father in all of his glory! And Iveta, Ron and Lynn, I have my own designer here who has fitted me with my new gold shoes. You know those earthly shoes could hurt my feet at times. I don't think they carry this line of fashion at Prato's of Westampton. My robe is white and I have my very own wings. I could go on and on about my new home but I am going to pray that you all get to move here one day... Well Iveta I know our plans were to sell our home and move closer to our children. You carry on as you were; you will be just fine. And Rhonda, you keep on preaching the word of God, in and out of season. Little Lynn, you keep singing and loving God with all your heart.

Well, before I go, let me give you my new address:

James Wilkerson

2015 Heavenly Way

Gods-town, Heaven 00001

Remember I don't have a telephone, but you can call on God. If you don't know his number, read your Bible, it's listed on every page.

Acknowledgement

The Wilkerson family would like to express our deepest gratitude for every expression of sympathy freely given during this time. We thank everyone for their prayers, multiple visits while in the hospital, calls at home and encouraging words. We wanted to give a special thanks to Nurse Nadine, Dr. Pudchong Nil and St. Joseph Regional Hospital. A special thanks to Elder Dr. Moses McKenzie and First Lady McKenzie for your love, endless prayers and numerous visits, while at home and in the hospital.

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