

In Loving Memory of
Charles Edward Robert Stephens



Sunrise: August 21, 1936

Sunset: October 20, 2015

Service

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. J.G. McCann, Sr., Officiating

Bobby Arrington, Organist

Obituary

Charles Edward Robert Stephens son of the late Charles Neville Bell Stephens and the late Enid Edward Stephens was born on August 21, 1936 at Harlem Hospital, after his parents relocated from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Island to New York City in 1932. He has two siblings, Mrs. Marcella Stephens-Holmes and Lancelot Stephens.

As a child, he grew up on 112th Street in Harlem. He attended P.S. 170, Cooper Junior High School and Marcus Garvey High School and received a high school diploma later in life. At the age of eighteen, he met his wife and soul mate, the late Ms. Mildred Smith. While attending high school, they dated for four years before getting married at All Souls Episcopalian Church on August 31, 1957. They had a loving relationship. During their years of marriage they had five children, Carol, Charles, and the triplets, Yvette, Yvonne and Edward Stephens.

Charles was a good provider for his family. He was employed as a wig stylist technician and worked for the postal service. Charles was a jack of all trades. He was a craftsman and was very skilled with his hands. He was also good at tailoring. He tailored his own clothes, his late daughter, Yvette's wedding dress and all her bridesmaids dresses.

He enjoyed slap stick comedy, bowling, 500 Rummy, other card games and tennis. His hobbies were raising fresh water fish, building custom fish tanks and re-upholstering chairs. As a parent and husband, he was a private and quiet man, he enjoyed simplicity of life, and was very family oriented. He was a model to his family. As a caregiver for his late wife, he also assisted in rearing all eleven of his grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Charles E. R. Stephens was called home to be with the Lord on October 20, 2015 at Mount Sinai St. Luke's Hospital at the graceful age of seventy-nine years old. Charles was preceded in death by his loving late wife, Mrs. Mildred Stephens and his late daughter, Yvette Griffin.

He leaves to cherish his memories and lasting legacy: his sister, Marcella Stephens-Holmes; his brother, Lancelot Stephens; one sister-in-law, Mrs. Ella Taylor; two sons, Charles O. Stephens and Edward R. Stephens; two daughters, Carol Stephens and Yvonne Stephens; two daughters-in-law, Yonnie Stephens and Karen Stephens; one son-in-law, Ray A. Griffin; eleven grandchildren, Marcus C. Ford, Rayisha M. Griffin-Ricketts, Lytisha F. Griffin, Annette Y. Green, Courtney C. Stephens, Shakyra Z. Evans, Jeanette F. Green, Shantel A. Stephens, Symone Y. Griffin, Vondel C. Nelson and Robert L. Nelson; four great-grandchildren, Taylor Ford, Jalani K. Ricketts, Kiyan Weeks and Chace Alvarez; as well as a host of nieces, nephews and great nieces and great nephews.

Order of Service

Processional

Song.....“The Battle Is Not Yours”
By Yolanda Adams
(Organist)

Scripture ReadingsPamela Peterson

Prayer.....Rev. Dr. J.G. McCann, Sr.

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks.....(5 Minutes)

A Word of Comfort.....by Rayisha Griffin

Obituary.....Charles O. Stephens

Song.....“Can’t Give Up Now”
By Mary Mary
(Organist)

Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. J.G. McCann, Sr.

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Final Disposition
Woodlawn Crematory
Bronx, New York

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.*

I could not stay another day.

*To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.*

If my parting has left a void,

Then fill it up with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,

Oh, yes these things I too will miss.

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

My life's been full, I savored much.

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.*

*Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

-author unknown

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.*

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300

1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023

1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO

www.unityfuneralchapels.com

email: unityfc@aol.com

"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"

