# A Celebration of the Life Of Randolph Charles James, Sr.

Sunrise April 24, 1924 Sunset October 26, 2015

Services Tuesday, November 3, 2015 - 11:00 AM

#### **Cotton Funeral Service**

1025 Bergen Street Newark, New Jersey 07112

Rev. James Batts, Officiating Minister Tim Rawls, Organist

#### Order of Service

Processional with Music
PrayerRev. Batts
Scripture Reading
Remarks/Acknowledgements
Selection
ObituaryMr. Fred McLurkin
Selection "I Won't Complain" - Organist
EulogyRev. Batts
Recessional/Viewing

Interment Heavenly Rest Cemetery 268 Ridgedale Avenue East Hanover, NJ 07936



Please join the family for the repast immediately following the interment:

Visions of Deliverance Ministries 576 Central Avenue (parking in the rear) East Orange, NJ 07018

### <u>Obituary</u>

**Randolph Charles James, Sr.**, the son of Alonzo and Katrina James, was born in the Pecan State in Macon, GA in 1924. At the age of 5, he was transplanted and raised in the City of Newark, New Jersey where he spent the rest of his life. Randy or "Big Randy" as he was called attended Morton, Charleston and Robert Treat Public Schools in Newark. He graduated from West Side High School where he was a member of the West Side High School Basketball Team. Immediately upon graduation from high school, he was drafted into the US Army where he saw action and participated in the initial assault on Normandy Beach

in the European Theatre in World War II. Randy served as a Corporal in the 817<sup>th</sup> Amphibious Truck Company, an All Black Unit who, on the 1st day of conflict, June 6,

1944, transported troops & equipment from ships to shore.

Upon his discharge from service, he re-established his high school relationship, courted and then later married his lifelong love and mate Miss Manie Pearl Rice. They produced two sons, Randy Jr. & Stuart James.

When he returned home after the war, he involved himself in a variety of interesting employment opportunities. Randy found work at the Veteran's Hospital in East Orange, and the Pabst Blue Ribbon Brewery in Newark. He was employed for a long period of time in those jobs.

His primary job, however, was with the United States Postal Service where he was employed for 37 years! Even after his "official" retirement, Randy continued to work. For a number of years, he served as security for the Newark Board of Education at its headquarters on Cedar Street, and at the city's Arts High School where his personality and comedic wit was legendary. It was in the late 90's that Randy decided it was time to "retire" again, sit back and really enjoy life.

Randy was an avid Street Basketball player where he participated in the various leagues at the time in Newark's Weequahic Park and Elmwood Park in East Orange. Randy also participated and sang in the choir of Providence Baptist Church for many years on Green Street in Newark where the James/Davis Family were prevalent in the congregation.

In his later years he became a member of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Lodge located in Newark, New Jersey. He laughingly claims that his favorite "hobby" is women and his words of wisdom to the next generation are: don't smoke...drink sparingly...and always study hard.

Dad, Randy, Uncle Randy, Grandpa & Great Grandpa truly wore a lot of hats and was our remaining Patriarch. Manie Pearl (The Love of His Life) preceded him in death in 1994 along with his Grandson Brandon James in 2009 (Gone to Soon). He will surely be missed and leaving in his wake – Randy Jr. (Eleanor James), Stuart (Karen Murray), Grand Daughters Taurian Nichelle James-Ramirez (Luis Ramirez) & Kristen James & Great Grandson Brandon Ramirez. The Rice Clan Nieces and Nephews – Barbara, Grantland, Patricia, Allen, Diane & Natalie. Endeared Companion – Ms. Annie Hammond for her continued faith and dedication. Very Close Friends Wilbur, Fred McLurkin, Ms. Gerri Ballard (Lifelong Friend), Kelvin Brown, Bill Lester, Bill Trower, and a plethora friends and family.

Your pain and troubles are over. To be sure, you will be missed and the echo of your life will resonate in our hearts forever. We loved and love you still Poppa James and we'll see you later. Mom is waiting for you. *"It is said that Genes are what make us immortal, but it is our children who will carry on our names and our legacy. However, it is family that gives hope."* 

## To Those I Love and Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me, let me go. I have so many things to see and do. You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears, Be thankful for our beautiful years.

I gave to you my love. You can only guess how much you gave to me in happiness. I thank you for the love you have shown, But now it's time I traveled on alone.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must, Then let your grief be comforted by trust. It's only for a time that we must part So bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on So if you need me, call, and I will come. Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear All my love around you soft and clear.

And then, when you must come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile, and say: "Welcome Home," Welcome Home"! ~Author Unknown

### Acknowledgement

We the family, wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the many kind deeds and acts of kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement

#### **Professional Services Provided By**

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE 130 Main Street Orange, NJ 973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street Newark, NJ 973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME

**37 Clinton Avenue** Jersey City, NJ 201-433-1000



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