

A Celebration of Life For



George James Powell

Sunrise

March 15, 1929



Sunset

November 13, 2015

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN ENGLEWOOD

113 Engle Street • Englewood, New Jersey 07631

Father Bill Allport, Officiating

Obituary

George James Powell was born on March 15, 1929 in East Harlem, New York to Charles and Mary Shaw Powell, immigrants from St. Kitts and Nevis. George was the fifth of seven children and the only boy.

As a child growing up during the Great Depression, George often looked for ways to help provide for his family. One of his first jobs was selling shopping bags, the start of what would be a lifelong career in sales.

After graduating from Needle Trades High School, George attended City College while working as a tailor at Howard Clothes. There he met his future wife, Mary McIntosh. Mary and George were married on February 12, 1955. Out of this union three children were born: Gregory, Catherine and Roslyn.

Upon leaving Howard Clothes in 1954, George joined Philip Morris' sales force where he would spend his entire career. George held a number of positions at Philip Morris including, Salesman, Division Manager, Section Sales Manager for the State of New Jersey, Assistant to the National Sales Manager and Regional Sales Manager. His last position was Region Vice President which he held when he retired. Following his retirement in 1987, George served as Special Consultant to the Chairman of the Board and Director of Minority Affairs.

While George's professional life was quite impressive, his charitable and political activities were even more so. Whenever possible, George tried to merge the two, most notably when he coordinated efforts by Philip Morris to help Jamaica when it was struck by Hurricane Gilbert in 1988.

George served on the boards of numerous organizations, particularly the Handmaids of Mary, with whom he was associated for more than thirty years. He also served on the Board of Governors of Hackensack University Medical Center from 1989-1999.

George was a Past Master of the Prince Hall Masons FMN and became a 33rd Degree Mason in 1990. He held several other leadership positions and served as president of the following: Fair Housing Council of Bergen County (1970); Urban League of Bergen County (1973-1976); and NAACP of Bergen County (1989-1992). In addition, George was appointed by Governor Nelson Rockefeller to the Selective Service Board in 1966 and was one of the developers of Shirley Chisholm's campaign for Congress in 1967.

George's personal life was even richer. He had friends from all walks of life and would often start a conversation with a perfect stranger. During many of these encounters, it was not unusual for George to learn that he and the stranger knew someone in common, thus beginning even another friendship.

George's family was the most important thing to him, and he stressed that no matter what family came first. He showed his love for them in countless ways and inspired them by his example. But most of all, George loved his wife Mary, his constant companion for almost fifty years. His love for her was boundless and lived on well after her death.

George leaves to celebrate his life: his children, Gregory, Catherine and Roslyn; daughter-in-law, Diane; sons-in-law, Paul and Pedro; grandchildren, Bathsheba, Meserete, Dread-I, Isheryll, Steven, Malik, Dafina, Danilo and Immanuel; great-grandchildren, Madison, William, Noah, Morgan and Jalen; sister, Jane Braxton; niece, Sharen Roberson; and a host of other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Sleep on Dad, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather, Brother and Uncle

Sleep on take thy rest

We love and will miss you

Order of Service

*The Office of the Burial the Dead – Rite II
Is Offered in Thanksgiving for the Life of
George James Powell*

Prelude..... “It Is Well with My Soul”

The Opening Anthem, page [491]

The Collect, page [493]

The Collect for the Bereaved, page [494]

The First Lesson – Ecclesiastes 3:1-11.....Dafina Davis

Psalm 116, page,[759]

The Second Lesson – 2 Corinthians 4:11-18Deborah Morgan

Psalm 23, [page 612]

The Gospel..... John 11:21-27

“The Dash,” by Linda Ellis.....Meserete Davis

The Reading of the ObituaryYvonne A. Morris

RemembrancesBathsheba Davis, Madison Blackman

The Homily.....The Reverend William Allport, Rector

The Apostles’ Creed page, [496]

The Lord’s Prayer, page [499]

The Prayers of the People, page [497]

Hymn “Amazing Grace”

The Prayer of Commendation, [page 499]

The Closing Procession, Hymn 184 (LEV) “Blessed Assurance”

The Dismissal

Postlude

Private Cremation
Cedar Lawn Crematory
Paterson, New Jersey

*Following the service, the family invites you to attend a reception at the American Legion Post at
151 West Forest Avenue • Englewood, NJ 07631*

Don't Grieve For Me

*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.
God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

Professional Services Entrusted To:

Eternity Funeral Service, LLC

Aree Booker, Executive Director

Licensed Funeral Director in New York & New Jersey

NY Lic. # 00367 NJ Lic. # 4346

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