

Celebrating the Life of
Raymond George Graham

Sunrise: September 23, 1938

Sunset: April 6, 2016



Service

Saturday, April 16, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

Valley Stream Baptist Church

1865 North Central Avenue

Valleystream, New York

Dr. Sherby Clarke, Officiating

Dr. Arthur Clarke, Organist

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn..... “As The Deer Panteth” (lyrics in program)

Prayer of Comfort..... Pastor Mills

Scripture Reading..... John 14: 1-6

Special Selection..... Juanita Faulkner

Scripture Reading..... Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

Special Selection..... Qubilah Sterling

Obituary..... Allison Brown

Special Selection..... Juanita Faulkner

Message..... Pastor Clarke

Recessional Hymn..... “Amazing Grace” (lyrics in program)

Final Disposition

All Souls Crematory
East Elmhurst, New York

Obituary

Raymond George Graham was born the second of three children to Margaret Smith Louis and Vincent Graham in Manchester Jamaica on September 23, 1938. He received his early primary school education at Mico Practicing School where he discovered his love for using his hands and decided to pick up a trade in carpentry.

Raymond practiced carpentry in his native Jamaica for a few years before moving to the United States where he continued to do wood work.

His first job in the United States was making one of a kind furniture at Woodcraft Construction. After a few years at Woodcraft, he took his talents to David Peterson Construction where he became the shop foreman. As Raymond's skills and popularity grew, his input and service was in great demand by many wood working shops in the New York area. SRC Construction was on the rise and was able to convince him that his unique abilities and attention to detail would separate him from the rest. After several successful years of employment there, Raymond decided to retire in 2003.

Aside from carpentry Raymond had a strong passion for fishing and being on the open seas. He was an avid fisherman. He would often go fishing with his friends and family and then give away more than half his catch. Raymond was very generous and friendly. Some would say

that he was too generous. He never failed to lend a helping hand whenever anyone needed him. He also enjoyed spending time with friends and having people around him.

Raymond and Barbara were joined in matrimony on July 17, 1966. Prior to their marriage Raymond had a son, Trevor. His marriage to Barbara produced two sons, Russell and Barry. They were married for 49 ³/₄ years before his passing.

In 2013, Raymond was diagnosed with progressive dementia and in 2015 his illness was re-classed as Alzheimer's disease. For almost 3 years he fought against the disease and its stages. Throughout his illness he was surrounded by the love and care of his family and friends. On April 6, 2016 during the late evening, he was called home by God.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings Newton and Gloria.

He leaves behind his loving wife Barbara, sons, Trevor, Russell and Barrington as well as his nephews, Gary, Craig and Milton Jr. He also leaves behind his granddaughters, Shamika, Samantha, Simone, Kandice, Chelsea, Ashley, Keiyoko, Gabrielle, Asa and his grandsons, Matthew, Jamari, Jordan and Xavier. He also leaves behind his great granddaughter, McKenzie and the rest of his family and dear friends.

He will be loved and missed forever!



Hymns

As The Deer Panteth

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship thee

You alone are my strength, my shield
To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship thee

You're my friend and you are my
brother
Even though you are a king
I love you more than any other
So much more than anything

You alone are my strength, my shield
To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship thee

I love you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver
and the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength, my shield
To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now, I see.

T'was Grace that taught,
my heart to fear.
And Grace, my fears relieved.
How precious did that Grace appear,
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come.
Tis Grace has brought me safe thus far,
and Grace will lead us home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

We've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
than when we've first begun.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now, I see.

Honorary Pallbearers

Barrington Graham Trevor Graham
Gary Graham Russell Graham
Matthew Graham Craig Graham

"The race is not for the swift but for the one who endureth"



Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge with deep felt appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness that have been shown to us since the passing of our beloved, Raymond. May God continue to bless you as you keep us in your prayers.

Heartfelt Thanks to
Valley Stream Baptist Church

Professional Services Provided By:

E.L. George Funeral Services

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