## Celebrating the Life of Raymond George Graham

Sunrise: September 23, 1938 Sunset: April 6, 2016



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 Faukner Scripture Reading...... Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 Obituary..... Allison Brown Special Selection......Juanita Faukner Message..... Pastor Clarke

#### <u>Final Disposition</u> All Souls Crematory East Elmhurst, New York

#### <u>Obituary</u>

**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 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> years before his passing.

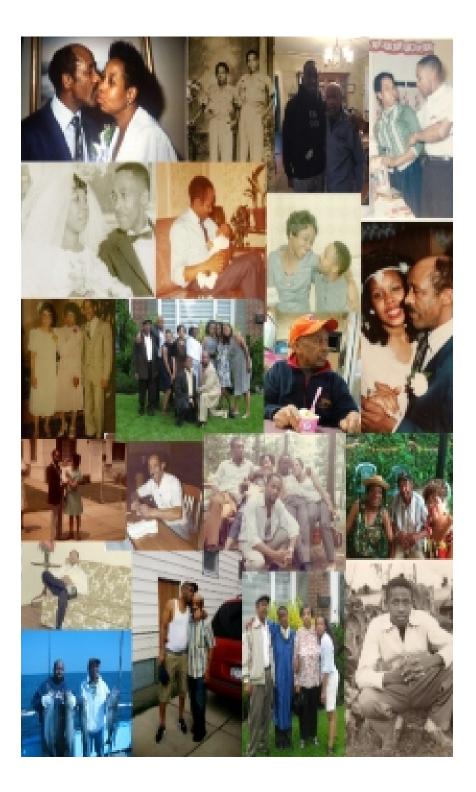
In 2013, Raymond was diagnosed with progressive dementia and in 2015 his illness was re-classed as Alzheimer's disease. For almost 3 years he fought against the disease and it's stages. Throughout his illness he was surrounded by the love and care of his family and friends. On April 6, 2016 during the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





# <u>Hymns</u> 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 Gary Graham Matthew Graham Trevor Graham Russell Graham Craig Graham

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

### <u>Acknowledgements</u>

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

769 Elmont Rd, Elmont, NY, 11003-4035 Ph (516) 285-0080 • Fax (516) 285-0393 Email: egeorge64@aol.com



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