

Celebrating the Life of
Edwin Foster

January 31, 1954 - April 10, 2016



“Big Ed”

Viewing - 9:00 p.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, April 30, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

CHURCH OF GOD-WOODYCREST AVENUE
923 Woodycrest Avenue • Bronx, NY 10452
Pastor Julian Stephenson, Officiating
Minister Donald Gordon, Moderator

Eulogy

Edwin Jackson Foster was born on January 31, 1954 to Marie Jackson and Eugene Foster in Brooklyn, New York. Marie recorded in her diary that all of their relatives and neighbors from the surrounding neighborhood had gathered to greet the baby boy. Perhaps as his father and mother looked over the first sproutlings and coldness of wintertime, they were reminded of the life and growth awaiting their new son. His childhood was best described as both humble and wondrous.

Edwin Foster attended Tilden High School in Brooklyn, New York where he played semi-pro football. In High School, he met Paula Patterson where they would later have two children. Edwin graduated High School in 1971, after which he went onto various jobs including chef, taxi operator, construction worker, EMT and dry cleaner technician. He was a hardworking man, his mother often said he had hands made out of gold because he could do anything.

In 1975, Edwin welcomed his first child, his daughter Lakesha and in 1979, he welcomed another child his son, Edwin III. He loved his children very much, as a young girl Lakesha can remember that her dad used to take her fishing, camping, taught her how to cook and he even combed her hair in ponytails.

During the years he had an aneurysm and was in the hospital for awhile. In recovery he had to learn how to speak and regain his memory and mobility. He said it was a hard task for him but he knew God had given him a second chance at life and so he conquered and survived. He then went on to the Bowery Mission where on November 10, 2007, Edwin met Shelret. It was love at first sight. On January 1, 2009, he committed his life to Christ and got baptized. Edwin and Shelret got married on January 3, 2009, there they began their family.

Edwin was a loving husband, father and friend, you could rely on him. He took his kids to school daily (rain, snow or shine). Talk

about dedication, that was his middle name, he lived up to his name. As a man of God, Edwin loved his family and God very much. Oh yes, he loved church so much that he would iron his church suit from the Wednesday and it would be hanging on the door until Sunday morning. At 7AM, every Sunday morning he would be the first one in the house to get dressed to attend church. He would yell “SMURF, DARNELL, BABYSHER, and SHANARD..... LET’S GO WE GONNA BE LATE MENG!!” Anyone that knew Edwin would know that “MENG” was Edwin’s favorite slang. “Waddup Meng” “You good Meng” “I’m chilling Meng”.

In 2010, things took a turn for the worst, we discovered that Edwin was diagnosed with Diabetes (“Sugar”, as us Jamaicans would say it). From that day on out Edwin had been in and out of the hospital fighting this sickness. At times when he wasn’t feeling well, you would know because he would never leave his room; always hiding and didn’t want anyone to see him weak. In his last few days alive you would hear him say “this diabetes is taking over my entire body”. His wife would say to him, “you have to fight it, you have to be strong, don’t let it take you over.” We would encourage him daily, even when he stopped eating, we would still force him to eat. Even in his last days he was still in and out the hospital more frequently than usual. Everything escalated so quickly and on April 10, 2016 after walking in from church, Edwin passed away quietly at his residence.

He is survived by his loving wife Shelret, his eight children: Lakesha, Edwin III, Donya, Delmar, Shelret, Dishawn, Darnell and Shanard, his seven grandchildren: Shaquana, Sakou, Cashmere, Silas, Edwin IV, Kenya and Kelaine and one great grandchild Jhace. His lifetime of dedication and self-sacrifice serve as a monument to the exemplary man he was. His humility, integrity will continue to inspire those who knew him. Edwin will surely be missed but never forgotten.

WE LOVE YOU DAD! Rest in Peace.

Order of Service

Opening Hymn “How Great Thou Art”
Prayer Pastor Julian Stephenson
1st Lesson: Psalm 90:1-10 Shaquana Luker (granddaughter)
Selection Sister Sasha Gordon
2nd Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 .. Shelret and Shanard Palmer
(children)
Selection Overseer M. McKenith

Tribute

Lakesha Jackson and Edwin Jackson III (children)
Bowery Mission Alumni (Pastor Leon Williams)

Remembrance Shelret Foster (wife)
Eulogy Donya Allen (daughter)
Selection Woodycrest Church Of God
- Life Builders Ministry

Open Tributes

Offering

Sermon Pastor Julian Stephenson
Prayer for the Family Bishop Michael Grant
Closing Hymn “It Is Well With My Soul”

Interment

Mount Pleasant Cemetery
Hawthorne, New York

Repast

*After the burial, please join the family
for repast in the Church's Hall.*

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

When through the woods
and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

Refrain

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Refrain

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
And take me home,
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim,
My God, how great thou art!

It Is Well With My Soul

When peace, like a river,
attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast
taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

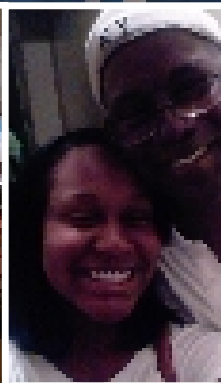
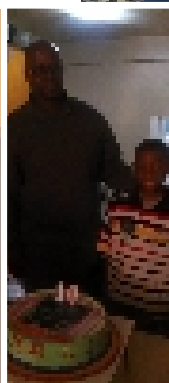
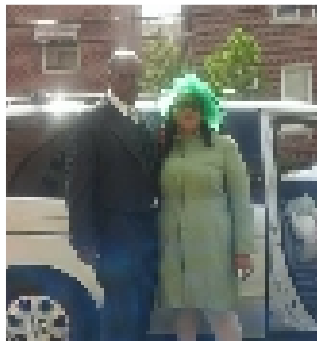
Though Satan should buffet,
though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded
my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own
blood for my soul.

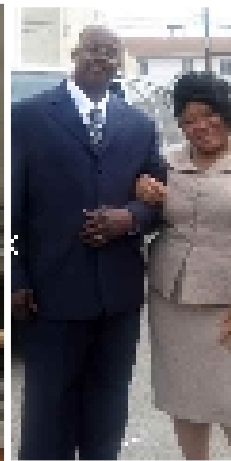
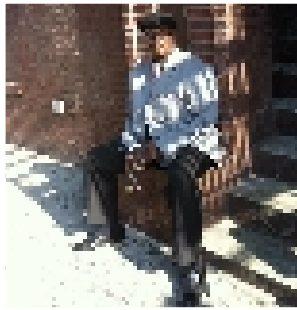
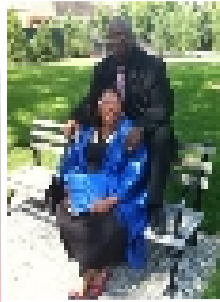
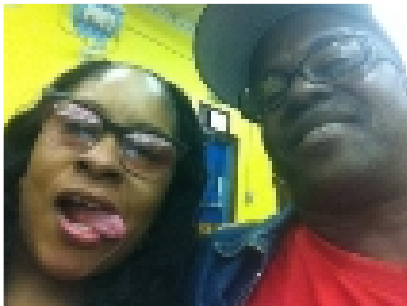
My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.







He carried me through stormy times
that I thought would never end
When I was at my weakest point, his
mighty power he did send
He proves himself to be my strength
every minute of everyday
When my path's so dark I cannot see
My Lord shows me the way
Every day he teaches me new things for
me to know
So that in Christ, the risen Lord and the
stronger I may grow
simply just to stand
He guides me ever so gently by his most gracious hand
He carried me through many storms
And I know he'll never fall, he'll lift me up and give me hope
He'll lift me up and give me hope
When my darkest doubts assail
Goodbye my lover, goodbye my friend.

Acknowledgement

The family of Edwin Foster acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.

Eternity 
Funeral Services

Eternity Funeral Services, LLC

Karrie O. Harvey-Edwards
Owner / Licensed Manager

725 East Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY 10467
ph (718) 231-8737 • fax (718) 231-3169

EternityFS@aol.com • www.EternityFuneralServicesNY.com

