

Homegoing Service For Kenneth Lester

Sunrise
January 25, 1944

Sunset
November 17, 2016



Wednesday, November 23, 2016

Viewing - 9:00 am ~ 10:00 am
Service - 10:00 am

Rose of Sharon Community Church

825 West 7th Street
Plainfield, New Jersey 07063
Pastor Cassandra Nicholson, Officiating
Nehemiah Ministries International

Obituary

Kenneth Lester of Plainfield, NJ was born on January 25, 1944 in Statesboro, GA to the late Fred, Sr. and Levana (Wilson) Lester. He is the 5th of nine of children. Kenneth grew up on the family homestead in Portal, GA where he gave his life to the Lord at an early age.

He was raised and attended school in Portal community. He attended Bennett Grove Elementary School where his mother Levana Lester was the school teacher. He also attended Willow Hill Elementary School and graduated from William James High School in 1962. He later enjoyed attending their annual class reunions.

Kenneth relocated to Newark, NJ in 1962, where he became a proud father of Sharon and Tonja Denise.

He attended training school in which he was employed by Walter Kidde & Co. Inc. for eighteen years. Kenneth Lester and Carolyn McCray were joined in holy matrimony on April 11, 1970. From this union, one daughter, Kenella was born. They have loved, supported, and cared for each other for 46 years.

He then began a second career as Lead Custodian for Plainfield Board of Education and assigned to Maxson Middle School department of Building and Grounds in Plainfield, NJ, where he retired from after 29 years of loyal service. He mentored and provided guidance to younger employees working with him. His devotion, dedication and commitment to the teachers, staff, and students were recognized by the athletic department in receiving the Basketball Team Appreciation award in 2004. He was the first staff recipient to receive the Employee of the Year Award in 2009 from the Plainfield Board of Education.

Kenneth Lester left us peacefully on Thursday, November 17, 2016 with his loving wife, Carolyn by his side.

Kenneth is preceded in death by his parents, Fred, Sr. and Levana Lester, two infant siblings, and three adult siblings, Evelyn Thomas, John Lester, and Constance Lester.

Kenneth is survived by: his wife, Carolyn; three daughters and sons-in-law, Sharon Stroye (Everett) of Newark, NJ, Tonja Foushee (Carl) of Virginia Beach, VA, and Kenella Moten (Joseph) of Ft. Washington, MD; eight grandchildren, Brittany, Malcolm, Myles, Asia, Joseph, Fantasia, Joshua, and Anesha; three siblings, Dorothea Lester of Portal, GA, Fred Lester, Jr. (Anne) of Warner Robbins, GA, and Eunice Davis (William) of Atlanta, GA; two brothers-in-law, Franklin McCray (Loretta) of Pauleys Island, SC, and Tyrone McCray (Jerline) of Murrells Inlet, SC; two sisters-in-law, Louanna Evans of Myrtle Beach, SC, and Barbara Hay (Andrew) of College Park, GA and loved by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Order of Service

Officiated by Deacon Everett Stroye

Prayer of Comfort ~ Reverend Gwendolyn Carson

Old Testament Scripture Reading ~ Deacon Andrew Hay

New Testament Scripture Reading ~ Pastor Zantesah Ingalls

Solo Selection

Reflections from Family and Friends (Individuals Selected)

Reflections from Grandchildren

Reflections from Children

Solo Selection

Acknowledgements and Obituary Reading ~ Latarsha Smalls

Solo Selection

Eulogy ~ Pastor Cassandra Nicholson

Recessional

Interment
Hillside Cemetery
Scotch Plains, New Jersey

Family and Friends are invited back to church after interment

Pallbearers
Family and Friends

A Fallen Limb

*A limb has fallen from the family tree
I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me".
Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.
The good life I lived while I was strong.
Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.
Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through.
My mind is at ease, my soul at rest.
Remembering all, how I truly was blessed.
Continue traditions, no matter how small.
Go on with life, don't worry about falls.
I miss you dearly, so keep up your chin.
Until the day comes we're together again.*

~Author Unknown~

Acknowledgement

The Family of the late **Kenneth Lester** wishes to thank everyone for their kind expression of sympathy, prayers, and all acts of kindness during our hour of bereavement. All tributes will be acknowledged by the family at a later date.

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

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