


Celebration of Life for
Leon Haskins Wheeler

Sunrise
November 17, 1928

Sunset
December 1, 2016

A portrait of an elderly man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a light blue and white striped collared shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a sunset or sunrise sky in shades of orange, yellow, and blue.

Friday, December 9, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.

GRACE BIBLE CLASS CHURCH
54 Pine Street • Passaic, New Jersey
Rev. Bernard Durham, Officiating
Janice Wright, Organist

Reflections of Life

Leon Haskins Wheeler was born in Passaic, New Jersey, on November 17, 1928, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edwin and Esther Evelina Haskins Wheeler. After Esther died while giving birth in 1935 to Leon's younger brother, Charles sent Leon and two other siblings to live in Sulphur Springs, Virginia, with their maternal grandmother, Mrs. Ida Tate Haskins.

Seven years later, Leon returned to Passaic to live with his father. Life was hard in the aftermath of The Great Depression. Leon held various jobs until 1952 when he was drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps. He faithfully served his country for two years and was honorably discharged.

In 1956, through the urging of his brothers William Edison Wheeler and Lawrence Nathaniel Wheeler, Leon attended Grace Bible Class (later know as Grace Bible Class Church) and came to the knowledge of his salvation. He became a member of the church and then a Sunday school teacher and member of the choir. The church truly became a central part of his life. He was eventually made a trustee and then chairman of the Trustee Board. As such, Leon was one of three men who were instrumental in negotiating the purchase of the church's current building at 54 Pine Street and its renovation. He also met the love of his life and mother of his children at the church.

On April 12, 1959, Leon married Gloria Wilson, whom he affectionately called "Lovie." Together they raised three children—Wayne Curtis, Mark Phillip, and Sharon—and also cared for his father-in-law, John "Jake" Wilson, until Mr. Wilson's death in 1988. In 1991, Leon retired from his position as General Foreman for Public Works for the City of Passaic and moved with Gloria to Wylliesburg, Virginia, where they bought a home in the countryside and enjoyed what Gloria referred to as their golden honeymoon. They were happily married for 57 years.

On December 1, 2016, at the age of 88, Leon was "called up to glory" to rejoin his Lovie who had predeceased him by 19 days. Leon is also predeceased by all of his siblings: Charles David, Lawrence Nathaniel, William Edison, Juanita, Dorothy, Alpha Ann, and Omega.

Leon leaves behind three devoted children—Wayne, Mark and Sharon; one devoted son-in-law, Cleamon Batchelor, Jr.; two beloved grandchildren—Justin Reginald Wheeler and Cecily Ann Ajalique Wheeler; two adoring great-grandchildren—Omarii Anthony Miller and Justice Asada Lee Wheeler; one beloved sister-in-law, Irene Wheeler; eight cherished nieces—Rose Whitmire, Lorraine Wilson, Carol Wilson, Cynthia Legette, Maureen McDonald, Dawn Simpson, Esther Wheeler and Candice Cole; seven treasured nephews—William "Little Billy" Wheeler, Jr., Timothy Wheeler, Reggie Wilson, Fred "Guy" Wilson, Gregory Wilson, Vernon Wilson, and Garrett Wilson; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

- Processional “When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder”
- Hymn “Burdens Are Lifted At Calvary”
- Scripture Ephesians 2:8,9
- Selection “Sinner Like Me”
Wayne Wheeler
- Prayer of Comfort Clergy
- Selection “Walk Around Heaven”
Dawn Simpson
- Acknowledgements, Reflections of Life
and Tribute Alberta Susan Wells
- Musical Selection Saxophonist
Malcolm Cobb
- Selection “Your Grace And Mercy”
- Eulogy Pastor Bernard Durham
- Selection “Someday”
Pam White
- Presentation Bragg Funeral Home
- Recessional “Hold to God’s Unchanging Hands”

Interment

Mt. Holiness Cemetery
Butler, New Jersey

Citizenship

On this earth, a child of God walks
Through the garden of God's Word,
Feasting on and flourishing
From the Fruit of the Spirit—strength.

On this earth, a child of God prays,
Humbling himself before God,
Casting all his cares upon the Father,
And has blessed intimacy with Jesus—peace

On this earth, a child of God lives,
Knowing that Heaven,
Not this earthly world is his home:
A celestial home not made by hands—assurance.

The strength from God,
The peace of God,
And the believer's assurance of Salvation
Permeate his soul with spiritual power;
Imbue his spirit with confidence;
And until a child of God takes up his citizenship in Heaven,
The fruit of the Spirit
Laces the believer's life with joy
And with the power from on High
To not just testify,
But to witness mightily
For the Lord.
asw

Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Leon Haskins Wheeler** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By

CARNE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Caring for the Community Since 1937

256 Rosa Parks Blvd. • Paterson, NJ 07501 • (973) 278-6330

143 Myrtle Avenue • Passaic, NJ 07055 • (973) 779-1892

To send online condolences, visit www.braggfuneralhome.com



www.honoryou.com

