In Loving Memory



# George Ancil Wilson

March 30, 1953 - March 12, 2017

*Funeral Service* Saturday, March 25, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.

ST. PAUL AME CHURCH 1521 Sanford Avenue • East Orange, New Jersey *Rev. Jerome Stembridge, Officiating* 

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<u>Order of Service</u>

Saturday, March 25, 2017

Musical Prelude	
Words of Welcome/Introduction	Rev. Jerome Stembridge
Prayers of Comfort	Rev. Vibert Chance
Hymn	"He Lives"
Scripture Readings Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 1st Corinthians 15:51-58	
Song	Pastor Julius Ceasar
Reading of the Obituary	Silvius Wilson (brother)
Remarks	Rev. Leroy Levans
Hymn	"In Shady Green Pastures"
Eulogy& Benediction	Rev. Jerome Stembridge
Recessional Hymn	."When We All Get To Heaven"

-Entombment Fairmount Cemetery Central Avenue Newark, New Jersey

Following the interment, a repast will be held at the upper level New Jerusalem-Apostolic Church located at 1120 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ.



#### GEORGE ANCIL WILSON

God our Father, Your power brings us to birth, Your providence guides our lives, and by your command we return to dust. Lord, those who die shall live in your presence, Their lives change but do not end. I pray in hope for my brother and for all the dead known to you alone. In company with Christ who died and now lives, May he rejoice in Your Kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing your praise forever and ever. Amen

On March 30th, 1953, Paul and Lucille Wilson of Airy Hall Mahaicony, East Coast Demerara (Guyana, S.A.), welcomed their 'bundle of joy,' a bouncing baby boy. He was christened George Ancil, the latest member of a relatively large family with siblings: Joan Audrey, Felix, Paul Jr., Everette, Rudolph, Cleveland, Ethleen, Fred, Brenda, Oswald and Silvius.

Early in his junior years George moved to No. 9 Village, West Coast Berbice to reside with his grandfather. In the No. 9 Community, in addition to his grandfather's strict but benevolent approach to parenting, George was fortunate to have the guidance of several 'strong' ladies and gentlemen, many of whom were teachers and community leaders. His exposure in this community and interaction with adults and peers contributed to strong character building and progressive world view. His nurturing maturation was surely a sterling example of 'the role of the village in child development.' Some of the outstanding individuals who made an impact include Aunt Flora, Ula Mc Pherson (nursery teacher) Aunt Mahalia, Teacher Lottie and Teacher Lena (all Stalwart Elementary School teachers). These and others introduced him to letters and numbers.

**ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL:** When he entered elementary school, The No.8 Congregational School, he excelled in English and Mathematics as well as new fields such as English Literature and Latin. Here he met new friends and discovered his ability for public speaking and love for academe through his interaction with teachers and engagement with the curriculum. Members of his extended family emphasized remedial work during the evenings and on weekends.

Complementing the efforts of the family, the church was another bastion of growth and social development. George attended and was confirmed within the order of the Moravian Church - which stood at the center of village life. At church, he volunteered for or was volunteered into various clubs and committees. Such was his commitment to excellence in these activities that he was invited to serve as junior pastor under the guidance of the Rev. Gittens, while still in his teens. His religious outreach in Berbice and on the East Coast brought him in touch with many people and gave him a perspective on life which is far from common among young men of his age. This was the nature of his preparation and state of maturity when he returned to Airy Hall Mahaicony to live with his mother.

Back in Airy Hall, he enrolled at the Novar Government School where he embarked upon a course of study leading to the College of Preceptors [CP] Examination of London. At Novar he came under the influence of Harold Lloyd (the Head Teacher) The teachers at this school took George to the next level of his formal education and reinforced his belief in his abilities and future in a chosen professional career. He excelled in CP and went on to Mahaicony Government Secondary School (MGSS).

At MGSS, he established lasting friendships with peers and members of the Central Mahaicony Community.' In his senior classes, he demonstrated leadership skills through the continuation of public speaking in debates and played an active role in academic and cultural organizations within the school. In fact, many aspects of his orientation in the Church and school community during his 'Berbice years' became much more purposeful as he contemplated his career goals. After successfully completed his General Certificate of Education Examination (GCE's), he was set on a career in education.

**PROFESSIONAL PATHWAYS:** In September 1969 George was appointed Pupil Teacher at the Graham's Hall Primary School at Cummings Lodge, East Coast Demerara. While in this position, ever mindful of growth, he entered for the Professional Teachers' Examinations [Third and Fourth Year]. It was at this institution that George and his loving wife Myrna met, fell in love and became soul mates in a union which developed, strengthened and endured for over forty years. The next and logical step in pursuit of his professional goals was to be professionally trained.

The Cyril Potter College of Education (CPCE): In a motivated state, George entered CPCE (then the Government Training College - GTC) in September 1974. He settled well and excelled in his area of specialization as well as Principles of Education and Psychology. Early in the program he established a meaningful and lasting rapport with the Principal, Ms. Olive Lyken. This relationship provided greater avenue for George, (by that time, MAJOR was the name of choice among friends) to demonstrate what 'he knew and could do.' He became a 'mentor' and 'the go-to-person' for clarification on matters in Education and Psychology. Served as 'Student Representative' as well as 'Training Officer-'in this role he ensured that the GTC students won 'bragging rights' at the Labor Day Parade. Though he was not an Agriculture major, Major provided advice to the College administration on agricultural expansion and pioneered a project in rice cultivation. After graduation in 1976 he took up teaching positions at Novar and Calcutta Government Schools.

GEORGETOWN and FAMILY LIFE: In 1977 George moved to Georgetown after his marriage to Myrna. While building his family life he held teaching appointments at East Ruimveldt Secondary School and St. Joseph High School.

Major was a family man 'to the core.' Members were showered with love and support.

**UNIVERSITY of GUYANA:** George was admitted to the University of Guyana Faculty of Social Sciences in 1980. He graduated in 1985 with a B. Soc. Sc. Degree in Sociology with Credit. At UG George bloomed in student government and campus politics. He was an active faculty representative and Vice Chairman of the Student Council. He led with dignity. George's friendly and warm approach won over students who were of opposite political views on campus. He was admired by his colleagues and lecturers. Many were his friends. Among his peers at UG he is remembered for his dry humor and incisive wit. On occasions, he'll close debates among friends with one of his 'many old sayings' or with the reminder: 'When I get home I have to tell Myrna this one. 'HIS HUMOR AND CANDOR ARE TRAITS EMBRACED BY ALL.

**NATIONAL SERVICE:** George did his basic training at Kaituma NWD, where he is remembered by his UG pioneer colleagues as well as staff and officers at the location. Here again, he was at his outstanding best. When times were tough, he comforted his peers. He was no pushover and always ready to take on a challenge. In 1982 at the Kaituma location, he along with roommates Drepaul and Scotland engineered a revolution for 'better food.' His Sociology class mates, Barbara, Jenny and others were active participants. They bonded in the hard times and survived; looked out for each other and remained friends to the day he departed this life. The experience at GNS created lasting memories and a life-long friendship with Major. The group stood for each member; celebrated the good times, shared sorrows and leaned on each other in times of need, through THICK AND THIN.

Major completed his National Service stint at the Political Arena- The Ministry of National Development. Political life came naturally to him. It was at this time, that he served as a 'Special Officer' to the Minister of Education.

**MIGRATION:** During the period 1990-2000 George and Myrna settled on the Island of Grenada, West Indies. Here, George continued his teaching career, at first as Trained Graduate Teacher at St. Andrew's Anglican School and later, Vice Principal at Happy Hill Secondary.

The family moved to the USA in 2000. George was appointed at CHAD High School where he served for two years. During the period 2003-2012 he was attached at the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (Essex County) in the position Permanency Worker and Family Drug Court Staff. Within this portfolio he was promoted to Family Service Specialist I and II. In 2012, he obtained a further promotion Contract Administrator II (Trenton). He held this position until the time of his death.

George has left to mourn: His loving wife, Myrna; Siblings: Felix, Joan, Fred, Brenda, Oswald and Silvius; 40 Nieces and Nephews 50 Great Nieces and Nephews; Several In-laws, Cousins, Special Friends, too numerous to mention

#### MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE

He Lives

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today I know that He is living, whatever men may say I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer And just the time I need Him He's always near He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today He walks with me and talks with me Along life's narrow way He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart In all the world around me I see His loving care And though my heart grows weary I never will despair I know that He is leading, through all the stormy blast The day of His appearing will come at last He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today He walks with me and talks with me Along life's narrow way He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian Lift up your voice and sing Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find None other is so loving, so good and kind He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today He walks with me and talks with me Along life's narrow way He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart

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In Shady Green Pastures

(God Leads His Children) In shady green pastures, so rich and so sweet, God leads His dear children along; Where the water's cool flow bathes the weary ones' feet, CHORUS God leads His dear children along. Some through the water, some through the flood, Some through the fire, but all through the blood, Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, In the night season, and all the day long. Sometimes on the mount where the sun shines so bright, God leads His dear children along; Sometimes in the valley in the darkest of night, CHORUS God leads His dear children along. Some through the water, some through the flood,

Some through the fire, but all through the hood, Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, In the night season, and all the day long. Though sorrows befall us and evils oppose, God leads His dear children along; Through grace we can conquer, defeat all our foes, CHORUS

God leads His dear children along. Some through the water, some through the flood, Some through the fire, but all through the blood, Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, In the night season, and all the day long. Away from the mire, and away from the clay, God leads His dear children along; Away up in glory, eternity's day, CHORUS God leads His dear children along.

Some through the water, some through the flood, Some through the fire, but all through the blood, Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song, In the night season, and all the day long.

## Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him, and the other to the LORD. When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave". The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you".

-Mary Stevenson

Acres

### Pallbearer Brothers, Nephews and Friends of George Ancil Wilson

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

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