

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

*Thomas T. J. Watson*

Sunrise  
April 5, 1942

Sunset  
March 23, 2017



**Service:**

Wednesday, March 29, 2017 - 7:00 pm

**SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH**

99 Davenport Avenue • Newark, New Jersey

*Rev. Malachia Brantley, Jr., Officiating*

## *Obituary*

**Thomas TJ Watson**, 74, was born April 5, 1942 in Rock Hill, South Carolina to the late Tillie Mae Watson Givens and Wilson Givens. He departed his life on Thursday, March 23, 2017 at Beth Israel Medical Center, Newark, New Jersey.

He grew up in Rock Hill, South Carolina where he finished school and joined the U.S. Army. He received an honorary discharge during the Vietnam War.

Afterwards, he moved to Newark, New Jersey where he played semi professional baseball as a pitcher and third baseman with the Newark Raiders. This is when he chose to place his roots in Newark, New Jersey.

Thomas was a hard working and God fearing man. He was a faithful member of the Men's Club and Usher Board of Shiloh Baptist and served faithfully until he became ill.

He was known for his humor and quick wits. Anyone who was graced by his presence was sure to laugh at the stories he would tell.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, John Thomas Givens and James Robert Givens of Rock Hill, South Carolina. Also preceding him in death by his life partner - Marie Thomas of Newark, New Jersey.

He leaves to cherish his memories, his daughter, Thomasina Chisholm of Rock Hill, South Carolina; two sons, Bobby (Helena) Jones of Rock Hill, South Carolina and Dawson Goff of Newark, New Jersey; two grandchildren, Fonta Chisholm, Dre Chisholm; five great-grandchildren; two brothers, Wilson (Ethal) Givens, Jr. of Washington, D.C. and Sammie (Doris) Givens of Kingsville, Texas; five sisters, Lucile (John) Watson Richardson of Forestville, Missouri, Katherine Givens of Charlotte, North Carolina, Sarah Givens, Betty Givens and Linda (Felton) Boston all of Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Thomas loved playing and watching baseball, listening to a variety of music, especially oldies but goodies. He will be dearly missed, but he is happy. The day he was admitted to the hospital, he said twice, "I want Marie". Little did we know he was telling us goodbye. He was tired and ready to be with his Marie.

Special thanks to his caregivers: his home health aide, Michele Smart and his loving granddaughter, Yukema Daniels.

Rest well, T, you have lived a wonderful life on this earth. God was ready to call you home and you were ready to go.

# *Order of Service*

Musical Prelude

Processional

Solo

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Solo

Reflections

Acknowledgements/Obituary

Solo

Eulogy

Recessional

## **ENTOMBMENT**

Thursday, March 30, 2017

Hollywood Memorial Park

Union, New Jersey

*Family and friends are invited to join the family for light refreshments immediately following the service.*

## *I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God has laid you see.  
I took His hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found that peace at the close of day.  
If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee  
God wanted me now; He set me free.

## *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.

### **Professional Services Provided By**

**COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

**COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME**  
37 Clinton Avenue  
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