A portrait of Charles Nathaniel Williams, Sr., an elderly African American man with a mustache, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. The background is a soft, blue, cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the top right of the image.

**Celebrating the
Life of**

Charles Nathaniel Williams, Sr.

November 27, 1932 - April 7, 2017

Service

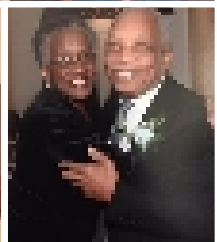
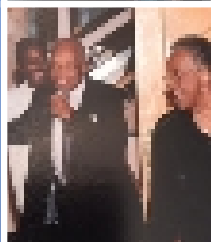
Saturday, April 15, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.

St. James AME Church

588 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. • Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Garvey Ince, Officiating

Mr. Samuel Snead, Organist



Obituary

Charles Nathaniel Williams, Sr. was born November 27, 1932 to the late Melvin Williams and the late Ruth Todd in Conway, South Carolina. He was one of five children. At the age of 12 he moved with his family to Newark, New Jersey where he attended Newton Street School and Robert Treat School. He graduated from Central High School where he excelled in track. Upon graduating from high school Charles attended Shaw University.

In 1956, he married the love of his life, Verdell Holmes. To this union seven beautiful children were born. He and his wife enjoyed spending time with their family and traveling on cruise ships. Visiting different parts of the US and many islands in the Caribbean.

Charles was a lifelong member of St. James A.M.E. Church, having joined in 1944 under the pastorate of Rev. Mansfield Jackson. As an active member of the church, Charles was a Boy Scout and eventually became Scoutmaster of Troop 55. He was a member of the church newspaper, men's choir, co-ed ushers and an avid bowler on the St. James bowling league. He was also an active member of the community, serving on the Advisory Board of the Central Ward Boys & Girls Club.

Charles worked for many years out of Local 699 Laborers International Union where he was secretary-treasurer. He later worked for the Newark Housing Authority as Housing Manager where he served as a shop steward. He retired from the Housing Authority in 1995 after 17 years of service. During his retirement he enjoyed spending time with some "old buddies" from back in the day at their weekly lunch.

Charles leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife Verdell of 61 years; loving sister-in-law Josephine Horton; seven children: Charles Williams (Frances), Janet Williams-Joseph (Hubert), Brian Williams (Cynthia), Donna Williams-Snead (Clyde), James Williams (Josephine), Kevin Williams (Stephanie) and Denise Williams-White; special niece, Bonnie Shackelford-Black; 19 grandchildren: Hahsann Williams (Tasha), Tania Chance, Matthew, Elijah, Josiah, Brandon, Nicole, and Trent Williams, Daemon and Matthew Snead, Alisha Brea (Jeffrey), Adia Ransome (Tyriek), Nashira, Shaheid, Kia and Kayla Williams, Stephon Daniels, Tyesha Williams-Merritt (C'wan), Jordan White; 14 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Charles' favorite scripture is Psalm 23 - "The Lord is my shepherd..." His favorite hymn is "How Great Thou Art".

Daddy's favorite saying was: Thank God for the Blessings!

Family Tributes

* Who am I going to talk smack to about sports now? Yanks vs. Mets...Cowboys vs. Giants....smh. I can never say I'm the best grandson but I'll say this...if it wasn't for you I surely wouldn't be where I am and who I am today. The family that you built is legendary and will continue to be great in your absence. 67 won't ever be the same but it will forever be home. Thank you and I love you for your quick jabs and your stern lessons. Rest in Peace To The King my Grandfather Charles "Chico" Williams. I'm going to make you proud. I'm never going to give up! You're going to see..watch!!! Love Dae

* April 7th will forever be a day of remembrance. It is the day my family lost our rock. My man Chico, Papa, my grandfather. This man was an amazing father to seven kids. A husband I aspire to be like, a Grandfather to a thousand it seems like, hah. Beyond grateful that you had the opportunity to meet my son and look into his eyes and allow him to feel what love is. You are our cowboy, who enjoyed his old black and white westerns, a motivator and a charmer. That smile could light up the darkest of times. Forever will you be looking down on us Papa. You've taught us all that family comes first. Shoot you created a clan. #familyfirst#learnlife Love Matt

* The most valuable investments a man can make are not in money and possessions but in God and family. My father amassed a fortune to be an inheritance to all of his descendants for eternity. Love you Dad, Love Skip

* I can't believe that I won't hear you answer the phone with "Hey #7, What's up baby girl!" I am soo glad that God chose you as my Dad. You were always there for me with your love, guidance, strength, support and encouragement. I will miss our quiet talks and your laughter. You were such a blessing to me and my girls. Missing you already. Love you always, Niccy. Smooches! #Daddy'sbabygirl

* I consider myself one of the luckiest people in the world because I have such an awesome grandfather. Thank you Papa, for your patience, understanding and love. Love Ty #Number8/#Number1 granddaughter

* Papa, I will always remember the times we spent together when you would pick me up from school and then we would go get milkshakes. Sometimes I would sit with you while you watched those old westerns. Thanks for 14 amazing years. Love your youngest grand-daughter, Jordan

* My Dad, intelligent, supportive, dependable and very handy. You never let us down and you always believed in us. I will miss our talks and your quiet guidance without forcing us to accept your advice. Thank you for always being there for me and leading us by your example. I will remember how you thanked God everyday throughout the day for the blessings. Love you Daddy your #2 or #4 depending on how you saw it that day...LOL Donna

* Charlie, You know you never hear good things about Father-in Laws but I must say that mine was the best. I loved him as though he was my father. Charlie was the only man that has ever told me that he was proud of me. He was proud of me for who I became and not for what I have. The best advice that he has ever given to me was to store your treasure's in heaven and not on this earth. Love your family, friends and practice humility. Charlie I'm going to miss our talks about golf and the Knicks. Rest in peace and watch over us from heaven and say hi to Great Grand for me. Love you sincerely your son-in-law, Skeet

* God could not have Blessed me with such a wonderful, loving, caring and supportive father. You were always there when I needed you in the good and the bad times. I will miss our Sunday evening calls and you telling me to Keep The Faith! Love you much your #1 daughter, Sissy

To My Dad: The best role model a son could ever have. I love You, Kevin

To my Uncle/Dad: You were more than an uncle since my teenage years. Amazing father figure for me. Love you, Bonnie

Dad: I thank God that he chose you to be my father. You have and always will be my friend, my advisor and my hero. Love Chucky

Dad, I could not have asked for a better friend, a more dedicated and loving father, or a greater example to live by. You truly showed me the way. Love Brian

Order of Service

Rev. Reginald Clark, Presiding

Musical Prelude Organist

Processional Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn “Blessed Assurance”
Deacon William McLeod

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Dr. Mary White Williams

Scripture Readings Rev. Katherine Myers
Old Testament - Psalm 23
New Testament - John 14:1-3, 27

Solo Deacon William McLeod

Resolution
and Acknowledgements Sis. Gwen Garretson

Remarks/Family Tribute Kevin Williams
Donna Williams-Snead
Charles Williams, Jr.

Obituary (Read Silently)

Solo Deacon William McLeod

Eulogy Rev. Garvey Ince

Recessional - “I’ll Fly Away” Clergy and Family

Interment
Fairmont Cemetery
Central Avenue
East Orange, New Jersey

Repast
Kings Family Restaurant, 557 Clinton Avenue, Newark, NJ

Pallbearers

Hahsann Williams	Brandon Williams
Daemon Snead	Shaheid Williams
Matthew Snead	Matthew Williams

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his 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've found that peace at the close of the day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah 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 savoured 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 heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free

Acknowledgements

The family would like to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

