

*In Loving Memory of*

A portrait of James Alfred Spratley, a man with a mustache, wearing a light-colored suit jacket, a white shirt, and a red tie. He is smiling and looking slightly to the left. The background is a soft-focus landscape with mountains and a cloudy sky.

*James Alfred Spratley*

*Sunrise: April 20, 1932*

*Sunset: May 30, 2017*

Service

*Monday, June 5, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.*

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

# *Obituary*

**James** was the second of three children born on April 20, 1932, via the holy matrimony between William Spratley and Fannie Singletary. James' mother died when he was very young. His step-mother, Sadie, became the woman who assisted William in raising James and his baby brother, Samuel Spratley.

James was educated through the New York School system. During the month of September of 1951, James volunteered to serve in the Navy, where he served Honorably for three and a half years. After receiving his Honorable discharge, James attended City College of New York and NYU where he received a Bachelor of Science in English and then his Masters in Guidance and Personnel Administration. After graduation, James became a teacher of English and continued his formal schooling until he became Dr. Spratley. He later became an Assistant Principal and finally Principal of District 17, IS 210. James was a prolific employee. He worked in the following areas: NYC Board of Examiners; Teacher's Recruitment Office; and the Testing Areas for New York City. Though James retired as a Principal in 1987, he continued to work for the Board of Education for many years.

James loved being social but his first love was reading. He enjoyed dancing, going to the theatre, movies and attending the Opera. He also served as President of a Social Club called The Source and was an avid donor to The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. James also loved to travel and did so very often after retirement.

James is predeceased by four brothers and two sisters. James leaves to mourn, Diane Wetstone, Barbara Rembert, Diane Brown, Bernice Griffin, Shirley Griffin, Gary Griffin, Stanley Griffin, Darryl Spratley, Deidre Klint-Griffith, Damon Spratley; his only sister-in-law, Barbara Spratley; his devoted niece, Ingrid Davis-Dewese and a host of nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

# *Order of Service*

*Processional*

*Selection*

*Scripture Readings*

*Prayer*

*Selection*

*Acknowledgements*

*Remarks*

*Obituary*

*Selection*

*Eulogy*

*Committal*

*Viewing*

*Recessional*

*Interment*

*Mt. Hope Cemetery  
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York*

# *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 Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day.*

*To laugh, to love, to work or 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 up 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 heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of  
kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.  
May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

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**2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300**  
**1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023**  
**1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833**

*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*  
[www.unityfuneralchapels.com](http://www.unityfuneralchapels.com)  
email: [unityfc@aol.com](mailto:unityfc@aol.com)

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