

*In Loving Memory of*



*Beresford Bannister*  
*“Trevor”*

*Sunrise: October 4, 1930*

*Sunset: August 22, 2017*

Viewing

*Monday, August 28, 2017 - 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

## Obituary

**Beresford Trevor Bannister** entered into eternal rest early Tuesday morning, August 22, 2017. He was born on October 4, 1930 in Harlem, to parents, Violet E. and Beresford F. Bannister. His uncle, Edric Nurse was also a great influence. Unc, as he was called would share colorful stories about days at the racetrack and parties with members of the notorious elite.

Trevor, as he was mostly known, attended public schools through graduation from the prestigious Bronx High School of Science in 1949. Upon graduation he entered Brooklyn College and after two years began his career in the insurance industry at Consolidated Mutual.

One of his great loves, basketball, didn't prove to be a potential career path but he could hold his own in any conversation about anything related to not only basketball but most of the popular sports. He also experienced the Harlem of Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Malcom X, and a musical genre that would influence and inspire him until his final days.....Jazz.Very early on he developed a captivating charm and polished style which he shared with his fellow Les Garçons Club members.

Sports, Jazz and his third big love was pretty obvious to him when he was introduced to his future wife, Shirley Medford. Shirley shared his passion for music, action and style. The two married after an exciting courtship and their ceremony was a social event featured in the Amsterdam News.

The activism and political scene of the 60's and 70's influenced Trevor to leave the conventional 9 to 5 behind and he entered into a more nonconventional career; which was inspired by the early talks with his beloved Uncle Edric. These challenges created some ups and downs that were balanced by a steadfast commitment to social and community activism.

Trevor led a full and complex life that afforded him the ability to relate to every and any one on every and any level. He was known for his penchant for debate fueled by a rich vocabulary and wealth of knowledge. He would give you the shirt off his back and he was always ready to lend a hand to those in need.

In his later years his crowning glory was his granddaughter, Desiree. He was a true Harlem gentleman, a dedicated son, complete and trustworthy friend and ally and loved his family with all of his heart until he could love no more in his unique style.

Trevor is survived by: his son, Trevor Rodger (and his wife, Cheryl); son, Craig Anthony (and his partner, Bruce Bowns); granddaughter, Desiree J. Bannister; sister-in-law, Arlene Medford; nephews, Darrell and Hadah Medford; companions, Laura Hopkins and Annette George; cousins; and a host of friends. He's predeceased by wife, Shirley and youngest son, Kemp.

# *Order of Service*

**Viewing**

**Reflections and Memories**

**Musical Tribute**

David Barnes

**Musical Tribute**

Carla Cook

**Obituary**

**Closing Prayer**

Reverend David F. Telfort, Pastor Lafayette Avenue  
Presbyterian Church

*Final Disposition*

*Oxford Hills Crematory  
Chester, New York*

# Psalm 23

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

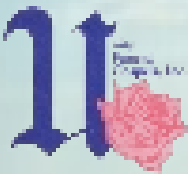
## Acknowledgement

*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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