

In Loving Memory of



Donald E. Phillips

Sunrise

December 7, 1946

Sunset

November 30, 2017

Service

Saturday, December 9, 2017- 10:00 a.m.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

102-03 Springfield Blvd. • Queens, New York 11429

Pastor David Haberer, Officiating

Dad

I can't tell you Dad
How many tears I've cried
Since the day I was told
My precious Dad had died.

It seems so unimaginable
Although I know it's true
As everything I see around
Reminds me, of you.

I can still hear your laughter
And see your smiling face
I would have lost my sanity
If not, for God's saving grace.

I have to close this letter now,
But this is not goodbye
For you will forever, be with me
In my heart and mind.



Grandpa

You're a warm and caring person,
you're as priceless as can be.
You've always made me feel so good
through the love you've given me.
You've always been an influence,
you've been there as I've grown,
You've always been so thoughtful,
through all the years I've known.
You're more than just a Grandpa,
you're a special person too,
Please remember, Grandpa,
I'll always have a love for you.



Reflections of Life

Donald Edward Phillips was born on December 7, 1946 to the late Esther Patterson in Brooklyn, New York. Donald, affectionately called Don, was educated in the New York City public school system. He attended Lefferts Junior High School (where he met his future bride) and graduated from Brooklyn High School of Automotive Trades in June 1962; both in Brooklyn, New York. Following high school, Don enlisted in the Air Force. He served in the Air Force for 4 years, until he was honorably discharged on October 3, 1966 as an Airman Third Classman (currently called Senior Airman). Upon leaving the Air Force, Don embarked on his calling by entering the New York City Police Department.

Don loved being a NYC police officer and he took his job to protect and serve seriously. In 1977, Don had a brush with death and was shot while off duty when he walked in on an armed robbery. Taking his oath seriously, he didn't think twice about responding and defending the innocent people who were placed in harm's way. Don didn't let this situation stop him either, once he recovered and was released to return to work, he did just that. Don continued to rise through the ranks of the police department from Officer, to Detective and onto Sergeant. He worked in numerous precincts, including the 81, 62 and 24. Even up until his retirement in 1995, Don was still a working member of the force being active and visible in the community serving others.

As an only child, Don didn't know what it was like to have siblings, but when he joined the NYPD he met some young like-minded men who became more than friends but lifelong brothers. While working in the 81, Don became an active member of a motorcycle club named, 'The Wild Bunch'. From this group formed another 'Wild Bunch' who were more of a social group. The members of the Wild Bunch included: Jessie, Earl, Big Earl, Harold, John, Paul (Pablo), Wayne, Tommy and Harry. These men got together on a regular basis and helped each other make it through the stressors of life as police officers, men, husbands and fathers. This is a lifetime bond that has carried them all through.

Don was a man who stood large in stature. His serious face made him intimidating to some but if you knew him you knew what a kind and loving heart he had. He was a prankster, loved to tell stories and jokes, laugh and have a good time; his laugh and smile were contagious. Don was also known for his style and exquisite taste, hence the nickname, 'Hollywood'. Even with all his style and grace, there was nothing more important to Don than his 'Girls'. Don married the love of his life, Lisa Jackson, in November 9, 1969. Although, they attended Junior High School together, they didn't notice each other

until many years later. They reconnected on that warm summer day when Don walked the beach, with his socks on. After a short courtship, Don knew that Lisa was the one for him, so after only a few months of dating he popped the question. They married on a rainy November day and they shared 48 beautiful years together as husband and wife. Both Don and Lisa retired in 1995 and had the privilege to use the following 20+ years of freedom to travel, explore and enjoy each other's company.

From this union came the apples of Don's eyes, his Big Girl, Tracey Renee, and Daddy's little girl, Donnell Noni. Don loved his girls and his girls loved him. Whenever he was around them you could see the love and admiration they had for him in their faces. Both of his girls followed in his footsteps to serve others. Don was so proud of his girls, smiling from ear to ear whenever they or their accomplishment were mentioned. He stood proud when Tracey joined the NYDOC, like he did when Noni received her Master's in Social Work degree. And as if he didn't have enough girls to love, he was blessed to get an extra portion with a granddaughter, Jasmine Nicholle who loved him dearly. What joy he felt being able to see her graduate from college and being able to celebrate that accomplishment by taking a family cruise. Don was a leader, provider, protector and comforter for his family. He made sure they had all they needed (and wanted) because he felt they deserved the best.

While Don married Lisa, he also gained a little sister, Mona, that he affectionately called 'Mo'. Don was a big brother like no other. He took care of, advised and even kept secrets with his sister. They had a special relationship. She loved him for how he loved her sister and his entire family. He was someone that her children had a special relationship with and her son and grandsons looked up to as a role model. 'Mo' was blessed to be able to be a support to him (and Lisa) in his final days.

Don had love for God and God's people. He served as an Elder at Grace Lutheran Church. He also spearheaded the development of the church food pantry with his wife Lisa. He avidly coordinated the monthly food distribution to the community. To beautify the church, Don anonymously donated flowers to be placed on the altar weekly.

This is just a glimpse into the life of Don Phillips. We are sure that you all have stories and memories of him of your own. We ask that you continue to treasure those memories and live your life to the fullest, like he did, loving deeply and loving often.

Don leaves to continue his legacy: his wife, Lisa, daughters, Tracey and Donnell, granddaughter, Jasmine; sisters (in love), Mona and Agnes; aunt, Pearl Morris, cousins Nora (Lloyd) Burroughs, Carolyn Phillips, Patricia (Cal) Duer, Yaya Nkromah, Joy Drake, Eric 'Roc' Phillips; and a host of nieces, nephews and other close family members and friends.

Order of Service

The Invocation

Remembrance of Baptism

Hymn.....“Amazing Grace” - 744

Prayer

Scripture Readings.....Job 19:23-27
1 Corinthians 15:42-49

Apostles Creed

Words of Comfort

Special Hymn

Homily

Eulogy

Selection Payne Memorial AME Church Mass Choir

Prayer of the Church

Benediction

Hymn.....“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” - 461

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
Brooklyn, New York



In Loving Memory of My
Husband

Thank you for your endless love
That helps me through each day,
And thank you for the memories
That never fade away.

You're the man I loved
And I was proud to be your Wife,
And every day in some small way
I celebrate your life.

And though it's sad to think about
The way things were before,
When we're reunited
It will be forevermore.



Acknowledgements

The family would like to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement.
May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By:

E.L. George Funeral Services

769 Elmont Rd, Elmont, NY, 11003-4035
Ph (516) 285-0080 • Fax (516) 285-0393
Email: egeorge64@aol.com

