

In Loving Memory

Umphray G. Hall, Jr.

Sunrise

October 10, 1932

Sunset

May 27, 2020



Tuesday, June 2, 2020 - 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey

Reflections of Life

Umphray Gilford Hall Jr. slipped into eternal rest at home surrounded by his loving family on May 27, 2020. He was a proud and vibrant Husband, Father, Grandfather, Brother and Uncle. Umphray was born to Umphray Gilford Hall Sr. and Minnie Weeks Hall on October 10, 1932 in Plainfield, NJ. He was the middle child of three and formerly attended Faith Methodist Church of Plainfield.

Umphray was educated in the Plainfield Public Schools, graduated from PHS in 1951 and was honored as a member of Plainfield's First Undefeated Football Team in 1950. In September 1951, Umphray enlisted in the US Air Force where he served 2 tours during the Korean War. "Ump" (his popular nickname) received several commendations - honorably discharged in 1957 and was Staff Sergeant. While in the Air Force, he attended the New England School of Aircraft at Boston University. As a jet aircraft mechanic, he served both domestically and internationally. He later attended The Teterboro School of Aeronautics receiving Federal Licensing to work on Jet Aircraft. Umphray fought extreme challenges as a Black man to gain employment in the airline industry. His perseverance paid off and he was hired by American Airlines in 1961 as an aircraft mechanic. He serviced the tri-state area airports with a career that spanned 35 years. Umphray holds the distinct honor of becoming the first Black Crew Chief of Maintenance at Newark Airport, retiring from American Airlines in 1997. His position with American often afforded him the ability to travel worldwide with his family.

Near the end of his Air Force career, Umphray met Marjorie Gilmore from Milford, Conn. They married in 1958 and were blessed with two children; Lesli and Brian. His legacy includes grandsons Jelani and Moneta-Kai, great-grandniece Renee and great-grandnephew Anthony. "Poppi" or "Uncle Jun" was extremely proud of his entire clan and adored each one of them.

Throughout Umphray's lifetime, he was recognized for his many achievements. He worked diligently as a community activist involved with Plainfield Pop Warner, Iron Dragon Karate School and the high profile Save Muhlenberg Project. He was also inducted into the Plainfield High School Hall of Fame.

Umphray loved music - especially Jazz and Gospel. The highlight of his favorite hobby was participating in the renowned McDonald's Gospel Festival. During Umphray's three years with the festival, his baritone voice helped to win 1st Place Awards for two consecutive years. Over the last 12 years, he shared his voice in 3 choral groups including MOBC Men's Choir, The Revelation Singers and The Greater Central Jersey Community Choir.

"UG" was fashionable and debonair. In his fifties, Umphray decided to join two modeling groups. Fashions To You was his first exposure to modeling and the runway! His first runway walk created the consummate "MR MESS". He later joined Silver Foxes modeling group. This group was comprised of several people who had gray/white/silver hair and were approaching their "golden" years.

Left to cherish his loving memory is his wife, Marjorie of 62 years: daughter Lesli Price of Plainfield, son Brian Hall (Lisa) of Randallstown, Md., grandsons, Jelani and Moneta-Kai Price, brother Frederick Hall (Martha) of Roland Heights, CA, niece Renee Walker and nephew, Anthony Davis. He is also survived by a host of other family members and friends.

We will LOVE YOU for Eternity.....

Professional Services Provided By

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