

*Celebrating the Life of*



*Stafford Wakefield Holder*

**Sunrise: September 11, 1944**

**Sunset: January 21, 2022**

**Saturday, February 12, 2022 -4:30PM**

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

**1406 Pitkin Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11233**

**Rev. Tyrone Pittman, Officiating**

# Order of Service

**M.C.: Baba Mpho aka Shanto Man**

Opening Remarks and Libation

Drum Invocation.....Simeon Holder

Prayer.....Desiree “Anita” Green

Hymn.....“Abide By Me” - Jeggae and Congregation

Scripture.....Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 - Samantha Holder

Song.....“Blessed Assurance”

Poem.....Shaniya Holder

Scripture.....John 14:1-3 - Samantha Holder

Special Remarks.....Mark Gilkes

Presentation.....Shanto Members

Reflections.....Anyone

Obituary.....Faye Gilkes

Song.....“In the Sweet By and By”

Eulogy

Committal and Benediction

**INURNMENT:**  
Greenwood Crematory  
Brooklyn, New York

# Obituary

**Stafford Wakefield Holder**, aka “**Big Staff**” was born on September 11, 1944, in Vergenoegen Essequibo, Guyana. Stafford left Guyana in August 1996, and migrated to the United States, where he worked as a Security Officer, at ABC Television Network, for Summit Security Company. His hobbies were watching sports which included wrestling and basketball.

The sun set on “Big Staff” January 21, 2022. Stafford was the son of the late Jacob Harvey and Christine Iris Holder. He is survived by dear wife, Desiree Holder, his children, Marva, Mark, Wakefield, Samantha, Holly, Simeon, and Iris, also his sisters and brothers, Rowena Gilkes, Joan Holder, Harvey Holder, Ann Holder, Lucy Holder, Samson Holder, and Ruth Holder. He is preceded in death by his other siblings, Lynette John, Isolene, Simeon, Rex, and Samantha. “Big Staff” has a legacy of 38 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. He is Uncle Stafford to a host of nephews and nieces.

Anyone who knew him would know that he was a jovial person who loved to make everyone laugh. He will be greatly missed.

# *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!

-author unknown

## *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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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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*"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"*

