



Celebrating The Life of  
**Gifford Wright Thomas**

*Our dear Husband, Father, Brother,  
Uncle and Friend.*

April 21, 1943 - February 3, 2022

# *Service Information*

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022**  
**Viewing: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**  
**Service: 10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON**

## **CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY**

Hayes Corn Piece Clarendon, Jamaica WI

### ***Officers:***

*Bishop Dr. Clayton N. Martin*

*Bishop Owen Z. Martin*

*Bishop William Hutchinson*

### ***Interment***

Family Plot, Savannah District  
Hayes Clarendon, Jamaica W.I.

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude .....	Peace In the Valley (Sam Cooke)
Processional/Opening Sentences .....	Bishop Owen Z. Martin
Opening Hymn .....	“How Great Thou Art”
Invocation .....	Bishop William Hutchinson (Pastor)
Selection.....	The Hayes Church Group
Scripture Readings	
Old Testament Psalm 90:1-6 .....	Sherlene (Bobbette) Martin
New Testament .....	Philippians 2:1-8 Kedar Martin
Hymn .....	“Amazing Grace”
Sermon.....	Bishop Dr. Clayton Martin
Prayer of Comfort	
Tributes (2 minutes) .....	Anthony Coore (Friend)
	Derrick Walton (Musical)
	Pauline Thomas (Song)
Offering.....	In Aid of Church Building Fund
Special Tribute .....	Raffique Thomas (son)
Eulogy.....	Elder Trevor Martin
Soloist.....	Minister Bunny Anderson
Benediction	
Recessional Hymn .....	“I’ll Fly Away”



# Obituary

GIFFORD WRIGHT THOMAS aka “Bobby”, was born in Hayes Savannah on the 21st April 1943 to the late George Thomas and the late Catherine Thomas. He attended the Hayes Elementary school and then moved on to Watsonton Elementary in Lionel Town Clarendon.

He was also an ardent supporter and player of cricket and football, of which he represented both schools well. He was affectionately called Bobby because during the 1966 world cup between England and Brazil, we the players took on names from the star players. When we played football and cricket over where we called ball grung (ground) there were Bobby and Jackie Charlton who represented England, and Gifford took Bobby Charlton’s name, hence he was stuck with the name Bobby.

Many who are sitting here would be surprised to know that Gifford, aka Bobby was a singer. Although he didn't make it on the world stage, he had others who would carry the torch for him. In 1963 Bobby went to the old magnet theater on Bryan’s crescent in May Pen and auditioned with a band name Mercury's. He then brought Peter Austin who in turn took the late Earnest Wilson for audition.

The band leader decided not to do any more auditioning and Gifford aka Bobby begged the band leader just to hear them and the rest is history. Gifford told Peter to call themselves the Clarendonians, hence the birth of the group.

After leaving school Gifford pursued employment and worked at available jobs because he wasn't the type to depend on anyone for hand out. He was eventually hired at Alcan and worked for a number of years at Alcan Aluminum in St. Catherine as powerhouse operator and then to Jamalco Bauxite company in Halse Hall Clarendon. While there, most of the younger friends called him Tommy. Anyone who knows Tommy will tell you that he is just a jovial person, always smiling and making jokes and liked to quote sayings from Herbert Reid, otherwise called Turfy. I recalled a friend who said she called him Giffud instead of Gifford and smiling he would say, “Mr. Thomas” please and everyone would just have a good laugh.

Tommy was always one of those neatly dressed individuals. I mean well put together nothing missing, clean as a whistle.

Gifford met the love of his life Eunice Daley. They were married on the 28 of December 1985 and the union produced one child who died a few days after birth.

Gifford, also known as Tommy and Bobby, was called home on the 3rd day February 2022. His friends and family will always treasure those precious moments that was shared while he was alive.

He is survived by his wife Eunice Daley Thomas, son Raffique Thomas, two brothers Errol Thomas (aka) barber youth, Leaford Thomas (aka) Shootwell, one sister Denest Thomas Allen, numerous nieces, and nephews, cousins and other relatives and precious friends. Sleep on and take your rest Gifford, Tommy, Bobby, we all loved you, but God loved you best. Rest in peace Uncle.

# Graveside Service

Opening Remarks .....Bishop Owen Z. Martin

Scripture – Revelation 21:1–7 ..... Bishop Dr. Clayton N. Martin

Prayer.

Hymn ..... When we all get to Heaven

Floral tribute .....Family lay flower on the casket

Committal ..... Bishop Owen Z. Martin

Benediction

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come.  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

*“Amazing*

*Grace”*

*“How*

*Great*

*Thou*

*Art”*

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hands hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain.

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee.  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee.  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin; [Refrain]

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!" [Refrain]

# Precious Memories



A photograph of a man with a mustache, wearing a white suit jacket and vest over a red long-sleeved shirt and white bow tie. He is leaning against the open driver-side door of a white classic car. The background shows a residential street with a white fence and trees.

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family of **Gifford Wright Thomas** acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.*



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