

## *Between Daddy and Me*

I held on tight not wanting to let go  
While you were trying to hold on,  
And finally, I had to release you  
In order for you to move along.  
Now that I've said so long  
My heart is broken in two,  
For what will become of this daddy's girl  
If he's not here to see her through.  
I hear your words inside my head  
Saying everything will be okay,  
For I will always be by your side  
Just in a different way.  
I'll live in your thoughts and memories  
I am personified in your deeds,  
I'm there for every breath you take  
I've given you all that you need.  
To carry out my legacy  
And live a beautiful life,  
Pray, trust God and always be you  
Seek joy instead of strife.  
You've made me proud and you're blessed by God  
You'll withstand the perils of this world  
I love you so much and I'll see you again  
My tried and true Daddy's Girl.

© Teresa I. Wright-Johnson

### Pallbearers

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| William Martin  | Calvin Cheeseboro |
| John Brown      | David Williams    |
| Omar Cheeseboro | Clarence Wright   |

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*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.*

#### Professional Services Provided By

**COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

**COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME**  
37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000



## *Celebration of Life For* *Dow R. Wright*



**Sunrise: December 21, 1933**  
**Sunset: February 14, 2022**

**Service:**  
**Monday, February 28, 2022 - 11:00AM**

**Cotton Funeral Service**  
**1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey**





Musical Prelude..... Joshua Nelson  
 Opening Selection..... How I Got Over (Joshua Nelson)  
 Scripture Reading  
 Old Testament: Psalms 23 – Ethel Wright  
 New Testament: 2 Timothy 4:6-8 - Clarence Wright  
 Prayer of Comfort.....Beverly Green  
 Selection.....Stand (Joshua Nelson)  
 Reflections and Remarks.....Clergy, Friends and Family  
 (limit 2 minutes)  
 Acknowledgments and Resolutions..... Wayne L. Richardson  
 Essex County Commissioner President  
 Selection.....How Great Thou Art (Joshua Nelson)  
 Obituary..... Pastor Nah-Tarsha Cherry  
 (Reach Ministries, Emmaus, PA)  
 Tribute to Father..... Cynthia L. Brown  
 Teresa I. Wright-Johnson  
 Selection..... Walk Around Heaven (Joshua Nelson)  
 Eulogy..... Pastor Mark E. Parrott, Sr.  
 Lighthouse Temple Church, Newark, NJ  
 Military Honors Ceremony .....United States Armed Forces  
 Recessional.....You Are My Friend

INTERMENT  
 Woodbridge Memorial Gardens  
 Woodbridge, New Jersey

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Dow Richard Wright was born on December 21, 1933 in Roba, Alabama to the late Isaac and Bertha Wright (nee Foster). Dow was educated in the Roba and Columbus, Ga Public School Systems until his family moved to Newark, NJ in the mid 1940's. Dow continued his education in the Newark Public School System and graduated from Barringer High School in Newark, NJ. Dow was studious, ambitious and quiet in nature. He understood that education was paramount and had a yearning to change the world around him.

In 1954 Dow enlisted into the United States Army. He received an honorable discharge in 1956. Dow served his country with pride and often shared stories and lessons learned from his tour as a soldier. Throughout his life, Dow experienced racism firsthand. These experiences transformed him into a socially conscious community activist. He vowed to use his life to affect change for generations to come.

Dow met Frances, the love of his life at Weequahic Park in Newark, NJ in the 1950's. Frances and Dow later married and shared over 60 years together. In 1972 they moved from Newark, NJ to Hillside, NJ where they remained for the duration of their lives. Dow was a phenomenal man with strong, traditional values. His valor and bravery were a sight to behold. An ultimate protector, Dow ensured that his family was safe and well provided for. Dow often told the story of the pact he made with himself as a young man. He vowed that if God blessed him with a family, they would never need or want for anything. Dow stayed true to his troth. A voice of reason, Dow provided his children with a listening ear and was never afraid to apply pressure or discipline. He understood that love encompassed honesty, correction and accountability. Dow and Frances built a solid foundation for their family and their home was filled with love, warmth, great food and fond memories. They leave a rich legacy.

In 1961 Dow joined the Newark Police Department as a Patrolman. His true calling was discovered here. In 1972 he was promoted to Detective. In 1977 he achieved the rank of Sergeant. Notably, he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Kean University in Public Administration in this same year. In 1991, Dow was promoted to Lieutenant. Dow had a significant impact on many of his colleagues and friends. His words of wisdom, humble disposition, expertise and huge heart impacted many. Dow was a consummate professional and mentor who received several accolades, commendations and distinguished honors. He led by example and encouraged family and friends to pursue careers in law enforcement and public service. Two of Dow's daughters and granddaughter followed in his footsteps. The late Detective Tracy N. Martin joined the Newark Police Department. Dow and Tracy, along with another father/daughter duo made history and became the City of Newark's first father/daughter police officers in 1989. His daughter Teresa served as a Sr. Parole Officer for the New Jersey State Parole Board and his granddaughter Baneeshia

became a Sr. Correctional Police Officer for the New Jersey Department of Corrections. He has several other nieces, nephews and cousins that serve in law enforcement and public safety. Dow had an illustrious law enforcement career which spanned 36 years. He retired from the Newark Police Department in 1997. Dow maintained self and part-time employment post retirement after obtaining his private investigator's license and working for New Jersey Network.

Dow remained active with several organizations including the American Legion Guyton Callahan Post #152, Superior Officer's Association of Newark Police Dept., the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge # 12 and the Newark Bronze Shields, Inc., in which he was a former Vice President.

Dow accepted Christ as a young man and he personified authentic Christian values. He was benevolent, non-judgmental, faithful and loving. He ensured that his children were well rounded and spiritually competent. Dow was a prayer warrior and encouraged his children to pray about everything. He instructed them to sustain faith in the face of adversity. Most importantly, Dow taught his children that their personal relationship with God was of utmost importance.

Dow was known as a "Quiet Giant." His presence was felt long before a word was uttered. He commanded attention and respect. When he opened his mouth to speak, most were eager to listen. Dow's wisdom has carried generations through the best and worst of times. He often moved in silence performing acts of kindness that many will never know about. A humanitarian by nature, Dow was known to say "what's done from the heart needs no announcement." Dow was an icon in the eyes of his family and countless others. He will be remembered as a family man, a pillar of strength and a beacon of light. To experience Dow was to feel loved, accepted and seen.

Dow was preceded in death by his beloved wife and soulmate Frances Wright (nee Thomas), children Melvin, Nettie, Tracy and Dow Jr., grandson Willie, daughter-in-law Remender, siblings Irma, Edward, James, Vera, Corrine, Wilhelmena, Helen, Lois and Ella and Godson Nwabueze.

On February 14, 2022 Dow peacefully departed this earthly terrain with his family by his side. While he is sorely missed, we are comforted in knowing that he has earned his crown and is resting with our heavenly father. Dow leaves to cherish his memory two loving daughters Cynthia L. Brown and Teresa I. Wright-Johnson of Easton, Pa, one son-in-law Marvin L. Johnson of Easton, Pa, one sister Irene Wright-Morrison of Irvington, NJ, grandchildren Monique, Raheim, John, Baneeshia (David), Omar (MJ), William, Sharhea (Wali), Ashlee, Calvin, Typhany (Matt) and Terrell, 21 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, two sisters-in-law Shirley and Ruby Thomas, Godchildren Chimere, Derrick, Gwendolyn and Martha, and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

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