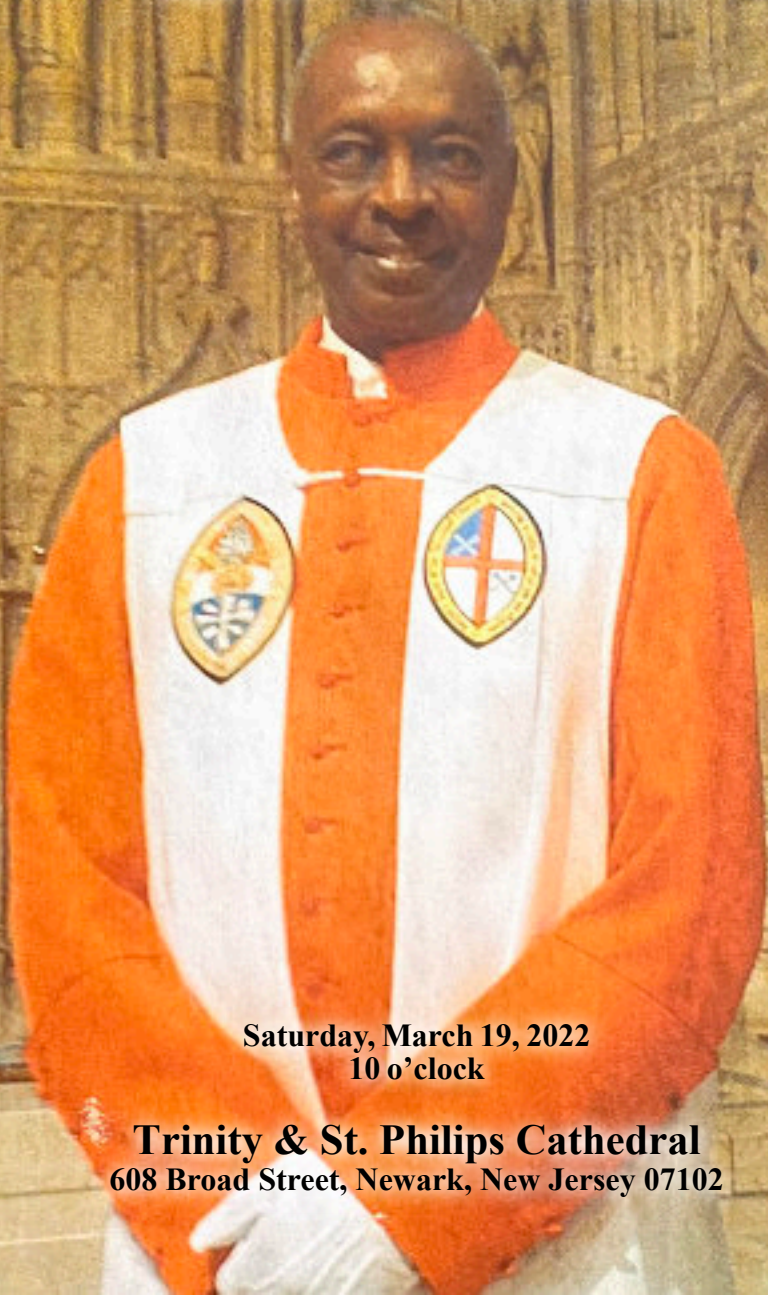


In Loving Memory of
THEOPHILUS
NATHANIEL THOMAS

August 2, 1934 - March 10, 2022



Saturday, March 19, 2022
10 o'clock

Trinity & St. Philips Cathedral
608 Broad Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102

Obituary

Theophilus Nathaniel Thomas, "Theo" as he was known to all, a lifelong Newarker, was born August 2, 1934. He departed this life on March 10, 2022, in Caldwell, New Jersey. Theo was the last survivor of ten children born to Virginia and Theophilus Thomas.

Theo married Jean Butler on August 3, 1963. From their blessed union were two children Melanie and Stephanie.

Theo, a product of the Newark Public school system, graduated from Central High School. Upon graduation, he was drafted into the United States Army where he served in Germany during Peacetime.

Later, he continued his education, becoming a Draftsman and was employed by Belmar Corporation for many years. He used his drafting skills to consult with several firms throughout the New York and New Jersey area. Later he obtained a position with Neptune Research, where he was trained in computer assisted designing (CAD). Where he later became Manager of Quality Control. In this position he inspected valves for medical use. Theo was admired and respected among his associates. He was committed to his profession as his tenure lasted over forty years until death.

Theo was an avid cricket player and could regularly be found at the cricket matches in Branch Brook Park. He was a proficient bowler, where he averaged 267 points per game. Theo enjoyed travel and visited Montreal, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, the Virgin Islands and Nigeria, Africa, and most of the United States. He was a major sports fan, rooting for the New York Giants and monitored Track and Field events. Theo spent his nights watching his favorite TV programs, Jeopardy and old Western movies.

Theo's life journey also led him to become a member of the Alpha Lodge Masonic Fraternal Organization in East Orange, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on October 26, 1983. Theo remained an active member.

Theo, was a cradle Episcopalian, baptized and confirmed at St. Philips Church (St. Philips merged with Trinity Cathedral). As a Son and a Keeper of the Cathedral, he served in many leadership roles including, Warden of the Vestry, Head Usher and President of the Men of Trinity. Theo became the First Fellow Verger of the Diocese of Newark, achieving Lifetime Membership of the Verger Guild of the Episcopal Church in September 2011. As Fellow Verger, he verged for numerous Bishops, including the current Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America, The Most Reverend Michael Curry.

After a long courtship, Theo married Dr. Theresa Hooper Marshall on February 14, 2015. Theo and Theresa enjoyed travel, fine dining, educating young people, and spending time with family and friends.

As the last surviving son of ten, Theo leaves behind his loving wife Dr. Theresa Hooper Marshall, his devoted daughter, Stephanie and son-in-law, Dr. Reginald Davenport, grandchildren Alexandria and William, step-daughter Erica, her husband Shoka Holmes, and grandchildren, Sierra, Amaya, and Cameron, along with many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his daughter Melanie Thomas and his siblings: Sidney, Estelle, Allen, Clarence, Rosalyn, Melvin, Helen, Robert, and Eva. He leaves behind a host of loving family, friends and co-workers of Neptune Research, Inc and especially Akos Sule, President and CEO.

Order of Service

Rite Two

Reception of the Body.....	BCP Page 491
Hymn-Blessed Assurance.....	LEV Page 184
Collect for Burial.....	BCP Page 493
Old Testament-Psalms 27:1-4 and 14.....	Brittany Woodson
New Testament-Romans 8:35-39.....	William Davenport
Solo.....	Valerie Bartlett

The Gospel

Hymn-Great is thy Faithfulness.....	LEV Page 189
Obituary.....	Dr. Reginald Davenport
Acknowledgements	
Solo.....	Kim Armstrong
Homily.....	The Rev. Dr. Michelle White
Apostle's Creed.....	BCP Page 496
Prayers of the People- Allen Thomas.....	BCP Page 497

The Peace

The Great Thanksgiving.....	BCP Page 361
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Holy Communion

Jazz Interlude	
Commendation.....	BCP Page 499
Hymn- It is Well With My Soul.....	LEV Page 188
Recessional	

The family would like to thank Verger's Guild of the Episcopal Church for their participation in the service today.

Interment
Fairmont Cemetery

620 Central Ave, Newark, New Jersey 07107

Million Man March Commemorative Poem

A Black Man

Do not look into my face
and see the color of my skin,
and not see the content of my character.

Do not look into my history
and see the darkness of my past,
and not see the brightness of my future.

Do not look at the losses of my mistakes
and not see the profits of my achievements.
Do not look at the distance I have yet to travel
and not see the origin from which I have come.

Do not look at the foolishness of my youth
and not see the wisdom of my older age.

Do not look at the poverty of my family
and not see the riches of its love.

Do not look at the child I once was
and not see the Black Man I have become!

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.

Professional Services Provided By

Clarence B Wright Funeral Home, Inc.

579 Grove St, Irvington, NJ 07111

Phone: (973) 374-7058





Precious





Memories





Memories





Precious

