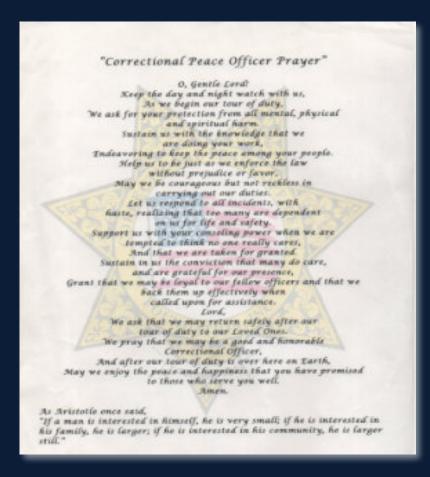
## Correctional Peace Officer Prayer





## Psalm23

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Heknowledgements

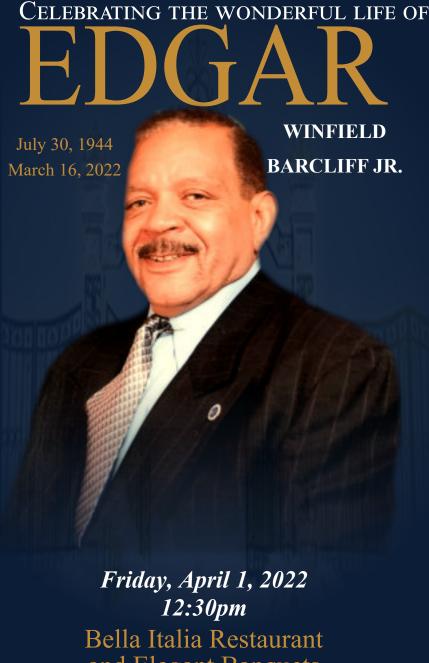
The Family of Edgar W. Barcliff Jr. wishes to express appreciation for your prayers, sustained friendship, love, kind thoughts and expressions of sympathy.

Professional Services by:

# Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Newark, New Jersey 07102 973-622-6872 Carolyn Whigham, Director





and Elegant Banquets

535 Central Avenue Orange, NJ 07050

## Edgar's Life Story

Edgar Winfield Barcliff Jr., beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, friend, and colleague was called home on March 16, 2022. Edgar Jr. was born in Newark, New Jersey on July 30, 1944, to Edgar Sr. and Helen. He was the oldest of their three children and had two sisters, Sandra (deceased) and Diane. He grew up in a warm and loving immediate and extended family, which included aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbors and many, many friends.

Edgar especially enjoyed spending time with his cousins — who affectionately referred to him as "Edgar-boy". No family gathering was complete without some sort of prank or good natured banter. He spent many childhood summers visiting the Barcliff homestead in Perquimans County North Carolina, forging tight bonds with family members there, which would sustain and center him throughout his life. His early upbringing was also marked by tight bonds with friends and neighbors from the South 19th Street community. These strong friendships formed the basis for how Edgar would establish community ties throughout his life.

In the early 1950s, Edgar was baptized at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Newark by Reverend Homer J. Tucker. He grew up with a strong and unwavering faith in God. He was active in church youth groups, and as an adult, participated in a number of service and outreach ministries under the pastoral direction of Reverend Dr. Granville Allen Seward.

A product of the Newark Public School system, Edgar attended Speedway Elementary School, Fifteenth Avenue School, Arts High School and graduated from Central Evening High School. He was a gifted visual artist, and was especially talented in portraiture and figure drawing. He had a great love of music and dance, never missing an opportunity to be the first person on the dancefloor. Edgar was a well-rounded young man. He participated in a young cadet program which would eventually influence his civic-mindedness and future career choice. He worked as a clerk in the grocery store next door to his home and other various jobs; it was the encouragement of the store owner and the influence of family members with established law enforcement careers that led him to take the examination to become an Essex County Correction Officer.

In 1962, Edgar's oldest daughter Wanda was born. He married Malcinia (former spouse) in 1966, and from that union they bore three children: Lori, Todd and Nicole. After living for a time on South 19th Street, they moved to Vailsburg where they built deep roots and expanded their close network of extended family and friends. He was the consummate host, entertaining for Christmas and Thanksgiving holidays, the Superbowl, birthdays, and any event that signified a

celebration of life. Edgar often recalled many fond memories of his Vailsburg neighborhood, including his children taking Easter pictures under the tree in their next door neighbors' backyard, barbecuing, making wine from a neighbors' crab apple tree, or just standing on his porch surveying the block. Edgar showed his love for his family and close friends in meaningful ways. Most memorable are annual trips to see 4th of July fireworks, Christmas lights during the holidays (which turned into a family disco), summer vacations in Wildwood, and food. Edgar loved to cook and eat; if he liked you, he fed you!

In 1970, Edgar began a long and accomplished career as a Correction Officer at the Essex County Jail in Newark. In 1986 he became the first Correction Officer in Essex County to receive the Officer of the Year Award. Edgar was the first Correction Officer from the State of New Jersey to be nationally ranked and recognized as one of the top five Correction Officers in the country. In 1990, Edgar completed a basic training course for Investigators at the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy and was appointed to the Internal Affairs Bureau as an Investigator. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1996, and became a Supervisor in the Internal Affairs division of the same Jail where he began his career.

Edgar was active in Newark's West Ward Civic Organization, and also received numerous awards and commendations from Federal, State, County and Municipal Agencies for his professional and community contributions. He retired in 2002 after more than 31 years of service and remained very active in several local and national law enforcement organizations, most notably the New Jersey Chapter of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), where he once served as a member for the Board of Trustees, and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) where he served as National Director and Vice Chairman. He was committed to supporting officers and their families.

Soon after retiring, Edgar relocated to the Dallas, Texas area, and in 2012 married Arvelia. He became a member of the Potter's House of Dallas under the ministry of Bishop T.D. Jakes. Ed – as he was affectionately called by his new community of friends – lived a comfortable retired life, traveling often and maintaining an active commitment to law enforcement organizations.

Edgar's wish was for his final resting place to be with his family in Newark, New Jersey. He was preceded in death by his sister, Sandra, father, Edgar Sr., his mother, Helen and brother-in-law, George Jr.. He is survived by his wife, Arvelia; his children, Wanda (Darryl), Lori (Fernando), Todd, and Nicole; his former spouse, Malcinia; sister, Diane; grandchildren, Amber, Kyle, Sebastian and Katherine; greatgrandson, Quincy; nephews, Alexander and George III; and a host of cousins, nieces and nephews and friends.

## **Honoring Edgar**

#### Welcome

Holly M. Seward

### **Opening Prayer**

Reverend Dr. Allen S. Potts

### **Old Testament Scripture**

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8
Alexander Quincy Jones

#### **New Testament Scripture**

1 Corinthians 15:50-57 George Edward Jones III

### **Photo Tribute: The Early Years**

#### Poem

Praise Song for the Day by Elizabeth Alexander Sebastian David Barcliff Baptista Katherine Nicole Barciff Baptista

#### Reflections

Family and Friends

#### **Edgar's Life Story**

Diane A. Barcliff Jones

#### Reflections

Family and Friends

## **Photo Tribute: A Life Well-Lived**

#### Acknowledgements

Lori Barcliff Baptista Todd Anthony Barcliff Nicole Elizabeth Barcliff

### **Sending Forth**

Reverend Dr. Valerie Marie Griffin