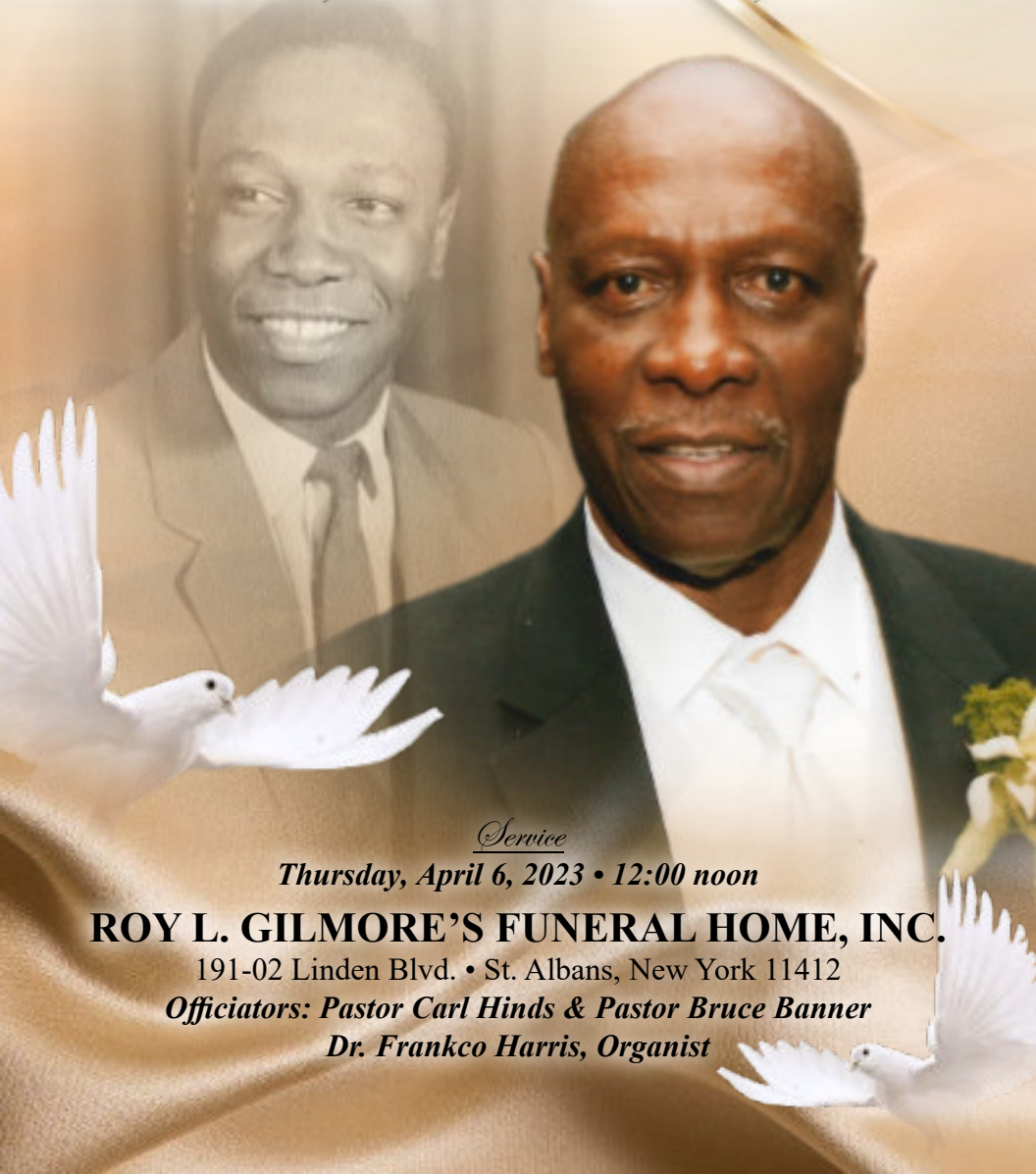


Celebrating The Life of
Dr. Victor George Bethune

Sunrise
March 4, 1936

Sunset
March 24, 2023



Service

Thursday, April 6, 2023 • 12:00 noon

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

191-02 Linden Blvd. • St. Albans, New York 11412

Officiators: Pastor Carl Hinds & Pastor Bruce Banner

Dr. Frankco Harris, Organist

Order of Service

Opening Prayer Pastor Carl Hinds

Introduction..... Pastor Carl Hinds

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament: Psalm 23 Oliver Elijah George Bethune (Grandson)

Josiah Alexander George Bethune (Grandson)

New Testament: John 16:22.....Dylan Olyvia Taylor (Granddaughter)

Prayer Of ComfortPastor Bruce Banner

Musical Selection..... Dana Holness

Reflections.....Dr. Winston Scott (Colleague and Friend)

Barry Holzer (Friend)

Barbara Roper (Friend)

Aileen Robb (Yvonne’s Cousin)

Russell Holness (Dana & Michael’s Cousin)

David Bethune (Son)

Acknowledgements..... Cadissa Osa-Yande (David’s Cousin)

ObituaryLynna Scott Carnegie (Friend)

Musical Selection..... Dana Holness

Eulogy Pastor Carl Hinds

Benediction Pastor Carl Hinds

Final Disposition
Fresh Pond Crematory
Middle Village, New York

Repast Immediately Following

Thomasina’s Catering Hall

205-35 Linden Blvd

Queens, New York 11412

Obituary

Victor George Bethune was born in Kingston, Jamaica, on March 4, 1936. Very early recognized as an exceptional student, his mother, then principal of an elementary school in Kingston Jamaica, allowed him to chart his own course. He matriculated at Kingston Technical High School at 10 years old, but even that was not challenging enough for him. At 13 years of age, he aced all 10 “Senior Cambridge” subject exams – thus graduating with the class that year and was awarded his high school diploma from Kingston Technical High School.

He attended and worked at the University of the West Indies in the physiology department for about four years and soon thereafter migrated to the United States of America to study chemical engineering at the Milwaukee Institute and physiology at Marquette University. He was awarded the Legislators’ Scholarship in 1959 as well as an Abbot Research Fellowship which was renewed from 1962 – 1973.

In 1965 Victor received a PhD in organic chemistry from Northwestern University in Chicago, IL. While at Northwestern he was awarded the Lubrizol Fellow Research Grant for three years and joined Esso Corporation that year in their research and development department. Out of that association came multiple patents some of which are still being used by ExxonMobil Corporation today.

After Esso, his interest in cancer research took him first to Mt. Sinai Hospital and then Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases both in NYC. He became a Research Associate there and in 1970 assumed the position of Director of the Biochemistry Department at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

He was single handedly responsible for the implementation of laboratory automation in both diagnostic enzymology and biochemical determinations which he introduced as the keynote speaker at the Technicon International Symposium in Frankfurt, Germany in 1974. On that trip he toured multiple other European cities assisting Technicon in their automation implementation. While at MSKCC, he initiated and developed the New York City lab certification chemistry technician exams which became the standard for all NYC hospitals. In 1973, he became Chairman of the Scientific Program Committee of the National Meeting of the American Association of Clinical Chemists, an organization of which he had been a long-term member.

Despite all his stellar achievements, he decided to change career paths and in 1975 he enrolled in medical school at New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark, NJ and graduated with his MD degree in 1979. An internship in Internal Medicine followed at St. Vincent's Hospital in NYC and he subsequently trained in ophthalmology at the prestigious Manhattan, Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital. After graduating from that program, he opened a private practice in ophthalmology in Brooklyn, NY which he maintained for almost 30 years.

He was a licensed physician in New York and board certified in ophthalmology with admitting privileges at Interfaith Medical Center, Woodhall Medical Center and Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn. In addition, he regularly operated at Manhattan, Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital where he also maintained admitting privileges.

Victor tirelessly volunteered his time and expertise and traveled with several groups – including the Caribbean Medical Mission to parts of the West Indies, South America, and Africa. Over the years he received multiple awards from many churches and community organizations for his talks and contributions to their health fairs and the like.

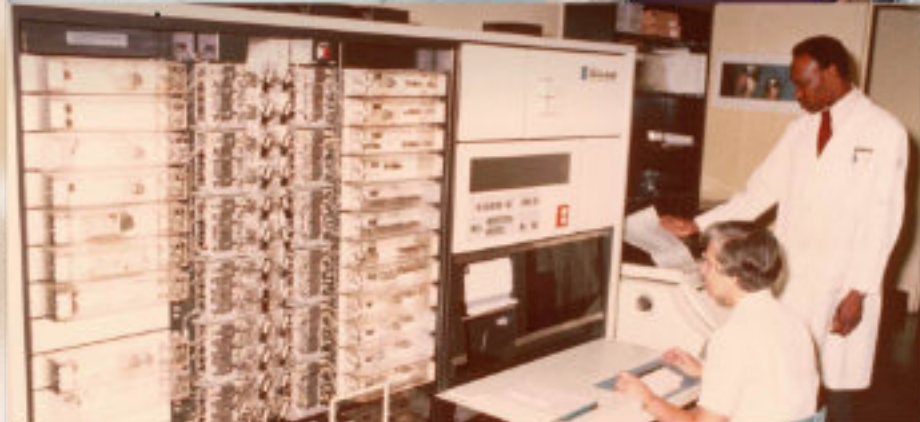
His leadership and exceptional intellect continued to be demonstrated and sought out by many including colleagues and corporations. The consummate teacher he continued to be pursued in and sought out as a lecturer nationally for many years.

Despite his declining health over the past several years, the vicissitudes of aging never diminished his gentle spirit, his unassuming nature or his warm smile.

Victor leaves to mourn his loss, his partner Yvonne Bourne, his sons and daughter David George (Lisa), Dana Marie (Darrin) and Michael George; his grandsons Oliver Elijah George, Josiah Alexander George, granddaughter Dylan Olyvia, as well as Ian Christopher (Meliza), Noel Emilio and Angel Christopher (Yvonne's son and grandsons) in addition to a long list of adopted aunts, nieces, nephews, grandnieces/ grandnephews, cousins, friends, and people whose lives he has touched. He was predeceased by his mother Mary Kelly, and his childhood best friend Dr. Keith O. Roper of Kingston and Chicago.

Death may end a life - but it will never end the love.







Personal Mention
BY KITTY KINGSTON *12/28/74*
VISITS RECENTLY
JAMAICAN PHYSICAL EDUCATION, Dr. Jeffrey H. Bellamy, Ph.D. visited his alma mater, the College of the Americas, attending the Board of Directors and a Research Association of the Department of Biochemistry at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.
During his visit he held important discussions regarding the future cooperation of cooperation in the medical laboratories in Jamaica with Drs. Dennis Walker and Eric DePaas of the Government Medical Laboratory, Dr. Robert Matthews of the University Hospital and Professor Louis S. Green of the Ministry of Health and Environmental Control.
Dr. Bellamy's research interest in the United States has been in the fields of diagnostic serology, immunological epidemiology and the use of leishmanial organisms as diagnostic tools in cancer.
Earlier this year, Dr. Bellamy was a keynote speaker at the Twelfth Annual International Symposium on Leishmaniasis, organized in Frankfurt, Germany and took the opportunity to visit several laboratories in other European cities.



Black Weald' and the arts



Weep Not For Me

*Weep not for me though I have gone
Into that gentle night
Grieve if you will, but not for long
Upon my soul's sweet flight
I am at peace, my soul's at rest
There is no need for tears
For with your love I was so blessed
For all those many years
There is no pain, I suffer not
The fear is now all gone
Put now these things out of your thoughts
In your memory I live on
Remember not my fight for breath
Remember not the strife
Please do not dwell upon my death
But celebrate my life*

Acknowledgements

When it seemed that our loss was too great to bear, we looked up and our friends were there; with flowers and cards, words written and spoken, with smiling faces and hearts open. We sincerely appreciate the thoughtfulness of our family and friends for their many acts of kindness, remembering in our hour of sorrow with many prayers, words, thoughts, deeds and all expressions of sympathy. Keep us in your prayers as we will keep you in ours.

God Bless. – The Family

Professional Services Provided By:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.



Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*

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