

Acknowledgements

PALLBEARERS

Stan Harris
Keith Coleman
Donald Duren
Farid F. Burks
Noah Spriggs
Russell Crawford

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Wendell C. Wray
Lance M. Wray
Troy A. Wray

FLOWER BEARERS

Nieces and Friends of the Family

REPAST

In the Eva Cook Fellowship Hall following the Interment

Services Entrusted to
Horton's Funeral Home
600 Kennedy Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011
202.829.9000



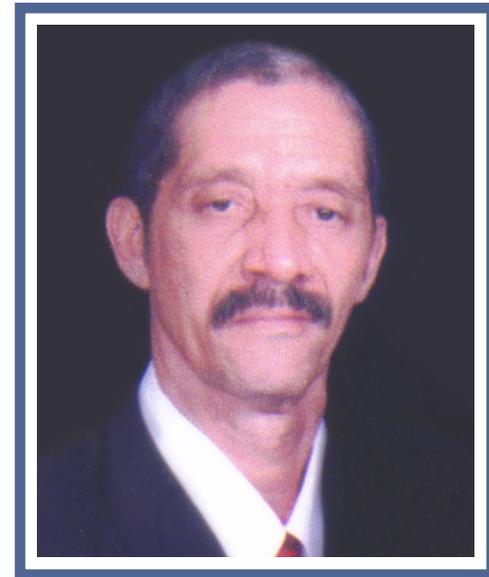
Our Appreciation to You

*Words are all we have and yet
they cannot express our sincere
thanks and gratitude for your
cards, flowers, visits, calls,
words of comfort, kind deeds,
and especially your prayers.
May God Bless each of you
for being His instrument
in showering such blessings
on our family.*

The Wray Family

Celebration of Life

Ernest Lee Wray



Sunrise Sunset
February 21, 1953 May 20, 2011

First Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church
602 "N" Street, NW • Washington, DC 20001

Thursday, June 2, 2011
10:00 A.M. - Viewing
12:00 Noon - Service

Rev. Raymond C. Bell, Officiating

Obituary



*A time to be Born.....*Ernest Lee Wray was born to the late Ernest Junior and Goldie Elizabeth Wray on February 21, 1953 in Bedford, Virginia. Ernest was the third of six children: Lamont, Ellison, Angela, Wendell, and Bart. Two of his siblings preceded him in death: Ellison and Wendell. As a young man Ernest gave his Life to Christ and was baptized at Peace Baptist Church in Northeast Washington, DC.

*A time to Build.....*Ernest was educated in the District of Columbia Public School System. He also attended Penn City College where he studied business which helped with his entrepreneurial ventures; one of which was a taxicab business. Ernest was well read. He could speak on almost any subject. At the time of his transition Ernest was employed by the Catholic Charities of Washington, DC, as a Residential Counselor.

*A time to Love....*Ernest's big heart, charming smile and charismatic manner, which showed in his walk, caught the eye of the young lady who later became his wife for thirty years: Trovonder Burks. He married his love, Trovonder, on Thanksgiving, November 25, 1982. Ernest was the father of four sons, Ernest, Jr., Wendell, Lance and Troy, whom he and his wife nurtured to manhood.

Ernest was a loving father who gave his sons advice when it was needed. Each of his sons had a special place in their father's heart. For many of his nieces and nephews Uncle Ernie filled the role of father. He was there to lend a helping hand, give a shoulder to cry on, and if needed, a "home away from home." Ernest loved to travel, play family games, and games of chance. Family and close friends were special at his home. Often when he walked out the door, he would turn, with that smile and say: "Shorty, I'll be back." Ernest had many friends, from many walks of life. If you were his friend, you were blessed.

*A time to Leave.....*Suddenly, oh, so suddenly; Ernest was plucked from our midst. On Friday, May 20, 2011 he departed this life. Ernie was gone. Daddy, granddad, our brother, Uncle Ernest, Uncle Ernie was no more.

*A time to Say Good-Bye...*Ernest leaves to cherish his memory: his loving wife, Trovonder; his children: Ernest, Jr. of Bowie, Maryland, Wendell (Traycee) of Silver Spring, Maryland, Lance and Troy of Washington, DC; two brothers and one sister: Lamont (Deborah) of Clinton, Maryland, Bart and Angela of Washington, DC; one sister-in-law: Tanwanda Spriggs; one brother-in-law: Donald Burks (Wanda); nine grandchildren: Rasheed Wray, India Wray, Keshawn Wray, Keon Wray, Wendell Wray, Jr., Kyndell Wray, Eric Stevenson, Delonie Bacon, and Camryn Wray; brother and sister of the heart: Melvin Copeland and Tanya Jones; three godchildren: Angela Crawford, Candice Crawford, and Jerrell Marshall; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who loved him and shared his life.



Order of Service

Rev. Raymond C. Bell, Officiating

Musical Prelude

Viewing

Final Glimpse

Invocation

Opening Hymn..... Gibson Gospel Singers

Scripture

Old Testament Psalm 23

New Testament St. John 14:1-10

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Reuben L. Taylor
Community of Hope Church
Washington, DC

Selection Men On A Mission

Acknowledgements & Condolences..... Ms. Barbara Jordan

Reflections Friends and Family

Selection Gibson Gospel Singers

Words of Comfort..... Ministers

Obituary (read silently, soft music)

Selection Men On A Mission

Message Rev. Anthony Motley

Invitation to Discipleship..... Rev. Raymond C. Bell, Pastor

Recessional

INTERMENT

*Washington National Cemetery
4101 Suitland Road
Suitland-Silver Hill, MD 20746*



To My Dearest Uncle

I want to say thank you for everything. You were an outstanding Uncle, mentally and emotionally. You always treated me like your own. I remember when you took me to the Father Daughter Dinner at Church. I will forever hold memories of you calling me "bighead" and always saying you love me. Until we meet again, I would like to say I love you. You will always hold a special place in my heart.

Your Niece, Shatara



A Letter To Pops

The sun rises and it sets according to the natural flow of life. In my years, Dad, you have been a constant reminder of strength and coolness. When I found out that your sun had set in this world, at first I wasn't sure how to feel. They always say, "be happy", because your loved one is in a better place. It helps, Dad, to think of you in a better place than this world. A place that has all the things you love.

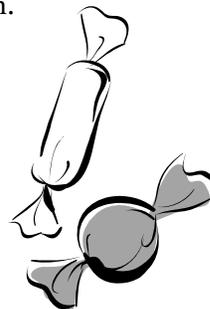
I remember how you taught me to drive when my feet couldn't reach the pedals, and how to toughen up when I needed to (LOL). I remember you making me and Troy scrape your feet; I don't think I will ever forgive you for that one Pops. But now all I can do is remember. Now you watch me as I make new choices, and make new memories without your famous side comments.

*Now I face a new chapter in my life, a chapter without you. We always joked and played together as father and son should, but there was so much more I wanted us to do. I know you were proud of me and I know that you know I love you. I just pray that you were satisfied with me, Dad, just you wait and see. I will make you the proudest father in there ever was. I will fill my pain with your memories, and drown my sorrow with your lame jokes. I mean, come on, who tells their son: "I'm gonna Marvin Gaye you"? You were definitely a character. So, Dad, kick your feet up and relax. I may not have had all the time I wanted, but we did have some funny times, didn't we? I will be okay, because I have you to silently guide me. I love you Dad. **-Lance***

Me and My Granddad

*My Granddad picks me up from school.
We stop and buy candy from the gas station.
We liked squirrel candy.
We stop at the playground.
He let me play a little.
We had lots of fun.
Dear, God, I hope you have fun
with my Grandpa too.*

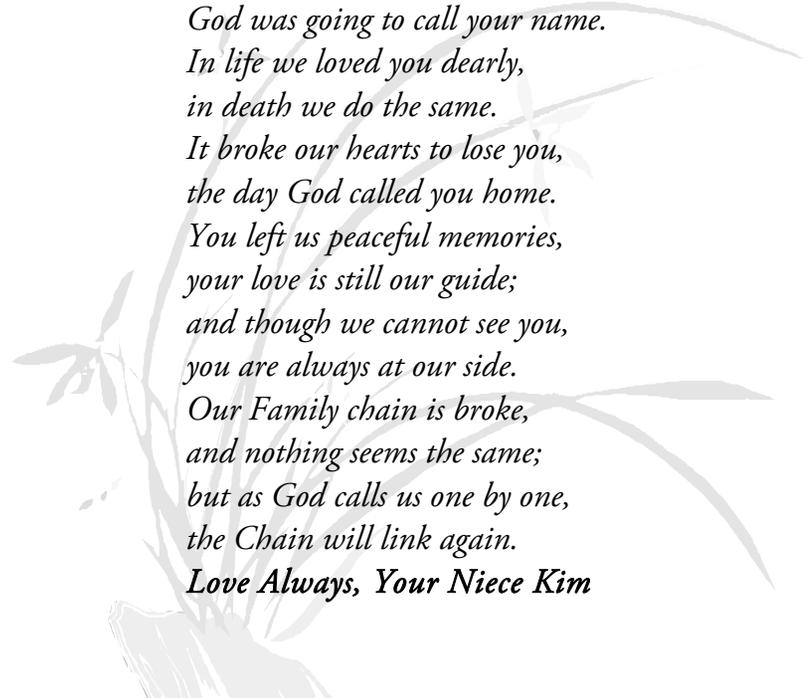
-Little Wendell





The Broken Chain

*We little knew that morning that
 God was going to call your name.
 In life we loved you dearly,
 in death we do the same.
 It broke our hearts to lose you,
 the day God called you home.
 You left us peaceful memories,
 your love is still our guide;
 and though we cannot see you,
 you are always at our side.
 Our Family chain is broke,
 and nothing seems the same;
 but as God calls us one by one,
 the Chain will link again.
 Love Always, Your Niece Kim*



Sometimes it's hard to understand
 why these things have to be,
 but we know there are reasons
 we often cannot see.....

We can only trust in God and know
 that in some way,
 it's all a part of His great plan,
 And we'll understand some day.

-Jocelyn

