

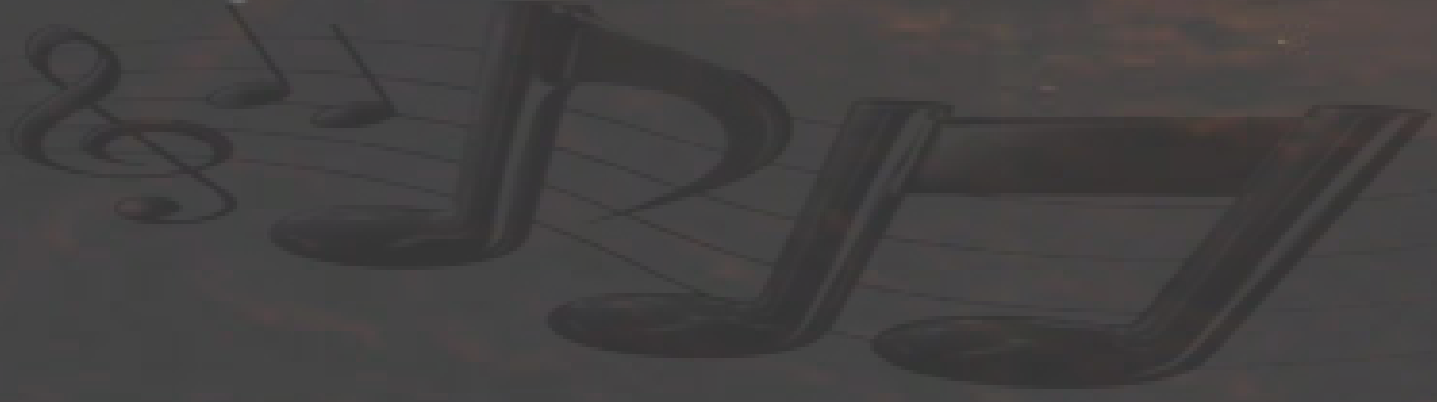
In Loving Memory

BOBBY'S
HAPPY HOUSE
RECORDS
Tapes, Accessories
301

Morgan "Bobby" Robinson

Sunrise
April 16, 1917

Sunset
January 7, 2011



Celebration of Life

Morgan Clyde Robinson, known as “**Bobby Robinson**,” was born on Monday, April 16, 1917. He entered eternal rest Friday, January 7, 2011, at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, NY. A native of Union, SC, he was the widower of Thelma Irick Robinson and the son of the late Tom Robinson and Minnie Sartor Robinson.

Bobby was a self proclaimed “country boy” who walked 12 miles to school and never missed one day. After graduating top of his class from Simms High School in Union, SC, and going to work on his family’s farm, Bobby discovered that country life was not for him. So he took off with only a few dollars in his pocket, eager to see what New York City had to offer. Things did not go exactly as planned when he arrived in New York. Not long after his arrival, Bobby was drafted into the U.S. Army to fight in World War II. Based in Honolulu, HI, Bobby was charged with entertaining his fellow troops. When Bobby noticed that most of the parties and activities were segregated, he and some of his buddies successfully set out to desegregate the nightly entertainment. It is believed that this is where Bobby discovered he had a flare for music. After saving nearly all the money he made while serving in the Army, Bobby returned to New York with big plans. On August 14, 1946, he opened **Bobby’s Record Shop**.

Bobby Robinson was the first African American to own a business on 125th Street. He went on to become one of the first African Americans to own independent record labels and his own music distribution, which is the model in today’s music world. He developed record labels such as: Fire, Whirlin Disc, Front Page, Fire and Fury, Red Robin Records, and Enjoy. He gained worldwide recognition for his first number one hit Kansas City recorded by Wilur Harrison in 1959. Bobby went on to record great music with artists such as: Elmore James, The Channels, King Curtis, Lee Dorsey Jackie the Starlights and Gladys Knight and the Pips. Later on in his music career, Bobby become intrigued with a new form of music called Rap. Under his Enjoy Record label, Bobby went on to record and produce the second Rap record, launching the careers of artists like, Grand Master Flash and the Furious Five, The Disco Four, Master Don Committee, Doug E. Fresh, Spoonie G and Kool Moe D. His music is kept relevant today with samples used by artist like R. Kelly, Jay-Z and Mariah Carey. He was a pioneer in music production, recording music in genres from Doo Wop, Blues, R&B to Hip Hop.

Bobby received great joy in spending time with people but he especially loved his family. A father figure to many, he never judged those who were upon hard times. He choose to engage and encourage with his comforting spirit and his words of wisdom. This was truly his joy.

Preceding him in death were his infant son, Morgan Robinson, Jr., as well as his two brothers, Danny and John Robinson.

Precious and cherished memories remain with those he loved dearly. Survivors include: a **daughter**, Cheryl Benjamin of New York; a **sister**, Minnie Stewart of Detroit; two **grandchildren**, Lanise Benjamin and Lionel Benjamin of New York; and five **great-grandchildren**, LaQuasha, Larell, Lavell, Lanaiya and Logan; Long time **companion**, Beatrice Davis; four **nieces**, Pat, Brenda, Susan and Frieda; seven **nephews**, Bobby, Tommy, Bill, Gerald, Wayne, Poochie, Ronnie, Spoonie and Spanky; and a host of great-grand nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

Thursday, January 13, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.

UNITED HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

2320 8th Avenue • New York, New York

*Apostle H.M. Swaringer, Officiating
Min. Tyrone Robinson, Organist*

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Eulogy Apostle H.M. Swaringer

Selection

Committal

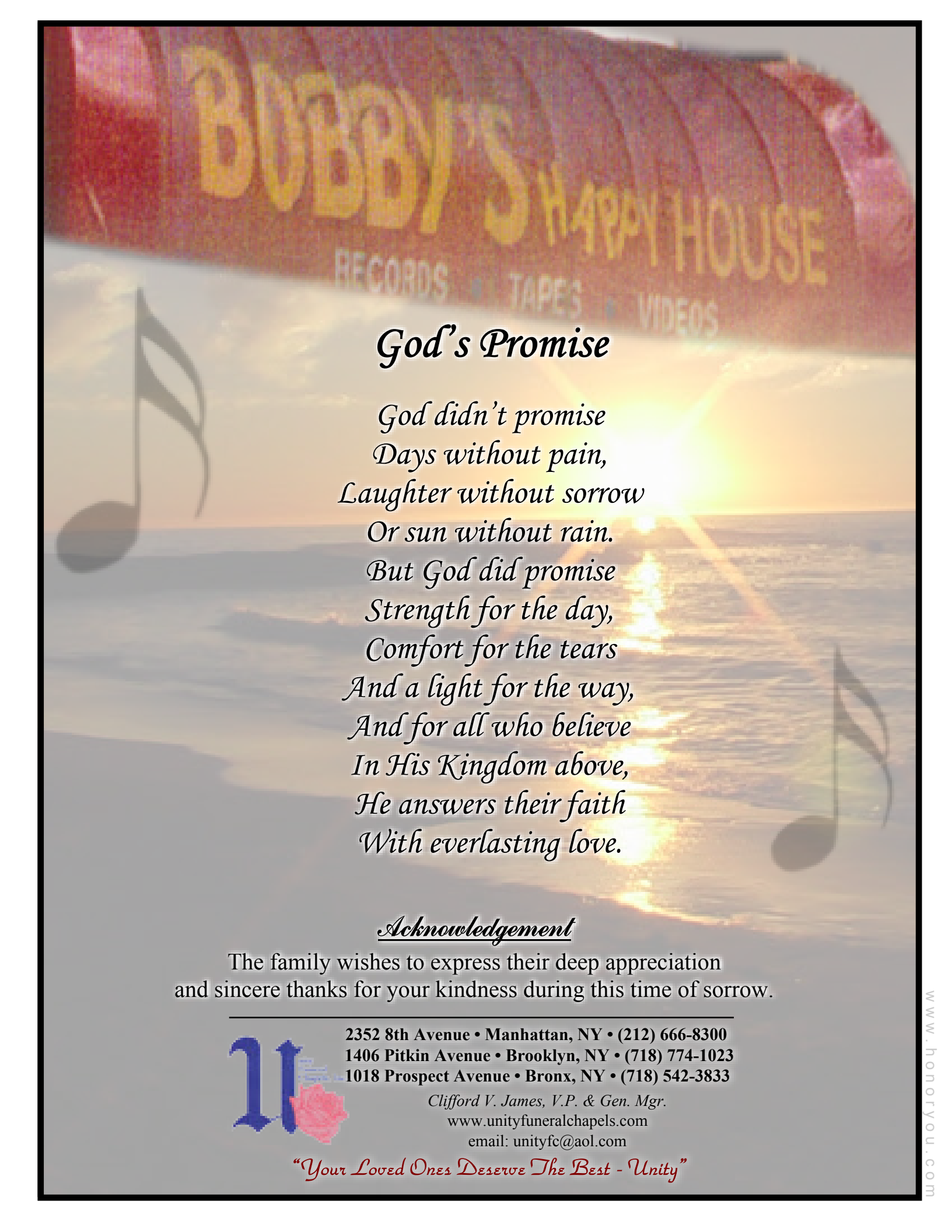
Viewing

Recessional

Interment

*Woodson Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery
Union, South Carolina*



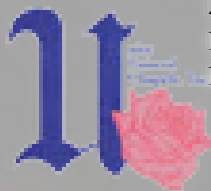


God's Promise

*God didn't promise
Days without pain,
Laughter without sorrow
Or sun without rain.
But God did promise
Strength for the day,
Comfort for the tears
And a light for the way,
And for all who believe
In His Kingdom above,
He answers their faith
With everlasting love.*

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness during this time of sorrow.



2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300
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Clifford V. James, V.P. & Gen. Mgr.
www.unityfuneralchapels.com
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