

Celebrating the Life of
Mr. Franklin Roosevelt Grant

Sunrise
November 18, 1936

Sunset
May 26, 2011



HomeGoing Celebration

Saturday, June 4, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

303 W 153rd Street
New York, New York

Reverend Kris Erskine, Pastor

“To God Be the Glory”

Obituary

Franklin Roosevelt Grant, the youngest child of the late Alexander and Hyatt Grant was born on November 18, 1936 in Garnett, South Carolina. On Thursday, May 26, 2011, he quietly slipped away into eternal rest.

Franklin (affectionately called “Pop-Pop”) attended Estill Public Schools in the township of Garnett. He accepted Christ at an early age. As a teenager, he began singing gospel music with a popular elder quartet ensemble on Garnett’s local radio station. They ministered to the residents of Garnett with their smooth southern harmonizing style of singing. At the time of the quartet’s conception, Franklin was the youngest member. The founder, Frankie Gadson, tenderly took him under his wing where he nurtured and helped him develop his personal style of quartet singing.

In 1955, at the tender age of twenty-one, he met the love of his life, the former Ruth Wilson. They courted for two years before he asked the seventeen year old beauty to become his bride. One wintry Saturday morning on December 15, 1957, they stood arm in arm on the front porch of her parent’s house uniting and remaining in holy matrimony for fifty-three blissful years. In March of 1958, they migrated to New York City. From this union seven children were born. Throughout his lifetime Franklin worked multiple jobs to provide for his large family. His janitorial engineering skills kept him employed for many years. He adored his wife and children who were the loves of his life. He found joy in making his family squeal with laughter whether imitating the latest dance steps or impersonating an R&B singer. He was an outstanding cook and loved watching all types of television westerns.

He later joined Bethany Baptist Church in New York City, under the leadership of Rev. Elijah Bennett. There he served as a faithful member on the Deacon Board, Male Chorus and the Mass Choir. One of his favorite songs he loved to lead was “Ride This Train” by The Canton Spirituals. Though he was an avid gospel concert attendee, he also appreciated some of the non-traditional gospel songs such as Kirk Franklin’s “Smile.”

During his lifetime, Franklin firmly believed that you must prepare yourself to become a servant for Christ. In that regard, he regularly attended Sunday School and Bible Study. His amazing spirit continued to shine and he often stated that his greatest joy came from helping others.

On Thursday, May 26, 2011, Franklin heard the voice of our GOD saying, “Come home, my good and faithful servant. Your work is done. Come to rest in my arms, my child”. His departure from us was preceded by six siblings.

Having completed his life’s journey, Franklin leaves to rejoice in his victorious homegoing: his devoted wife, Ruth Grant; seven children, James (Lucille), Jeffrey, Diane (Carnell), Patricia, Robert, Michael and Mark (Sylvia); thirteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; two sisters, Anna Laura Jenkins of Hardeville, SC and Belle Bulter of Estill, SC; three sisters-in-law, Alberta Tarsher of Brooklyn, NY, Barbara Peeples of Estill, SC and Mildred Grant of Atlanta, GA; brothers-in-law, Gussie Heyward, Jr. of Estill, SC, Benjamin Wilson (MarthaAnn) of Corona, NY, Larry Heyward (Benita) of Estill, SC, J.C. Heyward (Elizabeth) of Charleston, SC and Rev. James Jenkins of Hardeville, SC; an adopted son, Richard James of Brooklyn, NY; and one extraordinary friend, James Jones of Bronx, NY; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Praise Be to God!

The Order of Homegoing Service

Verily, Verily I say unto you, he that heareth my word and believeth in him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall come into condemnation; but has passed from death unto life.

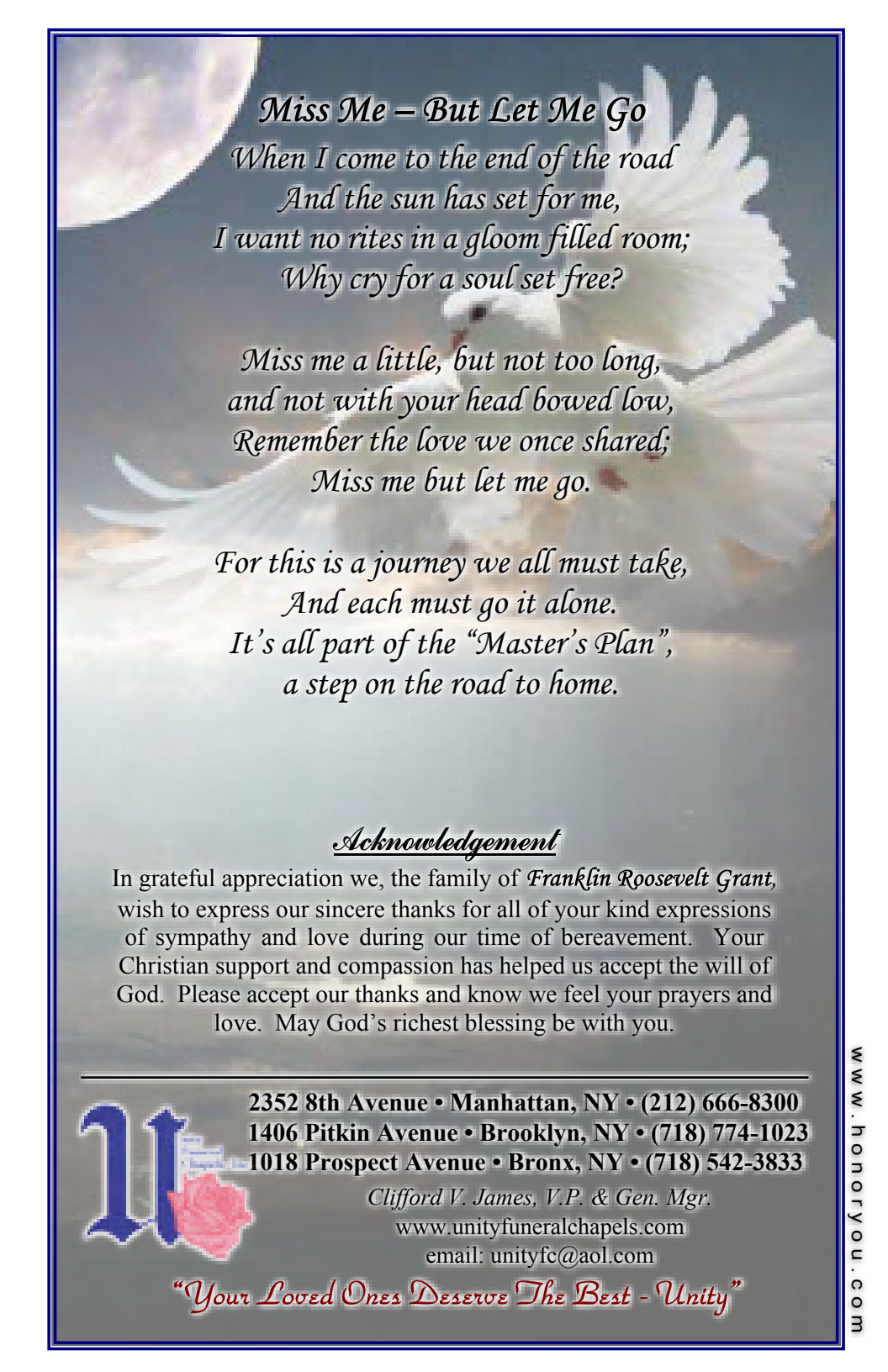
John 5:24

Officiant - Elder Carnell Richburg

The Organ Prelude	Minister of Music
The Processional	Clergy & Family
Scripture Reading	Rev. Lottie Scott Old Testament, Psalm 150 Rev. Evelyn Mayrant New Testament, 1 Cor. 15:51-58
Prayer of Comfort	Pastor Hosea Bankston
Selection	Male Chorus
Reflections	Robert Grant
Tributes of Love	Richard James & Diane Richburg
Local Church	Deacon James Jones
Selection	Male Chorus
Acknowledgments of Cards and Condolences	Donna Jones
The Reading of the Obituary	Patricia Grant
Solo	Deacon Theodore Copeland
The Eulogy	Pastor Kris Erskine Bethany Baptist Church
Benediction	Pastor Hosea Bankston
Recessional	

Interment

Mount Rest Cemetery
Butler, New Jersey



Miss Me – But Let Me Go
When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room;
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little, but not too long,
and not with your head bowed low,
Remember the love we once shared;
Miss me but let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take,
And each must go it alone.
It's all part of the "Master's Plan",
a step on the road to home.

Acknowledgement

In grateful appreciation we, the family of *Franklin Roosevelt Grant*, wish to express our sincere thanks for all of your kind expressions of sympathy and love during our time of bereavement. Your Christian support and compassion has helped us accept the will of God. Please accept our thanks and know we feel your prayers and love. May God's richest blessing be with you.

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