

Funeral Service for
Robert E. L. Brown

Sunrise
January 5, 1924

Sunset
July 20, 2012

A portrait of an elderly African American man, Robert E. L. Brown, wearing a dark cap, a white collared shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking upwards and to the left. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds and sun rays.

Service
Tuesday, July 24, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.
191-02 Linden Blvd.
St. Albans, New York 11412

Obituary

Brother Robert Edward Lee Brown, was born to the late Lorenzo Bernard Brown and Anna Belle Granger Brown on January 5, 1924, in Bartow, Florida. Robert was one of eleven children. His later father, Lorenzo was born into slavery in 1856 in Archer, Florida. The family lived in a house which was built by hand by Lorenzo Brown, he was a skilled craftsman. Today, that house has been preserved and is a national historic landmark. It is now called the L.B. Brown Home Museum. At the time of his death he was the sole surviving family member.

He attended Bartow High School. After high school, Robert migrated to New York City. Upon arriving to New York City he landed a job with the Pennsylvania Railroad as a Pullman Porter. He worked as a Pullman Porter for over twenty years, traveling around the country. As a Pullman Porter he acquired skills in food preparation and production. In addition as a Pullman Porter, he provided other services to the passengers traveling on trains. This was the time during the 20's, 30's and 40's where Americans traveled exclusively by railroad. Today in the city of Chicago they have opened a National Museum for all the original Pullman Porters. Robert Brown name is part of the registry. He retired from the Pennsylvania Railroad system.

In 1963, he was hired by the New York City Department of Correction. He held various positions, rising to the position of Director of Food Service Operations. In this capacity, he managed the food production process for the entire New York City prison system. In 1988, he retired after serving twenty-five years of outstanding distinguished service.

Robert was a devoted church member, where he attended Shiloh Baptist Church, in Harlem, New York. At Shiloh, he volunteered and operated their Soup Kitchen for the homeless. He also attended Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, in Hollis, Queens.

Robert is survived by: a godson, Byron Priester; and others he called his kids, "Oral Sandy, Chris Rampaul, Frantzy Bagnol and Lasandra Dogan". He also had many other neighbors and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture

Prayer of Consolation

Selection

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Viewing

Benediction

Recessional

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
Bartow, Florida

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

-author unknown

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By:

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