

Celebrating the Life of
Harvey Keyes

Sunrise

November 17, 1930

Sunset

December 14, 2012



Service

Thursday, December 20, 2012 - 12:00 Noon

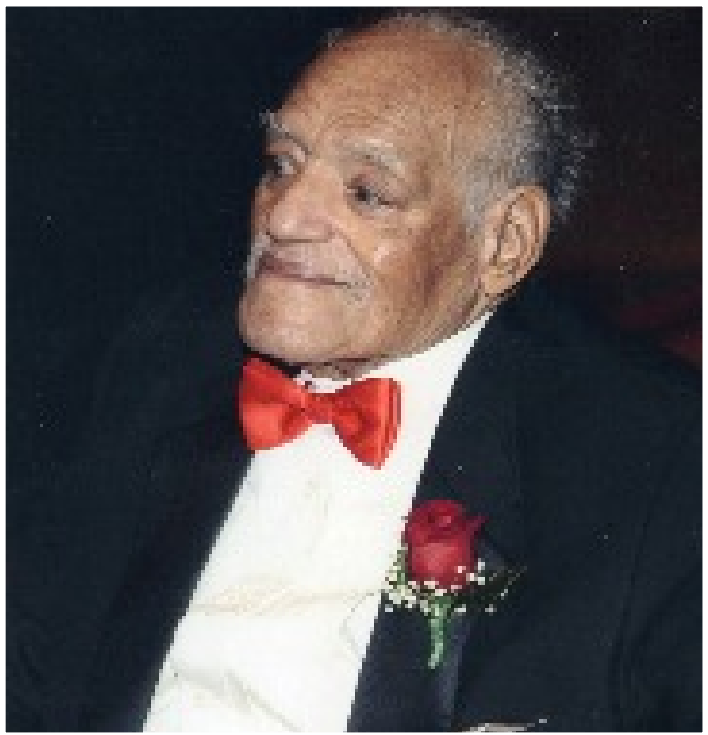
Park Avenue Christian Church Disciples of Christ

70 Park Avenue at Rev. Raiford S. Wheeler Plaza

East Orange, New Jersey

Rev. Harriet Wallace, Executive Pastor

Rev. Dr. Constance Eurall, Officiating



Keys To Life



Reflections of Life

Mr. Harvey Keyes was born on November 17, 1930, in Orange, New Jersey, to Leonard and Annie Keyes. Harvey grew up and attended the public schools of Newark and Orange. In 1949, he graduated from Kingston High School, in Kingston, New York—where he was an outstanding football star! For a short time, after graduation from High School, Harvey attended Wilberforce University on a football scholarship. He later decided to join the Military and enlisted in the United States Air Force where he represented his Country as a member of its famous football team. He had the opportunity to travel throughout Europe playing the sport he loved and was honored to be a member of this famous team of undefeated champions. After his tour of duty, Harvey met and married Jane Williams and from this union there were three daughters: JoAnn, Robin and Stacey. Jane expired in 1987.

Harvey began his career working as a counselor at the Essex County Youth House in Newark, New Jersey where he developed a passion for guiding and directing troubled youth and eventually became its Executive Director. Feeling the need to further his education, Harvey enrolled in and graduated from Seton Hall University and received a bachelor's degree in social work. After many years at the Youth House, Harvey retired. Not being one to let grass grow under his feet, he came out of retirement and was employed as an Administrative Assistant to the County Executive. He also worked for a short time with DYFS, was later employed as a Social Worker at Northern State Prison, and once again retired in 1997.

Harvey had a wealth of friends and was well liked and greatly respected by many. He met no strangers and was a pillar in the community and in the hearts of many. He devoted his time, effort, energy, and funds to a myriad of organizations and causes; Harvey helped and could be counted on when needed—even if he was not asked. He was a man with insight and a man of conviction.

Dedicated to Christianity, Harvey was a faithful member of the Park Avenue Christian Church for over 50 years. There, he was a Deacon, a member of the finance committee, and member of the Seasoned Saints. His fellowship was a key element in his life and to his persona.

Our beloved Harvey was a revered leader and a member of several organizations, all of which were dear to him. He was a Past Commander of the American Legion Crawford Crews Post 251 in Montclair, New Jersey; a past member of The Men of Essex, and he also served on the Board of Directors of the West Side Unit of the Boys & Girls Club of Newark. Along the way, rather than acquaintances, Perry met and maintained friendships that would last a lifetime. He valued and appreciated his friendships.

On July 14, 2000, Perry married his best friend, companion, and soul mate, Shirley Bergman-Thomas. She was his sweetheart, confidant and faithful servant to the end. Perry knew that he could always count on Shirley. Perry and Shirley were both retired from work, but not from socialization. Together, they frequently traveled, socialized with family and friends, and attended many events. Their life together was one life that was industrious and filled with love. They truly adored each other and loved spending quality time together.

Harvey was a bighearted man with a gentle coolness. He loved jazz, was an avid sports buff, and enjoyed spending time at the American Legion Post. That was his place to hang with his buddies—they loved to share and compare their military accolades! Harvey was a man's man. He was a man of distinction, wore many hats, and had a great sense of humor—his quick wit and delivery was charming! He was a mighty man who loved and protected his dear wife, adored his children and his granddaughter. Harvey, who was affectionately known as “Perry” by his wife and children, was a good husband, a good father, and a good grandfather. Harvey led a full, productive, illustrative, and exemplary life. He was much adored and touched and made differences in the lives of many.

On December 14, 2012, after fighting a long battle, our loving Saviour called his worthy soldier home. To say that Harvey “Perry” Keyes will be missed is an understatement! Although Perry is gone, he will live on in our hearts and we will undoubtedly treasure those fond memories that we have of him for a lifetime.

Mourning his loss and left to cherish his memory and love are his beloved wife Shirley, his loving daughters, JoAnn Woods, Robin, and Stacey, his special granddaughter, Amani Janè Keyes-Fortson, and his sister, Dorothy Brown, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Order of Service

Organ Preludeby Emory Lee

Processional

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Musical Selectionby Emory Lee

Remarks/Reflection..... (please limit to 2-3 minutes)

Acknowledgements/Reflections

Obituary(read silently)

Musical Selectionby Emory Lee

EulogyRev. Harriett Wallace, Executive Pastor

Closing Prayer

Recessional



Interment

Rosedale Cemetery
Orange, New Jersey



Harvey

*He never looked for praise
He was never one to boast
He just went on quietly working
For those he loved the most
His dreams were seldom spoken
His wants were very few
And most times his worries
Were unspoken too—
he did not complain
He was always there....
A firm foundation
Through all of our storms of life
A sturdy hand to hold on to, shoulder to cry on
In times of stress and strife
A true friend we could always turn to
Whether times were good or bad, happy or sad
One of our greatest blessings was
The man that we affectionately called "Perry" was a
Loving husband, father and Granddad.*

Original written by Karen K. Boyer

edited by *SM*

In Appreciation

The family acknowledges with sincere appreciation the many kind deeds and comforting expressions extended to them during the illness and passing of Harvey.

Special Thanks

*Mountainside/Hackensack Medical Center Staff, Cardinal Medical Transportation, Montclair Drifters, Park Avenue Christian Church
Disciples of Christ, Friends, neighbors, and colleagues.*

Professional Services Provided By

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