
“Well Done Good and Faithful Servant”

In Loving Memory of



Deacon William Branch

Sunrise

November 22nd, 1937

Sunset

December 22nd, 2012

Service

Saturday, December 29, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.

MORNING STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

114-44 Merrick Blvd.

Jamaica, New York

Rev. Walter S. Thompson, Jr., Officiating

Obituary

On Saturday, December 22nd, 2012, while surrounded by his family, the angels of heaven descended. **Deacon William Branch** was his chosen one and he left this earthly home, climbed Jacob's ladder and went home to be with the Lord.

William was born in Bamberg, South Carolina to the late Sammie and Jessie Branch on November 22nd 1937. He was the eldest son of eight children born from this union. William attended Elementary School in South Carolina. After moving to New York in 1947, he went to Intermediate School and later attended Franklin K. Lane high School in Brooklyn, New York. William had inherent abilities in mechanics, plumbing, electrical work and technology and also earned a number of certificates from schools through-out the 5 boroughs.

William met the love of his life and on June 27th, 1959, he was joined in Holy Matrimony to Deaconess Ocie Branch. From that union four children were born. They were blessed beyond riches and were married for fifty-three years. William was the husband and father that every family dreams of and the type of man often depicted in novels about the great men of history. He believed that a true man was supposed to work hard, provide for his family, build a stable foundation and always walk with strength and dignity.

William started his career at Singer during his late teenage years and worked in machinery for over twenty years before the business moved to North Carolina. Afterwards, he began a career at Trans World Airlines (TWA) in operations and maintenance where he worked for over twenty-five years until his retirement. William also took on a part time position at Morning Star as the church custodian in 1965. He took pride in making sure the sanctuary and physical appearance of the church was well kept at all times. If you ever needed to locate William, you knew that he could always be found somewhere on the church grounds, regardless of the day or hour. He labored there for over forty-five years and only retired due to health issues.

William accepted Christ at an early age at Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. He later moved to Queens and joined Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church in Jamaica where he retained his membership until he passed.

William was a faithful member of Morning Star and became an ordained deacon on July 30th, 1967 under Reverend Harvey E. Pasley. He was blessed to have served under Reverend Charles E. Betts as well as the present shepherd of this house, Reverend Walter Silva Thompson Jr. William took his calling as a Deacon and Trustee very seriously. He served as Chairman of the Deacon Board for over fifteen years. He was a faithful worker and was obedient to God's calling to visit, serve and commune the sick. He lived under the premises that if you respect others, then you should always be respected in return. He always spoke his mind and there was never any mis-interpretation of words because he was always known to "tell it as it is". His keen wit and uncompromising ability to always do things the right way, won him much admiration and respect.

His life will be remembered by: his wife, Ocie Branch; his children, Kevin Branch, Queens, NY; daughter, Renae Green (Curtis Green) Queens, NY; Arnold Branch, Queens NY; Donald Branch (Juno Branch) and Toby Hanna, Pennsylvania; his grandchildren are Travis Chireau, Gavin Branch, Kayla Branch and Casey Green. He had four brothers who preceded him in death: Herman, Earnest, Herbert and Charles Branch; two sisters, Sammie Lee Johnson and Florie Mills; sister-in-law, Mary-Ann Branch. He leaves to cherish his memories: one brother, James Branch of Wilson North Carolina; three sisters, Connie (Dessie) Matthews of Brooklyn, New York, Clara Jones of Bamberg, South Carolina and Dr. Maxine Nixon (Bobby) of Brooklyn, New York; sister-in-law, Gloria Jones, Queens NY; He leaves one aunt, Dehlia Johnson of Brooklyn, NY; one great uncle, Jake Irby of Queens, NY. He leaves a host of family including nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Lovingly Submitted,
The Family

Order of Service

Processional

Hymn of Comfort “Blessed Assurance”

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - (Psalm 8:1-9) Min. Donald Gums

New Testament - (1 Corinthians 13:1-13) Min. Rosetta Glenn

Prayer of Consolation.....Dr. Maxine Nixon

Choir Selection Mass Choir

Tributes & Expression of Love (2 min) Family and Friends

Solo.....Portia Lawson

Acknowledgements & Condolences.....Church Clerk

Obituary Tamika Jones

Solo Crystal Smith

Eulogy..... Rev. Walter Silva Thompson Jr.

Viewing and Recessional

Interment

Springfield Cemetery
Springfield Gardens, New York

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:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.

Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*

Ph (718) 529-3030 • (718) 528-7765

Fax (718) 712-2108 • (718) 528-2575

Email: royl.gilmorefuneralhome@verizon.net

MAIN OFFICE

191-02 Linden Blvd.

116-53 Sutphin Blvd.

St. Albans, L.I., NY 11412 Jamaica, L.I., NY 11436









