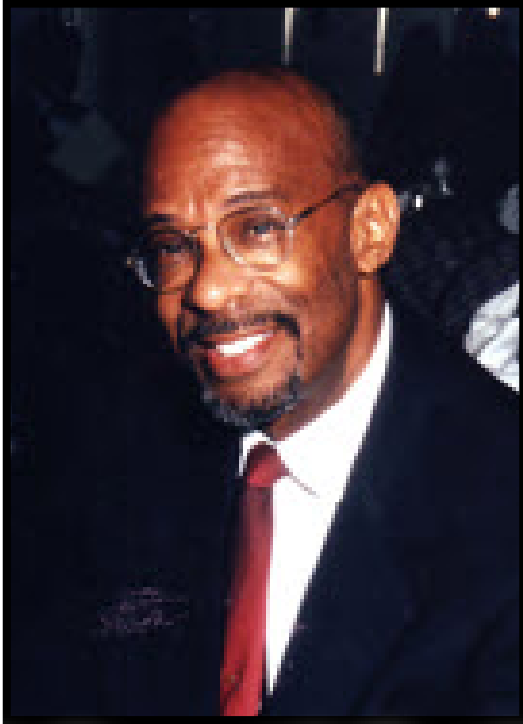


*Service of Thanksgiving
And
Celebration of the life of*



William H. Griffith

October 14, 1943 – December 23, 2013

Tuesday, December 31, 2013 - 10:00 AM

New Hope Baptist Church

144 Norman Street

(Corner of Norman and Prospect Streets)

East Orange, New Jersey

The Reverend Dwight Gill

The Essence of Me

*Do not follow my hearse with a sense of grief
Do not come to my grave with sorrow
But recall the mirth that was mine from birth
And remember my love of tomorrow*

*Come rise with my soul and hear with me
The music and laughter of the years,
Celebrate and share my freedom from pain
And moisten that smile with your tears*

*Sense joy and relief as I flee this frame
Know that there is an end to the madness
So sing a happy song and dance with me
And let our spirits rejoice with gladness*

*My blessings were many. My life has been long
The good fruit were abundant my friend
So join my family in a thanksgiving song
And understand that peace comes at the end*

*Do not follow my corpse with pangs of grief,
Don not come to my grave with your sorrow
But recall with glee the essence that was me,
And look around for my smile tomorrow*

~WHG

January 2, 2002



Reflections of Life

William Howard Mansergh Griffith, MD, MBA, born October 14th 1943 died December 23rd 2013 at the age of 70 in his Warren, New Jersey home surrounded by his family.

Dr Griffith was born in the British West Indies island of Nevis, October 14, 1943 to mother Henrietta Erma and father Mansergh Frederick Griffith. He was known by his closest friends as 'Griff' and 'Snowbees'.

The second oldest of four siblings, Howard lived his formative years in Nevis, St. Kitts and Trinidad where he completed his secondary education. After working for a few years in Trinidad, he went on to study medicine at the Mona campus of the University of the West Indies in Jamaica, where he met his wife to be and life long partner, Jill Aubrey Bannister. Howard and Jill had their first child in April of 1974, T Kimani Mansergh.

After graduating from The University of West Indies Medical School, Howard immigrated to the US with his young family in 1974, and became an intern at the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He stayed at the College of Medicine and Dentistry for his residency, which he completed in June of 1977, one year after the birth of his daughter, Vater Anika.

After his residency he did his fellowship training in nephrology at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, New Jersey. Upon completion of his fellowship in 1980 Howard became a member of the medical staff of Beth Israel Hospital as well as East Orange General. He partnered with Dr. Howard Frankel at Millburn Nephrology and practiced for thirty years.

Howard throughout his life touched the lives of many through his friendship and counsel. Many relied on and turned to him for guidance and advice on a variety of life's events both personal and professional. He volunteered himself as a mentor to a number of individuals of all ages and backgrounds. He had a natural ability to listen and provide a perspective that offered valuable guidance, encouragement and motivation even if it wasn't what the other person wanted to hear.

He was very active in his community service. He supported and participated in programs for battered women and young fatherless men through the Division of Youth and Family Services.

He volunteered at the East Orange Health Department reviewing charts and participating in projects that focused on the prevention of chronic diseases. He taught several outreach classes on prostate cancer, emphasizing the need for men to have regular check-ups, and joined the outreach efforts of the American Kidney Foundation providing assessments for individuals at risk for kidney failure. All these things he did in an effort to improve the health and welfare of the community he was truly committed to serve.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Jill - BS MBA retired, son, Kimani - Veterinarian, daughter, Anika - Attorney, brothers, Paul and John, sister Vater, daughter-in-law, Shanthini, granddaughters, London and Aubrie Meera, nieces Anasa, Onika and Arianne, nephews, Cheo, Jamal and Kareem, mother and father-in-law, Lawrence and Joyce Bannister and numerous other relatives, friends and colleagues. He will be greatly missed and never forgotten.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude..... Organist

ProcessionalClergy

Pastoral Remarks..... Rev. Dwight Gill

Hymn “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Scripture:

Old Testament - Psalm 8Paul Griffith

New Testament - 1 Corinthians 15: 51-58

Prayer of Comfort:.....Cheo Vidal

O Lord, our God, we come to you in this hour in the confidence of our faith that our dear friend, William Howard Griffith is at peace and at rest with you. So we pray now, not for him, but for his wife, his children and their families, his brothers and sister and their families, for other family members and dear friends, all who remain and carry the pain of his loss. Our sorrow is not hid from you; you know the depth of our pain and you know the weakness of our frame. You are ever there to watch over us and you are always ready to hear our prayers. And so, Oh Lord, we pray this day that you will send your Comforter, your Holy Spirit to surround us with your love and grace. When the pain of grief and loss would overtake us, may we hear the whisper of that still small voice saying to us, “Peace be still”, “Be still and know that I am God”.

To you be all glory and honor; Amen.

Solo “Wind Beneath My Wings” - Dahlia Vertreese

Remarks:..... Community - Rev. Arnold Foxx, Chaplain,

East Orange General Hospital

Professional - Dr. Valentine Burrows, Chief Medical Officer,

East Orange General Hospital

Dr. Trevor Atherley, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Mentee - William Michael Barbee

Hymn “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Family Remarks. Keith Cunningham, Leon Dick, John Griffith, Anika Griffith

EulogyKimani Griffith

Hymn “The Old Rugged Cross”

Poem..... Anika Griffith

HomilyRev. Dwight Gill

BenedictionRev. Dwight Gill

Acknowledgements

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown during our time of bereavement.

Recessional

Hymn “Soon and Very Soon We Are Going to See The King”

Cremation

Private

Pall Bearers

Kimani Griffith

Paul Griffith

John Griffith

Leon Dick

Keith Cunningham

William Michael Barbee

Hughes Dougan

The Request

*Please don't say that I gave up, just say that I gave in.
Don't say I lost the battle, for it was God's war to lose or win.*

Please don't say how good I was, but that I did my best.

Just say I tried to for what's right,

To give the most I could, not less.

Don't talk about what could have been

No need to mourn and cry for me.

I finally have peace and contentment

I've been healed of my pain and wisdom

Don't just remember good times,

But remember also the bad.

For life was full of many things.

Some of it happy and some of it sad.

But if you must do something,

Then I have one request

I want you to love and forgive one another

As GOD has loved all of us the best.

***Instead of flowers please consider a donation in memory
of Howard to one of the following.***

Request that acknowledgement be sent to:

Jill Griffith, 10 Crown Dr, Warren, NJ, 07059

*The NBIMC Cohen Cancer Center, 201 Lyons Ave, Newark
NJ. Donation can also be made on the website*

newarkbethfoundation.org.

Click on "make a donation"

*The American Cancer Society, PO Box 22718,
Oklahoma City, OK, 73123 – 1718*

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

130 Main Street

Orange, NJ

973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street

Newark, NJ

973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME

37 Clinton Avenue

Jersey City, NJ

201-433-1000

