

*In Loving
Memory
of*



Matthew Ellis Spady

Sunrise

January 18, 1925

Sunset

May 24, 2014

Service

Sunday, June 1, 2014 - 2:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Matthew Ellis Spady, was born on January 18, 1925 in Cape Charles, Virginia. He was one of fourteen children born to the late Benjamin and Sarah Beckett Spady. He passed away quietly on May 24, 2014. Matthew grew up and was educated in the Northampton Public School System in Virginia.

In the early 1940's, Matthew moved to New York City and on August 3, 1945, he married Pauline Wilson. From that union two daughters were born, Brenda and Denise. They remained together forty-eight years until her death in 1993.

Matt was a hard worker and in the early 1960's, he decided to branch out on his own to become one of the few black business owners at that time. As a beverage distributor he had a client base from the City of New York to Northern New Jersey. He faithfully distributed to his clients until his retirement. He was known all over as "Spady" or "Soda Man" to his beloved customers.

Matt loved baseball and frequented ballparks in his spare time with his family. Matt's wife and his grandchildren were his traveling companions and he took all of them on vacations every summer. They lovingly called him "Daddy" Matt and he was exactly that. He loved his family and friends and was never tired of visiting them. For fifty-one years, he resided at Franklin Plaza Apartments and during that time he was loved by many neighbors and friends.

Matt encouraged greatness from his family and he did not allow anything less than greatness. He was known to say "A Man that does not work to feed and care for his children... will never be respected", "It does not cost to be nice to people", and his most famous quote, "Be the best at whatever you are going to do in life".

Matt leaves to cherish his memory: Brenda Lashley and Denise Gunnell; his eight grandchildren, Rhonda, Paula, Deana, Cortrell, Ronald, Jr., Shartece, Elyse (Harold) and Latisha; ten great grandchildren, Angela (Devon), Ronald III, Brenden, Demond, Jada, Bria, DeRyan, Daven, Kaylin and Sean; two great-great grandchildren, Taylor and Devon, Jr.; a brother, Thadbert Spady; a sister, Ophelia Chavis; two sisters-in-law, Louise Smith and Erma Spady; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Final Disposition

Oxford Hills Crematory

Chester, 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

Acknowledgement

*The Family of **Matthew E. Spady** wishes to express their profound appreciation for the many expressions of support, love, and encouragement we received at this challenging time.*

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