In Loving Memory

Ronald Clarence Cope

Sunrise August 23, 1950

Sunset May 27, 2014

Wednesday, June 4, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

224 First Street • Englewood, New Jersey 07631 Reverend Dr. Bessie Duncan, Spiritual Leader of Unity Church of Christ, Teaneck, New Jersey.

Obituary

Ronald Cope, father, grandfather, nephew, brother, uncle, cousin, counselor, mentor and friend was born on August 23, 1950 in Johnson City, Tennessee. He was the second son of the late Abigail Johnson Cope and the late William Cope II.

For the first several years of his life, he and his older brother, William III (deceased) were nurtured in Tennessee amongst family. In 1956, the family moved to Dillard University's campus in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dillard University provided him with an opportunity to explore sports and the arts and receive a quality education. While on the campus, Ronald enjoyed watching the college athletes practice and he often attended the basketball and football games. It was also on that campus that Ronald made his theatrical début as Travis in "A Raisin in the Sun." Ultimately, it was his educational experience, while at Dillard, that transformed him into the precocious young man that he was to become.

In August 1963, the family moved to Teaneck, New Jersey. While in route, they made a brief stop in Washington, D.C. to take part in the historic March on Washington. Ronald graduated from Teaneck High School in 1968 and attended Hampton Institute (now Hampton University) from 1968-1970. In 2001, he became a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor. This was followed by his completion of course work to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Mental Health and Rehabilitative Services from Thomas Edison State College in 2005. He furthered his education at Lincoln University, where he received a Masters Degree in Human Services in 2009. His education afforded him the opportunity to serve and support people battling drug addiction.

For over twenty years, Ronald has been a trusted servant as the Registration Coordinator for the Matt Talbot Retreat Movement Group 88. He participated in over thirty-five of these spiritually based men's retreats. Also, Ronald was a member of Unity Church of Christ in Teaneck, New Jersey. Reverend Dr. Bessie Duncan led him on his spiritual journey over the last eight years of his life.

Ronald departed this life on May 27, 2014.

Ronald is survived by: his two sons, Ronald II and Conan Jamel; grandchildren Isamar, Jamir, Makai, Chase, Jaden, Caden and Conan, Jr.; daughters-in-law, Shamika Cope and Noelle Cope; sisters-in-law, Carolita Cope and Shirl Burns; ex-wife, Sharon Cope-Lewis; nephew, Wil ; and he had special bonds with cousins, Sue Ferguson and Arnold Daniels, Jr. He is also survived by countless friends, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Ronald was predeceased by beloved companion Brenda Clinton, and son, Caron.

Order of Service

Processional	
Invocation	Rev. Dr. Bessie Duncan
Musical Selection	"Amazing"
	Shamika Cope Nadine Clinton
Prayer of Comfort	Rev. Dr. Bessie Duncan
Obituary	Wil Cope
Musical Selection	"Nobody Greater"
Remarks	Ronald Cope. Matt Talbot Retreat Movement Group 88 Memorial
Reflections	Limit to 2 minutes
Eulogy	Rev. Dr. Bessie Duncan
Benediction	
Recessional	





Death is nothing at all - I have only slipped away into the next room. Whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by my old familiar name, speak to me in the easy way which you always used. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be the household word it always was. Let it be spoken without effort. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was: there is absolutely unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight? I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well. Nothing is past: nothing is lost. One brief moment and all will be as before — only better, infinitely happier and forever we will all be one together with Christ.

-Author unknown

acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Entrusted Jo:

Eternity Funeral Service, LLC

Aree Booker, Executive Director Licensed Funeral Director in New York & New Jersey NY Lic. # 00367 NJ Lic. # 4346 129 Engle Street • Englewood, NJ 07631 • ph (201) 568-2671

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