

Celebration for the Life of



**John Wallace Bethea, Sr.**

*May 4, 1949 – June 18, 2014*

Tuesday, June 24, 2014 - 7:00 pm

**CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

535 Dr. Gadson L. Graham Way (11<sup>th</sup> Ave)  
Paterson, New Jersey

**Rev. Barry Graham, Officiating**  
**Maurice Boddie, Organist**

# Reflections of Life

**John Wallace “Wally” Bethea, Sr.** was born on May 4, 1949 in Marion, SC to the late Hezekiah Bethea and Mariah (Reed) Bethea. He resided in Paterson, NJ most of his life.

He was employed as a Laminator at Butler Printing Company of Butler, NJ for over 20 years, and he was a member of the Canaan Baptist Church of Paterson, NJ.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hezekiah and Mariah Bethea; sister, Flora Ethel Bethea; grandchild, Jeremiah Bracey; brother-in-law, Willie Nathan Gurley and sister-in-law; Doris Ann Hughes.

He leaves to cherish fond memories a loving and devoted wife, Christine (Gurley) Bethea; two daughters, Charlene (Bethea) Bracey and Verlicia (Bethea) Hinson; one son, John Wallace Bethea, Jr.; six grandchildren, Jameelah Livingston, Elijah and Isaiah Bracey, Kamar, Naseem and Jordan Hinson; two sisters, Glendora (Bethea) Pee and Patricia Bethea; four brothers, Houston Bethea, Milton Bethea, Daniel Bethea and James F. Bethea; sons-in-law, Willie Bracey III and Alteree L. Hinson; mother-in-law, Gladys Mae Gurley; brothers-in-law, Charles Pee, William Gurley, Robert D. Gurley and Lenuare Foxworth, sisters-in-law, Betty Bethea, Gloria Jean Bethea, Carrie Rosalind Bethea and Doretha Foxworth, and a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, friends and neighbors.

# Order of Service

Prelude .....Maurice Boddie

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading  
Old Testament  
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Solo.....Eric McKenzie

Acknowledgements & Remarks

Selection

Obituary

Eulogy .....Rev. Barry Graham

Recessional

## Interment

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Cemetery  
Marion, South Carolina

# The Master Called

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.  
My loved ones, oh so dear.  
But you see, the Master called me,  
His voice was very clear!  
I had made my reservation  
A heaven bound ticket for one,  
And I knew that He would call me  
When He felt my work was done.  
I know that your hearts are heavy  
Because I have gone away,  
But when the Master called me,  
I knew that I could not stay.  
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you  
My loved ones, oh so dear,  
But, you see, the Master called me  
And, now I'm resting here.  
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory  
And to you all I say  
Just stay in the hands of Jesus  
And we'll meet again someday.*

-Author unknown

## Acknowledgement

*The family of the late **John Wallace Bethea, Sr.** 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!*

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