



Cornelius Rensalear Parker, Jr., husband, father, and friend, was born on April 1, 1916 to Cornelius Sr., and Ella Carter Parker. His father passed away in 1936. By the time he was eighteen, Cornelius Jr., the eldest of six, became the man of the family. Fired with ambition and a desire to successfully follow in his father's footsteps, he enrolled in the New York School of Embalming and Restorative Art. He received the highest score on the State Board of Embalming and Funeral Director's examinations in 1939 and became the youngest graduate in mortuary school. Walking in his father's footsteps, Cornelius Jr. developed the family business and fueled his passion for service with a lifelong dedication to Jersey City.

No responsibility was insignificant to Mr. Parker. Cornelius was a chauffeur, mechanic, dockworker, welder, truck driver and trade embalmer... all while he owned the business. A father and husband already, it was common for Mr. Parker to work three jobs simultaneously. Never complaining or too busy for idle vanity, Cornelius Jr. was proud to toil for his family and the Jersey City business community.

Jersey City circa 1950 was prime time for his business and personal life. The finest woman on the Eastern Seaboard, the late Emma M. Parker (nee Weedon) from Maryland, married Cornelius Jr. when he was still an aspiring entrepreneur. Evidently, they both knew a good thing when they saw it. The Parkers' celebrated 53 years of marriage and raised eight children in the process. For Emma and Cornelius, "Mama and Daddy," "Grandma and Grandpa," Jersey City was a special place -- a place they turned into a home.

In 1954, Mr. Parker had a burning desire to purchase a new building for his funeral business. With the paltry sum of \$30 in his pocket, Cornelius moved with his family into a house at the corner of Clinton and Madison Avenues. This nearly 150-year-old structure would become a prominent fixture in the Jersey City community.

As a community service champion and a leader in his church, Cornelius Jr. collaborated with fellow community leaders to arrange the visit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to Jersey City in 1968. Later, he served on the Board of Education and the Board of Managers for Jersey City Medical Center. By 1977, Mr. Parker was elected a Jersey City Councilman. For his help working with owners to rehabilitate dilapidated buildings, Jersey City honored him with the timeless dedication of The Cornelius Parker Park. Mr. Parker was also a lifetime member of the NAACP and co-founder of the Garden State Funeral Directors Association. By the end of his life, Cornelius Jr. was elected "Man of the Year" numerous times by his church, Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion, where he had also served as a trustee.

God called Cornelius home to glory on July 7th 2014, at the age of 98. His legacy includes his eight children, Cornelius (deceased), James, Veronica (Stallings), Valarie, Victoria, Vanessa, Vonya and Vernard. He was the cherished father-in-law of Joanne, Melodee, Michelle, Anthony (Reid) and James (Ryner). Nine grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, one special god son, Joel Mahan and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins other relatives and friends.

The community of Jersey City, NJ is forever impacted by the compassion and service of Mr. Parker and his beloved wife. The blessings of their lives and remnants of their love can be seen throughout the city, heard in the sounds of their church, and felt by all of you, their family and friends.

Service

Monday, July 14, 2014 - 11:00 a.m.

Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church

597 Bergen Avenue • Jersey City, New Jersey 07304

Rev. Nathaniel B. Legay, Pastor Officiating

Order Service

The Musical Prelude	
The Processional	
Invocation	
Hymn of Consolation	"Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross" (Hymn #300)
	Rev. Dr. Thelma Gattis Rev. Kayron Jordan-Edley
Musical Selection	"His Eye Is On The Sparrow" Adrienne Sykes
Prayer of Comfort	Bishop Ernest Ambush
Resolutions & Remarks	Elected Officials, Organizations & Boards
Reflections	
The Obituary Reading	
Musical Selection	"Amazing Grace" Barbara Sharp
Eulogy	Rev. Vajaah E. Parker
Final Viewing	Cotton Funeral Service Staff
Recessional Hymn	"Going Up Yonder"

Eternal Rest

Bayview Cemetery Jersey City, New Jersey 07305









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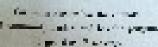




















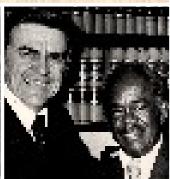


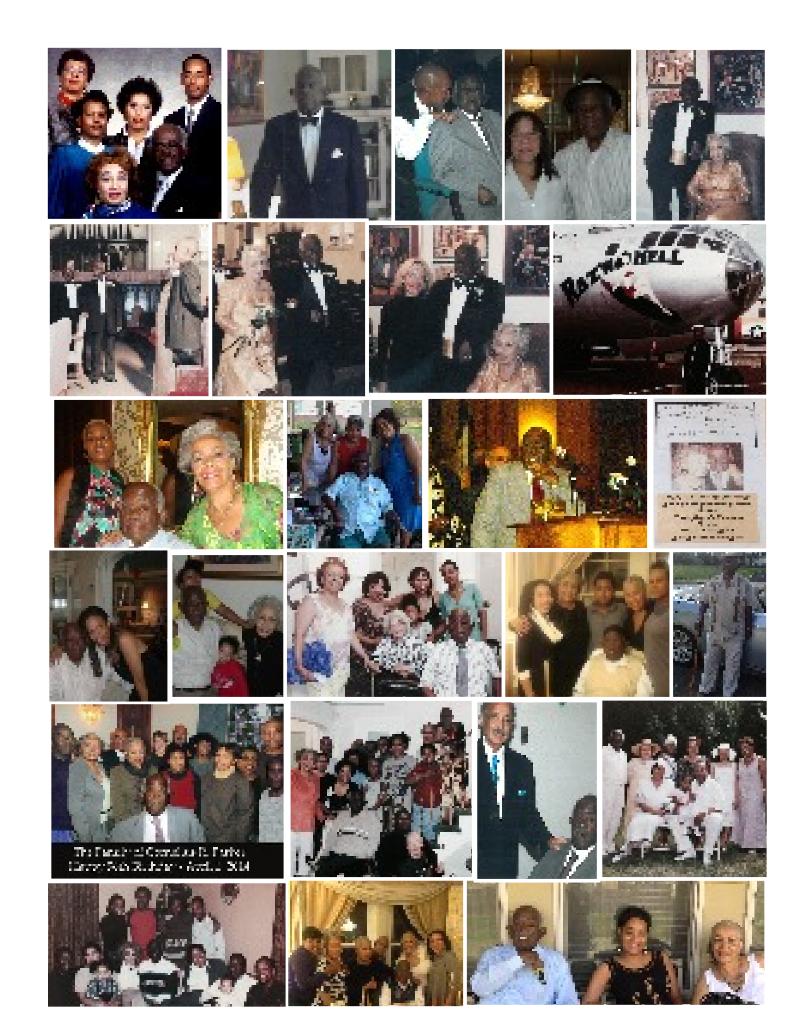
The branching Council











What Makes A Dad

God took the strength of a mountain, The majesty of a tree, The warmth of a summer sun, The calm of a quiet sea, The generous soul of nature, The comforting arm of night, The wisdom of the ages, The power of the eagle's flight, The joy of a morning in spring, The faith of a mustard seed, The patience of eternity, The depth of a family need, Then God combined these qualities, When there was nothing more to add, He knew His masterpiece was complete, And so, He called it ... Dad

