

A Celebration Of The Life Of Eric Roosevelt "Buddy" Feggins

Sunrise
November 14, 1949

Sunset
July 14, 2014



*A Life Well Lived By A Man Well Loved...
A Life To Be Remembered*

Service

Monday, July 21, 2014 - 10:30 a.m.

CAGGIANO MEMORIAL HOME

62 Grove Street • Monclair, NJ

Obituary

Eric Roosevelt Feggins was born November 14, 1949 to the late Master Staff Sargent Erich R. Feggins, and the late Edith Marjorie Feggins (nee Riddick) on the Fort Eustis Army Base in Newport News, Virginia. Soon after his birth, his father was deployed to Germany and Eric and his mother moved to Montclair, NJ, where he lived for the majority of his life.

While his mom worked, Buddy spent numerous hours reading, writing and becoming the exceptional student that he was. He attended the Montclair Public Schools, and was a star, track and field athlete, who lead the Montclair High relay team to the winner's circle, at the nationally acclaimed Penn Relays, in April of 1967...two months later, he graduated from Montclair High. After graduation, Buddy was employed at various companies, including the Thomas A. Edison Industries in West Orange, NJ, where he worked along with his mom, who was a valued employee until her retirement in 1972. After Eric left Edison Industries, he began employment at General Electric, where he rekindled a friendship with a high school classmate, Donna Charlene Wingfield. The friendship blossomed into love and the two were married in October of 1974. Buddy and Donna were a great couple. They read voraciously, attended track meets and bowled with a passion. It was during this time in his life that the old stirrings of learning and reading were re-ignited. He applied and was accepted at Seton Hall University and after only ONE semester, he was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship which paid his tuition for his entire four years. Ultimately, after making the Dean's List all four years, Eric graduated Magna Cum Laude in May 1977. Two months later, Donna gave birth to their daughter, Fanya Lynette, the apple of Buddy's eye.

After graduating from Seton Hall, his first job was with the Essex County Sheriff's Department, where again, his thirst for knowledge and excellence propelled him to graduate FIRST in his class from the Police Academy! Eventually he became a Probation Officer. However, after becoming extremely disillusioned with the criminal (in)justice system, as he often referred to it, he was encouraged to become a teacher in the New York Public School by his father-in-law, Charles Wingfield. Meeting the challenge with the same enthusiasm and determination as always, he became one of the most beloved English teachers in the New York Public School system. During this time, in 1985, Donna and Buddy welcomed their second child, Kyle Eric Feggins...A son who was adored by both his parents and anyone else privy to be in his presence. Eric (aka Buddy or Roosevelt) then decided to obtain his Master's Degree, which he did, from Lehman College in New York in 1990. In May of 1995, Buddy and Donna divorced, amicably, but remained close friends until the day he died.

During his teaching years, Eric met many wonderful educators, but one who held a special place in his heart was Bernette Bowman, fondly known as Peggie. The two were friends for years, however it wasn't until both divorced that their friendship blossomed into more. They were married in December of 2007, with Buddy becoming a second father to Peggie's son, Brian, and a bond was formed between all three children that remains to this day.

Not only did Buddy love education for himself, he felt that all children were entitled to one, and oftentimes tutored his children's friends, his relatives and his students anytime he felt it was necessary. He wanted all children to succeed and realized early in life that education was, in fact, the key that opened tomorrow's door. In 2009, Eric authored and self-published the highly entertaining and successful crime mystery, "DUPED" which is still available on Amazon.com. Buddy/Eric was also an extremely spiritual and insightful human being, who studied various religions and honestly believed in a higher power and the correlation between God and man, man and the universe... It is the embracing of that belief that has carried Buddy and his family through many trials and tribulations. He was a man who had a wonderful sense of humor, a kind spirit and a heart so enormously loving, that it, ultimately, no longer had enough space in which to thrive...

This exceptional human being, Eric (Buddy) Feggins leaves to mourn his wife; Bernette (Peggie) Bowman of Montclair, NJ, his beloved children; Fanya Lynette Feggins of Newport News, VA, Kyle Eric Feggins of Montclair, NJ and Brian Duncan of Montclair, NJ, grandson; Ahmad Tariq Feggins (Fanya) of Newport News, VA. Also missing him, will be his two sisters, Eryne Feggins, Ericha Feggins and three brothers; Evan Feggins, Royce Feggins and Timothy Thomas all of Trenton, NJ. Others mourning his passing will be his friend and mother of his children, Donna Wingfield Feggins of Montclair, NJ, his dear friend and business partner, Sena Stein of Morristown, NJ, his maternal aunts, Joyce (Riddick) Lipscomb, Mavis (Riddick) Dixon of Newport News, VA and Norma (Riddick) Copeland of Jacksonville, FL and one uncle, Winston (Booster) Riddick, of Newport News, VA. Additionally, there will be numerous other family members, friends, former students and colleagues who will miss the man that made them laugh, prompted them to think and excel, and entered their lives to make their world...this world...a much better place.

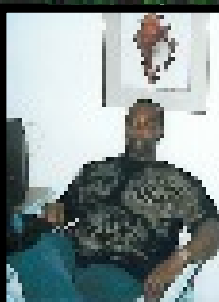
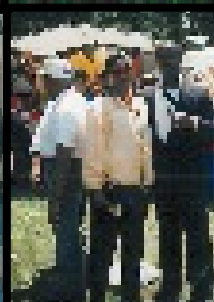
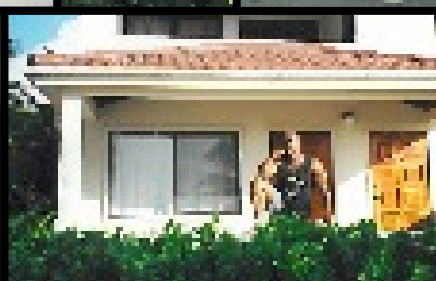
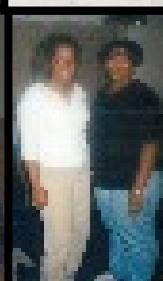
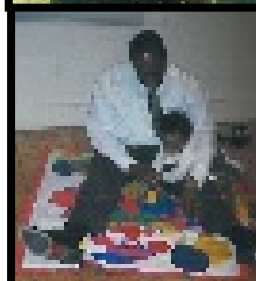
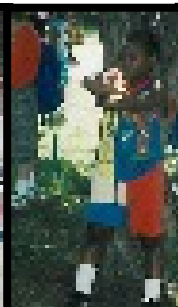
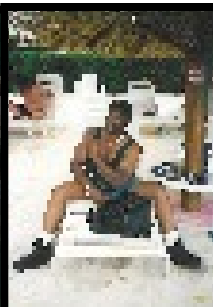
Order of Service

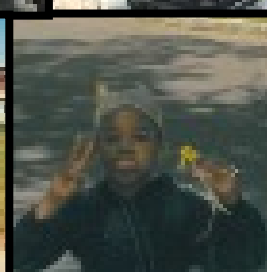
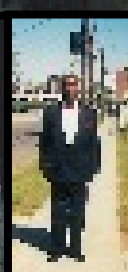
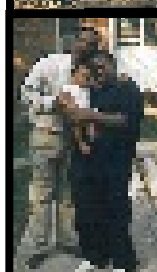
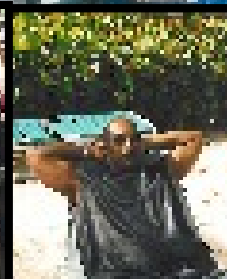
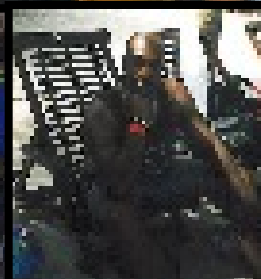
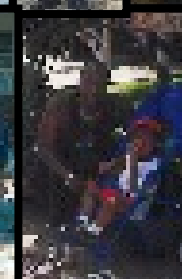
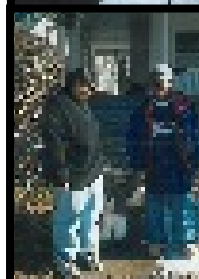
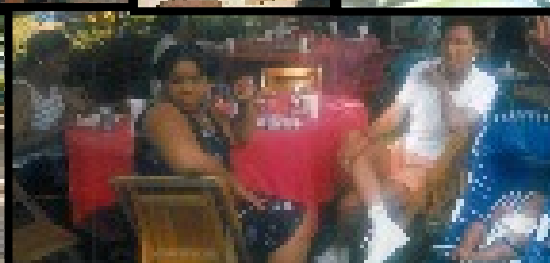
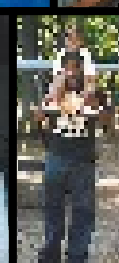
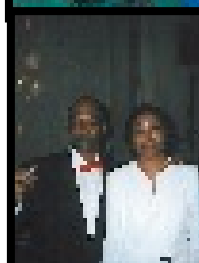
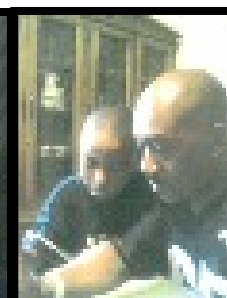
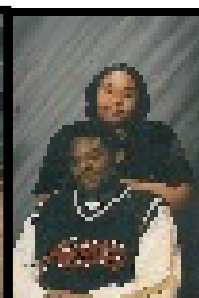
- I. Invocation.....Rev. A. Craig Dunn
(Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Madison, NJ)
- II. Scripture Readings
Old Testament: Psalm 23..... Kyle Feggins
New Testament: II Tim. 4:6-8 Mavis Dixon
- III. Solo Kennedy Gray
- IV. Poem Joanne Ashe
- V. Remarks/Acknowledgements Friends and Relatives
(Please Limit Remarks to 2 minutes)
- VI. Obituary Reading Joanne Ashe
- VII. Solo Kennedy Gray
- VIII. Eulogy Rev. A. Craig Dunn
(Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Madison, NJ)
- IX. Recessional

Interment

Glendale Cemetery
Bloomfield, New Jersey

*Family and Friends are asked to join each other for a repast at the :
Catchings Suite (Glenfield School)
25 Maple Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07042*







Precious Memories



A good man chooses to do what's right.
He places importance on family.
A good man changes the world by his own example.
He shapes the lives of his children
with the strength of his love.



Acknowledgement

The Family of **Eric (Buddy) Feggins** would like to Thank
each and every person, who has called, visited,
prayed...offered condolences in any way...for their Love
and Support during this time of grief.

Service entrusted to:

Caggiano Memorial Home

62 Grove Street • Montclair, New Jersey
(973) 744-6667

