

Celebration for the Life of



Edward "Bucky" Robinson, Jr.

*January 19, 1932 – August 16, 2014*

Sunday, August 24, 2014 - 2:00 p.m.

**CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME**

256 Rosa Parks Blvd.

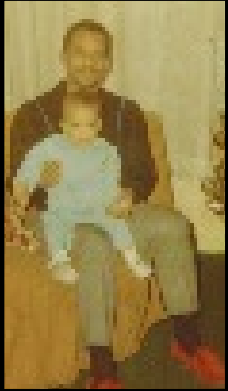
Paterson, New Jersey

*Rev. Anthony Cureton, Officiating*

# Reflections of Life



**Edward “Bucky” Robinson, Jr.**, was born on January 19, 1932 in Paterson, N.J. to Edward and Goldie Robinson. He had three siblings: Josephine Abarca, Clarence Robinson (deceased) and Shirley Mordacai (deceased). He was raised in Paterson by his Aunt Sadie and Uncle Jim Mason who he lovingly called “Mama” and “Daddy.” His childhood was filled with fond memories of attending Paterson Public Schools and Our Lady of Victories Roman Catholic Church, as well as playing on Jersey Street and the Great Falls area with friends and family.



From 1952 to 1956, Bucky proudly served his country in the United States Air Force as an Organization Supply Specialist for the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Transport Squadron. For service during the Korean Conflict, Bucky received the National Defense Service Medal.

After his Honorable Discharge from the military, Bucky returned to Paterson where he met Mary Ann James (deceased) from Cumberland, VA. They were united in holy matrimony on February 15, 1958. To this union, they were blessed with four children; two of whom preceded him in death, Cynthia and Edward.



Bucky was especially proud of becoming one of the first African-Americans employed by the United States Postal Service in Paterson as a mail carrier. He shared a story of residents, in an African-American community, clapping for him as he delivered the mail for the first time. It was a point of pride for him as well as the community. He retired from the post office on January 3, 1988 after thirty years of service. In addition, he loved real estate. While working as a mail carrier, he also worked as a licensed real estate sales person for twenty years.

Throughout his life, Bucky loved teaching and learning about African-American history. He would share the history of his family, Harlem, Paterson, Middletown and Cumberland with whomever was willing to listen. He read books, magazines and watched documentaries in order to gain insight on the African-American community. He especially loved sharing his personal memories of his family who were descendents of the Ramapough Mountain Indians.



Bucky leaves behind: two daughters, Judith Dunn and Sabrina McDow; two sons-in-law, Guy Dunn, Sr. and Larry McDow; one daughter-in-law, Janifer Rice-Robinson; seven grandchildren, Robert Taylor, Justin Taylor, Jalen Robinson, Rachel Nixon, Danielle Helm, Michael Cowan, Summer McDow; four great-grandchildren, Sarah Taylor, Kori Taylor, Sean Taylor, Natalie Taylor; a sister, Josephine Abarca; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

# Order of Service

**Prelude**

**Processional**

**Selection**

**Scripture Readings**

*Old Testament - Psalm 23*

*New Testament - John 14:1-6*

**Prayer of Comfort**

**Selection**

**Acknowledgements & Remarks**

**Selection**

**Reflections of Life**

**Words of Comfort**

*Rev. Anthony Cureton*

**Recessional**

**Final Disposition**

Cedar Lawn Crematory

Paterson, New Jersey

## “Our Legacy in America” by Judith Dunn

While the Brits were forming Virginia’s Jamestown; The Dutch were in New Amsterdam... later called New York. A free Mulatto, Joost Degroot married Ariantje Sloove in 1741. In Bergen County they made their home, tilled their soil, and owned their farm. Their son, the junior Joost Degroot married Elizabeth Williams in 1764. The third Joost came in 1767, and wed Ellen in Jersey’s Franklin. Joost and Ellen in 1796 had a son named John Degroot. John’s eyes fell for a woman named Margaret Jane, whose parents were Samuel Piggery and Elizabeth VanDunk. Most of their lives were spent in Orange County, New York. John and Margaret had a host of children and a name change to DeGroat. That brings us to Goshen with their eleven children, one of whom was our Great, Great, Great Grandfather William. He and his brothers served in the Civil War; United States Colored Troops was what it was called. William DeGroat of Goshen married the daughter of Florence McGinnis and Sara DeGroat. Her name was Margaret McGinnis, and most likely his cousin livin’ up in those mountains. William and Margaret gave birth to one that most of us know...

Josephine DeGroat who later married John Earl. Before the marriage occurred, Josephine Degroat had a son, James Mason, better known as Uncle Jim whose wife was Aunt Saddle, a Native American. They would be the ones to raise Bucky in Paterson in years yet to come. World War I was in effect and the call to duty was answered again. The DeGroats and Earls in Goshen and Middletown, joined the 369<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment – The Hellfighters of Harlem, NY.

Josephine and John’s son Elmer would serve with distinction; receiving the French Medal of Honor - The Croix de Guerre. That was Uncle Elmer! Josephine and John also gave birth to a daughter named Sarah. Sarah Earl’s first love was Arthur Green, who later changed his life and name to Bailey. From that union was born our grandmother, Goldie Green. Sarah Earl’s second husband was Clarence Peete who loved and raised his little Goldie. Goldie married a cigar smoking chap, Edward Robinson, born in Washington, DC. He was named Edward Brooks with two sisters, Pearlina and Carrie. The Brooks children were raised in Virginia by their grandparents Celia and Jack Robinson. The rest of the story you know; Daddy Ed and Mama Gold gave birth to four children: Josephine, Clarence, Shirley, and Edward “Bucky” Robinson. Ask Bucky what his final wishes were – For his family to know their legacy was his priority... What were his final wishes? For his descendents to know their family history!

### Acknowledgement

*The family of the late **Edward Robinson, Jr. “Bucky”** 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!*

Professional Services Provided By

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