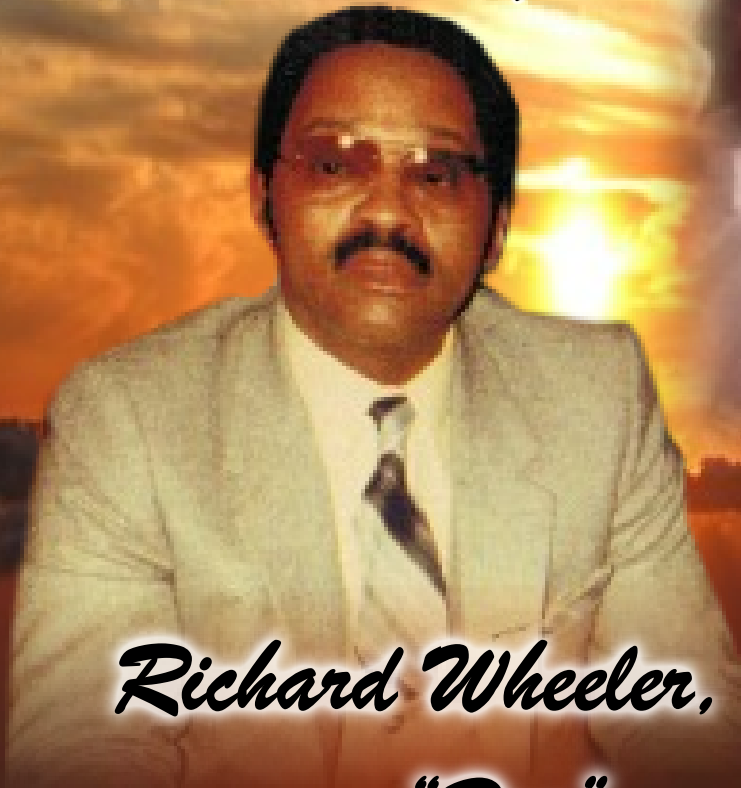


*In Loving Memory  
of*



*Richard Wheeler, Sr.  
"Doc"*

**Sunrise**  
July 26, 1942

**Sunset**  
September 9, 2014

**Service**

Friday, September 19, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.

**ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

132 Odell Clarke Pl. • New York, NY

Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts III, Officiating



## Obituary

**Richard Allen Thomas Wheeler, Sr.** was born in Manhattan, New York to the late Roscoe and Lucille Wheeler on July 26, 1942. He was the third child of four children.

In his childhood years, he grew up on 98th Street between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue, where he attended Holy Name Jesus Elementary School. In 1954, Roscoe and Lucille Wheeler moved to the Saint Nicholas Houses where Richard attended Saint Aloysius Junior High and later Aviation High School. Richard attended college, where he received a degree in psychology, but that was not his best degree. His best degree was earned in the streets where he helped numerous people through sports or in life lessons. It was in St. Nicholas Houses that he was given the nick name “Doc”, where he was known for helping others.

It was once said, “that he took 40 people downtown and got them their first jobs”.

On March 17, 1962, Richard Wheeler, Sr. married Rebecca Stiles and from this union a son, Richard Allen Wheeler, Jr. (“JR”) was born. In the following years, Richard Sr. worked a number of jobs throughout the city and at one city agency he held the title of Vice President of Local 154 Union. His good deeds were appreciated by his union members.

Richard “Doc” Wheeler founded a city basketball league, in which various city agencies competed against each other at various locations throughout NYC. This league became very popular because of the bragging rights a city agency held for that year in winning the championship. “Doc” was known as the Commissioner of this league.

“Doc” had a charming way about himself that went over smoothly with all that knew him. He was also called the “Grand Mac Daddy” by the ladies and close friends.

Richard would say to all of us, “Do not mourn or be sad for me, but celebrate life to its fullest.” He leaves behind to cherish his memory: two sisters, Barbara and Joan; son, Richard Jr.; daughter, Tracy; six grandchildren, (Hussein, Richard III, Doniecia, Zemaisha, Kimberly and Kylie); nephews, (Lacey Roscoe Wheeler, Al Avant and Artie Nicholson); nieces, (Gisele Avant, Natalie Avant and Habiba); cousin, (Darryl Branch); and a host of other relatives.

Richard “Doc” Wheeler left this life to partake in the serenity and peace of Heaven and he leaves behind for those who knew and loved him– sermons which they can see– for there is no misunderstanding how he acted and how he lived.

# *Order of Service*

**Prelude**

**Processional**

**Invocation**

**Congregational Hymn**

*"Blessed Assurance" 508*

**Scriptures**

*Old Testament - Psalm 23*

*New Testament - II Timothy 4:6-8*

**Prayer of Comfort**

**Solo**

*Veronica Hickman*

*"Zoom"*

**Acknowledgements and Resolutions**

**Obituary**

**Solo**

*Karen Frederick*

*"Keep Your Eye On The Sparrow"*

**Eulogy**

**Benediction**

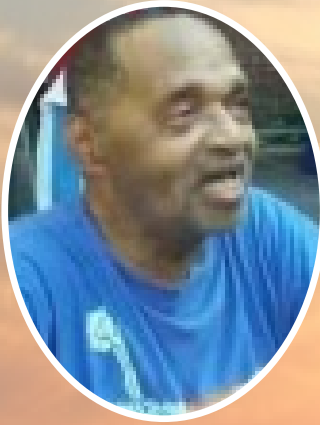
**Recessional**



*Interment*

Mt. Rest Cemetery  
Butler, New Jersey

# *I've Changed My Address*



*I've changed my address to Heaven  
I've crossed the Great Divide.  
I know there's no sorrow or crying,  
Because I've reached the other side.  
I am so happy to be here, for the Lord Himself I see.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place where you'll find me.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I bid this world goodbye.  
I now live forever with Jesus  
in my new home in the sky.  
I have no burdens or heartaches  
and from tears I am now free.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place to find me.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I'm safe forevermore. For the Lord built a mansion  
and my name is on the door.  
You can find us walking together,  
for where He is, I'll always be.  
I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place you'll find me.*

*-Author unknown*

## *Acknowledgement*

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

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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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*"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"*

