

In Loving Memory



Most Worshipful Past Grand Master

Robert L. Williams, Sr.

Sunrise
January 16, 1927

“Tito”

Sunset
February 11, 2015

Viewing Services

Wednesday, February 18, 2015 - 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Masonic Service 7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, February 19, 2015 - 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Funeral

Thursday, February 19, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH

515 West 125th Street • New York, New York

Pastor Shon T. Adkins, Officiating

Recitation of The Life of

Past Grand Master Robert L. Williams, Sr.

Robert L. Williams, Sr. peacefully transitioned from life to life everlasting on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx, NY.

He was born to the union of the late Mary Gardner Williams and Robert Daniel Williams on January 16, 1927 in Washington, D.C.

He started his education in the Washington, D.C. Public School system. After graduation, and prior to WW II, he was employed at the U.S. Navy Department, Bureau of Aeronautics. Following his brothers, he enlisted in the United States Army (1945-1947) and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant in the Military Police. He served during World War II, South Pacific, and was Honorably Discharged.

He moved to New York City in the early 1950's. There he continued his education at the Polytechnic Institute. In 1968, he joined the New York City Transit Authority (M.A.B.S.T.O.A.) as a bus operator and after several promotions, he attained the position of Deputy Superintendent. He retired after twenty-three years in 1991. In 1975, he was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Cornerstone Lodge #37 Prince Hall Affiliation and was elected Worshipful Master of the lodge from 1981 until 1983. In 1984, he was elected to the Board of Grand Lodge Trustees and was further honored in 1987 when he was elected Chairman of the Trustee Board. In 1988, he was elevated to the Thirty-three Degree, AASR and selected as an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

Over the course of his life, he received numerous awards and honorariums including, but not limited to, the following: Meritorious Service Medal (Presidential Citation from President Harry S. Truman), Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disable American Veterans (DAV) and Honorary Doctor of Business Administration - Division of Church Administration from Evansville College (American Theological Seminary) in Milledgeville, GA.

He was affectionately known as Dad, Big Bob, Bob-O, Tito, Chocolate, Papa and Granddaddy. He enjoyed frequent trips to Atlantic City and was an icon on 107th Street & Manhattan Ave. Robert carried himself in such a dignified way and was always impeccably dressed. He was large in stature and charisma, and garnered the respect of men, women and children alike. He was famous for his sense of humor and love of good food and the finer things of life. God also blessed him to live to see five generations of children.

He was baptized at an early age and was a longtime member of Antioch Baptist Church in Harlem, NY, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Alfloyd Alston and served as their comptroller for many years. He founded the Robert L. Williams, Sr. College Scholarship Fund.

He was preceded in death by his siblings: Dorothy Williams, Edith Jones, James Williams, Clarence Edwin (Tiny) Williams, Margaret Taylor, Catherine (Shug) Brown, Thomas Williams and his beloved cousin whom he considered a brother, Rudolph (Rudy) Thomas.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Wilhemina Williams of Maysville, NC; the love of his life, Ursula Pleasant aka Sarge, with whom he shared many of life's joys over the past twenty-five years; his three children, Sherry Lynnette Graham-Kilgore of Hyattsville, MD, Bishop Robert L. Williams, Jr. (Charisse) of Albrightsville, PA and Pastor Shawn E. Williams (Joyce) of Sanford, NC; his sister, Carolyn Lewis of Washington, D.C.; stepdaughter, Crystal Edwards-Davis (whom he lovingly called Applehead); stepsons, Reunald Jones III and Jeffery Jones (Teri); twelve grandchildren, twenty-six great grandchildren, three great great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the doctors, nurses and staff of the Kingsbridge Veterans Hospital Ward 8B for their dedication and kindness in the care of "Tito." We would also like to thank the staff of Calvary Hospital, Bronx, New York.

~ Lovingly submitted, The Family ~

Order of Service

Processional

Poem Shalik A. Williams
Tulsa, OK

Prayer of Consolation Rev. Dr. Yvonne Cooper
Washington, D.C.

Musical Selection Antioch Choir
"Take Me To The King"

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 1 Billy Graham
Hyattsville, MD

New Testament - Matthew 10:39-42 Lamina Williams
San Bernadino, CA

Musical Selection Antioch Choir
"Order My Steps"

Tribute Bishop Robert L. Williams, Jr.
Salt of the Earth Ministries
Stroudsburg, PA

Expressions Friends & Family (2 minutes each please)

Musical Selection Antioch Choir
"Never Could Have Made It"

Recitation of the Life of Past Grand Master Robert L. Williams, Sr.
(Read silently)

Eulogy Rev. Shon T. Adkins, Pastor

Benediction

Recessional

Entombment

Woodlawn Cemetery
Bronx, New York

REPAST

Villa Barone Manor

I Live

I live in your hearts and in your minds
I live although I've left you behind
I live because I'm present with the Lord
I live in harmony, no longer discord
I live in my son's smile though I was
only with you a short while!
I live in my grandson's eyes
I live in my family's ties
I live, that's why I didn't say goodbye
Please, don't fret, don't cry
I live when you think of me, know that I live
And now I am free

Acknowledgement

*We are eternally grateful to the many friends who
share our grief and bereavement in kind words,
thoughtful deeds and comforting courtesies.*

~ The Family



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