


A Celebration of Life for
Clarence E. Tourse, Jr.



Sunrise
January 27, 1927

Sunset
June 10, 2015

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

NEW A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

153 Lawrence Street
Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Dr. Odinga Lawrence Maddox, II, Pastor

Pallbearers

Nephews

Grandnephews

Old Ship of Zion

I was standing by the banks of a river
Looking out over lifes troubled seas
When I saw an old ship that was sailing
Is that the old ship of Zion I see

It's hull was bent and battered
From the storms of life I could see
Waves were rough but that old ship kept sailing
Is that the old ship of Zion I see

At the stern of the ship was the captain
I could hear as he called out my name
Get on board It's the old ship of Zion
It will never pass this way again

As I step on board I'll be leaving
All my troubles and trials behind
I'll be safe with Jesus the captain
Sailing out on the old ship of Zion

Special Acknowledgement

The Family is most appreciative to his caregivers, Dr. Jeffrey Gold, Carolyn Brown, Athenia Scott and the Atrium-Wayne Staff. May God bless all of you.

Reflections of Life



GOD in His infinite Wisdom and Divine Plan blessed the late, Clarence E. Tourse, Sr. and Elnora (Agee) Tourse with a precious son, Clarence E. Tourse, Jr. on January 27, 1927 at Hackensack Hospital. He stepped into eternity on Wednesday, June 10, 2015.

The family moved from Ridgewood to Paterson, NJ during his early childhood. He received his education through the Paterson School System and as a young adult, he received a Certificate of Completion in Air conditioning and Refrigeration from Paterson Technical High School. He served in the United States Army Air Force and received an honorable discharge on December 4, 1946.

He was a millwright worker at General Electric for thirty years. Prior to his retirement in 1992, he was employed by the Passaic County Elks Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center.

He married Mary Suber, on June 3, 1951 and was a devoted husband for sixty-four years separated, only when he stepped into eternity on June 10, 2015. He was also a devoted son, brother, uncle, cousin, brother-in-law and friend. "Unky" as he was affectionately called, by family and friends, was a very important part of his three nephews and three nieces lives as their "Other Father" who helped to raised them. He was a very generous person and did not hesitate to help anyone in need. Locally and wherever he traveled, he would never pass anyone by who needed a helping hand. The neighborhood children knew they always had a sale for their school fund drives when he answered the door bell.

He was a Charter Member of New A.M.E. Zion Church which was organized in 1949. He supported the Church faithfully. During his earlier years in the Church, he served as a Steward, Co-Chair. of the Building Fund Committee, Men's Day Committee Secretary and Scout Master. He was a good cook and enjoyed preparing food for the Boy Scouts and helping in the kitchen for the Church's annual celebrations. He was also a member of New A.M.E. Zion Church Senior Group.

He loved helping the youth and cheerfully donated many weekends and weeks of vacation to take the Troop on jamborees and camping.

He was featured in a Herald News article on July 12, 1999 "A Troop of Their Own," sharing Scout History which also included a photo of him playing the base drum for First A.M.E. Zion Church's Boy Scout Troop in the 1940's.

He was also lovingly known as the Mayor of E. 23rd St. (between 12th and Hamilton Avenues) where he monitored the block, especially the children. He enjoyed sports, fishing, jazz and gospel music, theatre, reading and feeding the birds. Clarence traveled extensively throughout the world and enjoyed cruising the most. He was an avid sports fan and during his younger years he was a catcher for the local softball team. He bowled with the Topplers and the General Electric Company's Team for years.

He was a member of the Retiree Chapter UAW Local 191, McDonald's Breakfast Club (Broadway and Madison Avenue) and the National AARP Organization.

Favorite Scripture: John 3:16

Favorite Song: "This Little Light of Mine, I'm Going To Let It Shine"

Motto: "Spread sunshine along the way and help those in need."

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Roosevelt Scruggs, sister, Viola Tourse Higgins, nephew, John C. Jackson, niece, Maureen Higgins Price, beloved brother-in-law, Isaac Suber, Jr., beloved sister-in-law, Lois Suber.

Missing him but trusting in the assurance that he is at peace are: his wife, Mary (Suber) Tourse; two nephews, Monte Suber and Gary Suber (Barbara); two nieces, Priscilla S. Brown (Joseph) and Lois P. Scian (Dr. Joseph); five grandnephews, Gary Suber, Jr. (Melonie), Krystian and Isaiah Suber, Michael, Mark and Steven Scian; four grandnieces, Erin Price, Tamiko Scian, Raven Suber and Alexandra Brown; seven great-grandnephews; two great grand nieces; three godsons, Monte Suber, Theodore Wimberly (Dr. Adona) and Brad Thomas (Vicki); cousins, Doris and Sheridan Tourse; sister-in-law, Julia Suber; special cousin/friend, Shirley Curtis (Donald); other loving cousins, family and friends. All will continue to celebrate his life, always in our hearts.



Order of Service of Triumph for

Brother Clarence E. Tourse, Jr.

Musical Prelude

Hymn

“Blessed Assurance”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 23

New Testament - Romans 8:35-39

Prayer of Comfort

Solo

Acknowledgements & Resolutions

Donald Curtis

Monte Suber

Poetic Reading

Lois P. Scian

Reading of Reflections of Life

Gary Suber

Reflections

(Please respect the family by speaking no more than two minutes)

Hymn

“Pass Me Not O Gentle Saviour”

Eulogy

Rev. Dr. Odinga Lawrence Maddox, II

Recessional

Interment

Fairlawn Cemetery

Fair Lawn, New Jersey



Im Free

Don't grieve for me, for now
I'm free. I'm following the
path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard
Him call. I turned my back

and left it all. I could not stay another day. To laugh, to
love, to work or play. Tasks left undone must stay that
way, I found that peace at the close of day. If my parting
has left a void, Then fill it up with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much.

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family of **Clarence E. Tourse, Jr** is grateful to Rev.
Dr. Odinga Maddox II, New A.M.E. Zion Church family
and everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy,
shown to them during their time of bereavement. Your
prayers, love and thoughtfulness will always be treasured.

May God Bless each of you.

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