

Celebrating The Life of



Mr. John C. Arnold, Sr.

November 16, 1949 - January 17, 2007

Service

Tuesday, January 23, 2007 - 11:00 a.m.

Bethany Baptist Church

275 West Market Street • Newark, New Jersey

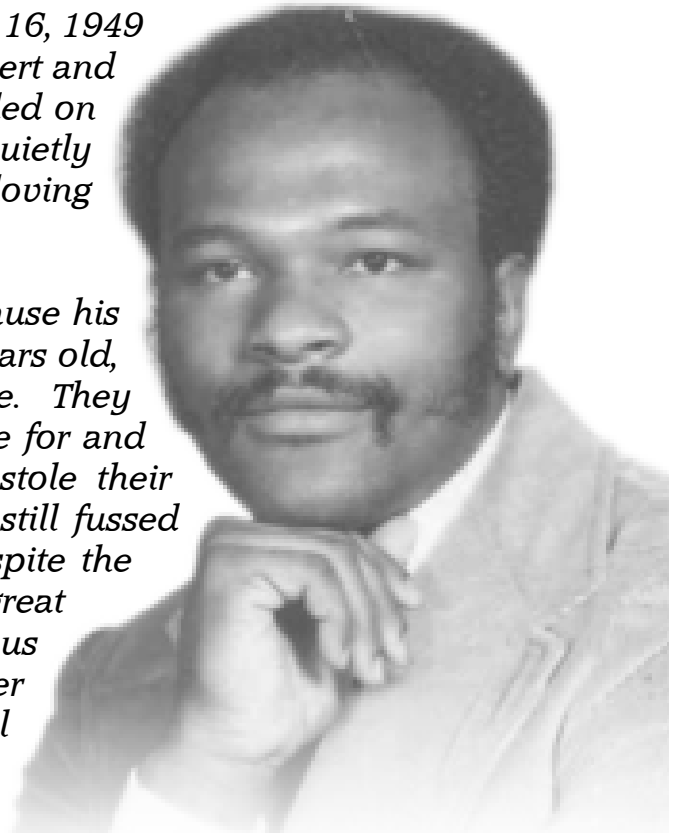
Dr. M. William Howard, Jr. - Pastor

Rev. Frank H. Walters, Officiating

Remembering Our Dad, Brother John, Uncle John and Friend John

John C. Arnold Sr. was born on November 16, 1949 in Bassett, Virginia, the eighth child of Robert and Geneva Mitchell Arnold. His sojourn ended on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 when he quietly slept away to Jesus in the presence of his loving family at his residence in Newark, NJ.

Life got off to a difficult start for John because his mother passed away when he was five years old, but having older sisters had its advantage. They took over in helping to raise, nurture, care for and yes, even spoil John. This little fellow stole their hearts and even in adulthood, John was still fussed over and looked after by his sisters. Despite the circumstances, John thrived and showed great ambition and drive. He drove the school bus at age sixteen and played football. After graduating from G.W. Carver High School (Fieldale, VA) in 1968, John was determined to see what lay beyond Bassett. It was with great excitement that this eager young man enrolled in Virginia State University. He majored in Mathematics, graduating with his BS Degree in 1972. Finding college tuition in a large family wasn't always easy, but John always had a plan. He worked at many jobs during the school year and on summer vacations in order to pursue his dreams. He was able to enter Cincinnati University, get a Master's Degree in a double major, Computer Science and Math, graduating in 1975. An ordinary person might have had enough of school, but not John. He worked for awhile at Kraft Foods in Chicago, but soon relocated to New Jersey in 1977 where he would eventually enroll in Fairleigh Dickinson University and obtain an MBA in his field of study. He worked for AT & T for a number of years and then BASF Corporation. When BASF downsized in 2000, John joined the family business, The Perry Funeral Home, as their financial analyst, comptroller and computer specialist. It was here that John was able to really showcase his technological and mathematical skills and talent in his own way. He created financial programs, ledgers and data that helped streamline and lighten the workload for many of the PFH Staff. This man with a plan also had a vision and that vision made a dream come true for the Funeral Home Managers in tracking their client base and finances.



Love was in the air for John when he met Janet Cole. They were married in 1981 and blessed with two beautiful children, Jennifer Sue and John "JJ" Jr. Although their marriage ended in divorce, John and Janet's overwhelming love for their children kept them working together to give their children a happy life. Church, family

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional

Hymn of Comfort *“Blessed Assurance”*

Scripture Reading *Rev. Harris Holloway*

Old Testament (Psalm 27)

Pure Light Baptist Church • Newark, NJ

New Testament (1 Corinthians 15: 50-58)

Prayer Of Comfort *Bishop Charles W. Morgan*

Little Rock Baptist Church • Elizabeth, NJ

Family Tributes

George & Christopher Reynolds

Minister Eric Ross

Miss Kendra Arnold

Hymn *“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”*

Resolutions *Gerri Ballard* (church clerk)

Mrs. Fannie Miller

Acknowledgements & Obituary *Ms. Gwen Crews*

Remarks *Trustee Rick Edwards*

Deacon Bennett

Solo *Kenneth Montgomery*

Eulogy *Rev. Frank H. Walters*

Fountain Baptist Church • Summit, NJ

Recessional *“I’ll Fly Away”*

ENTOMBMENT

Fairmount Mausoleum

Newark, New Jersey

Immediately following the entombment the repast will be held in the Church Fellowship Hall.

I'm 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!

Acknowledgement

The family of **Mr. John C. Arnold, Sr.** acknowledges with deep appreciation every thought and act of kindness rendered to us during this difficult time. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

34 Mercer Street • Newark, New Jersey
(973) 824-9201

www.perryfuneralhome.com

gatherings, discipline, and a good education were part of John and Janet's plan. John took the children on a family vacation every summer that was fun and educational. When Janet became terminally ill, John made the time to oversee her household, cooking for her, making sure the children did their homework and chores. He looked after her house, car and finances. Janet was so appreciative and expressed her peace of mind to many, in knowing that the children had a good father who would always "do the right thing for his children." With Janet's passing in 1994, John maintained both his residences, having the children attend school in Hillsborough and visit on weekends with their relatives in Newark. He wanted his children to be exposed to diverse cultures and family values.

Fortune smiled on John and he developed a close friendship with a family friend, Edith Williams from Franklin Park, NJ. John saw in "Edie", a beautiful spirit, a dedication to God, kind and caring ways and an interest in his children. They had set their wedding date, but John's illness caused them to put a delay on their plans. Edie assumed the role of a committed and loving wife, never leaving his side, caring for him around the clock. She lent her quiet support to the children, helping them through the difficult days. Edie's love and devotion to John will never be forgotten by the Arnold Family. John's courage, determination and strong faith in God will give all of us something to reflect on when we think of challenges we will face on our Christian journey.

John was a member of Bethany Baptist Church where he served on the Trustee Board and the Informational Technology Team for the Bethany Baptist Academy. He was very engrossed in his work for the Church and contributed much to the financial software programs for the Church. He was a member of the NAACP and the Boys and Girls Club of America, and the Society Hill Block Association for Richmond and Boston Street.

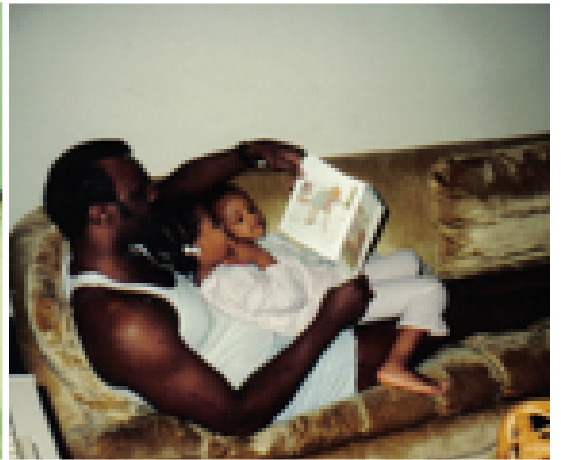
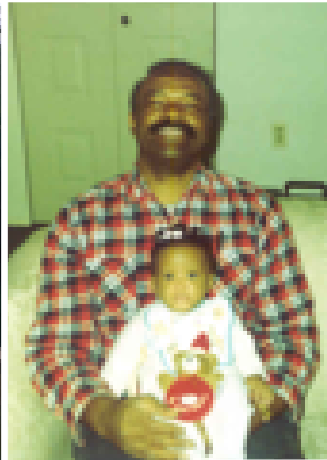
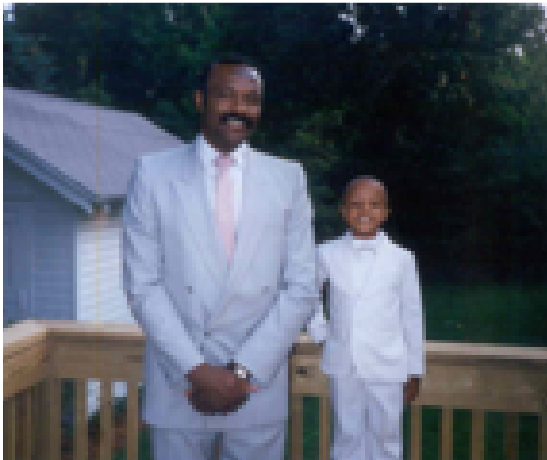
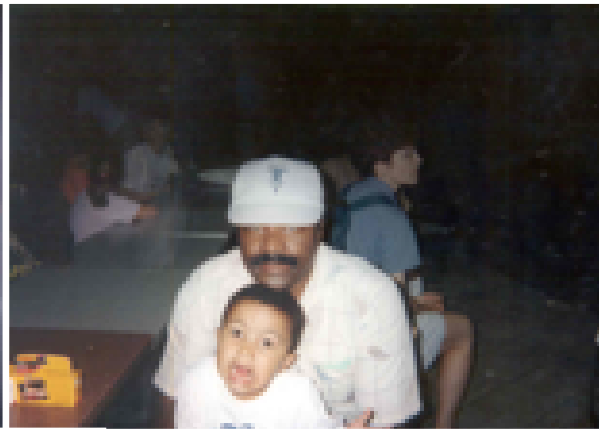
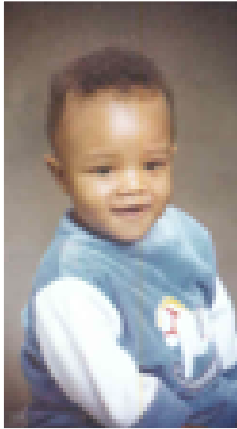
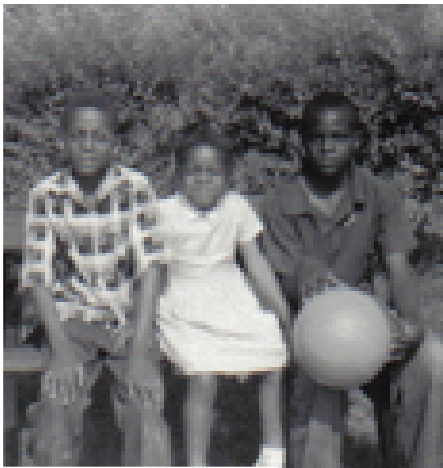
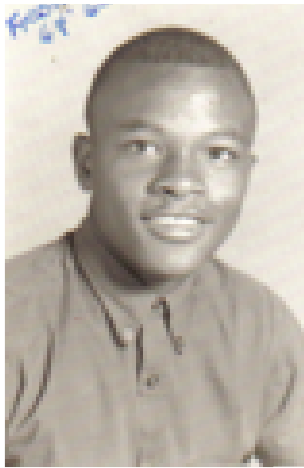
John was predeceased by his parents, Robert and Geneva Arnold, his stepmother, Lucy Arnold, and his sister, Rosa M. Arnold.

Mr. John Arnold leaves to celebrate his life: his two children, Jennifer and John Arnold Jr. of the home; his fiancé, Ms. Edith Williams of Franklin Park, NJ; five sisters, Mrs. Virginia A. Perry Slater (Albert) of South Orange, NJ, Miss Peggy Arnold of White Plains, NY, Mrs. Lula Washington of Sterling, VA, Mrs. Juanita Ross (James) and Mrs. Alzina Gilbert (George) of Bassett, VA; four brothers, Robert Arnold (Delores) of Hillside, NJ, Walter Arnold (Shirley) of Bassett, VA, Samuel Arnold (Retha) of Newark, NJ, and Joseph Manns (Bernadette) of Baltimore, MD; many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and the Perry Funeral Home Staff.

We'll keep you in our hearts forever, Daddy ... Dear Brother, we're going to miss you ... so long Uncle John, thanks for treating us like we were your own children ... Goodbye My Love, we'll be united one day in Heaven!

- With all our love, The Family -

Precious Memories





A Letter To John



My love, after all the years of loving you, you are such a part of me. How do I let go? We've shared so much, family and friends, good times and sad times, but always together... especially our quiet times, just the two of us, sharing our love and laughter. You were always there for me. Sometimes you were annoyed when I didn't listen to your words of wisdom. Of course you were "always right." I learned so much from you!

You were so brilliant and always willing to help others less fortunate. Every local charity knew that you always responded with more than you would ever spend on yourself. What a great man! A true Christian! You were the best Father of any year! You truly loved Jennifer and J.J. I know that you also truly loved me. You were everything that I'd ever dreamed of. I felt your pain from your long illness. I felt your despair when hope left your beautiful eyes. I felt your frustration when our wedding date passed.... I promised you I'd never leave you, that in my heart, I was your wife. Goodbye for now my handsome sweet love. Gone are the years of suffering, and I was finally no longer selfish as I whispered to you that I was alright and that you should let go to leave my arms and rest in the arms of some one who loves you more. I miss you! I love you! You're in my heart... in my life, My Love.



Forever, Edie

