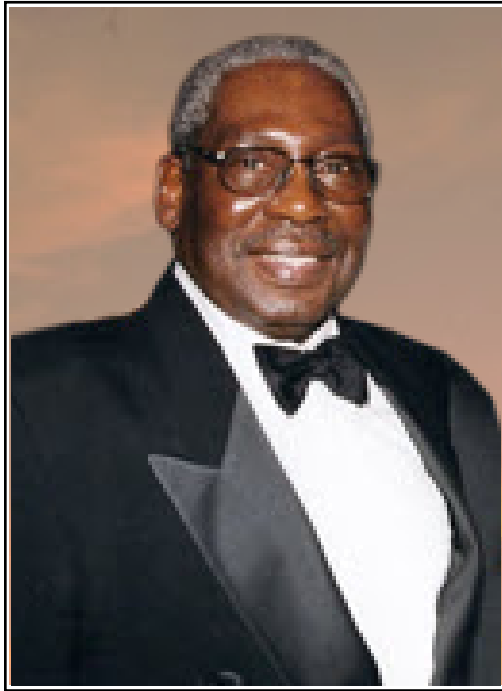


*In Loving Memory of*



Honorable Judge  
*Mark Hannah Spires*

*Sunrise*  
December 15, 1930

*Sunset*  
August 1, 2010

*Friday, August 6, 2010 - 9:30 a.m.*

**RIVERSIDE CHURCH**  
490 Riverside Drive • New York, NY 10027

*Rev. J. Lee Hill, Jr. - Officiating*

## Obituary

**Mark Hannah Spires** December 15, 1930 - August 1, 2010 - Resident of New York City, NY. After a courageous ten year battle with Congestive Heart Failure, Mark passed away peacefully at his home in New York on Sunday, August 1, 2010. Born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida, Mark graduated from Stanton High School and earned a B.S. in Finance from Florida A&M University in 1953.

Industrious and determined, Mark never lost sight of his dream to have a college education. As a child, Mark held several jobs including delivering newspapers and working as a pharmacy clerk. After graduating high school, he worked in a bakery until he had enough money to attend college. His dedication and determination continued through his college years. As a full time student he managed to work at a local hospital and for the Lucky Strike Tobacco Company in order to pay his own way through school. While enrolled at Florida A&M, Mark joined the Army ROTC and would later serve his country in the Korean Conflict.

Sensing a need to advance his career Mark pursued graduate education at New York University in New York, earning an M.B.A. in Accounting and thereafter Brooklyn Law School earning his Juris Doctor in 1963. In 1970, he began a sixteen year career in public interest law at Queens Legal Services where he served as Chief Counsel and Executive Director. After nine years of service as a Housing Court Justice, Mark was elected to the Queens County Supreme Court in 1995 and served until retirement in 2006. Mark loved the law and he was held in high esteem as a Justice, with a reputation for his fairness, diligence and impartiality. He was known for his quick wit and a razor-sharp ability to get to the heart of an issue. Always seeking new challenges, Mark became an avid golfer and during his free time he could be found on the green. He was also an avid reader with an extensive book collection.

As one of three children born to the late Mark Hannah Spires, Sr. and Bessie Spires, Mark was preceded in death by two sisters, Mary and Katherine Spires and one son, Kenneth Criss. Left to cherish his memory are his devoted wife, Vivienne White-Spires and three beloved children, Mark Criss, Maura Spires and Joshua Spires. Mark will also be remembered by three loving granddaughters, Natasha, Ottavia and Vittoria Criss, along with two great granddaughters. Mark will be forever remembered by one niece, Althea Kirk, along with countless other friends and family who were blessed to know him.

# Order of Service

*Prelude*

*Call to Celebration* ..... *Rev. J. Lee Hill, Jr.*

*Prayer of Comfort* ..... *Rev. J. Lee Hill, Jr.*

*Scripture*

*Old Testament - Psalm 23*

*New Testament - 2 Timothy 4:6-8*

*Solo* ..... *“Precious Lord”*  
*Natasha Criss*

*Obituary* ..... *Ottavia Criss*

*Testimonials*

*Poem* ..... *Natasha Criss*

*Eulogy* ..... *Rev. J. Lee Hill, Jr.*

*Hymn* ..... *“The Old Rugged Cross”*

*Benediction* ..... *Rev. J. Lee Hill, Jr.*

*Recessional*



**Interment**  
*Ferncliff Cemetery*  
*Hartsdale, New York*



*The family invites you to a reception in the  
Riverside Church South Hall at 1:00 p.m.*



## *The Old Rugged Cross*

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross  
The emblem of suffering and shame  
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain

### **[Refrain]**

*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged Cross  
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Oh, that old rugged Cross so despised by the world  
Has a wondrous attraction for me  
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above  
To bear it to dark Calvary

### **Refrain**

In the old rugged Cross, stain'd with blood so divine  
A wondrous beauty I see  
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above  
To pardon and sanctify me

### **Refrain**

To the old rugged Cross, I will ever be true  
Its shame and reproach gladly bear  
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away  
Where his glory forever I'll share

### **Refrain**

## **Acknowledgement**

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



**2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300**  
**1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023**  
**1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833**

*Clifford V. James, V.P. & Gen. Mgr.*

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