

In Loving Memory of



Richard "Dick" Silva

October 31, 1918 - September 21, 2019

Saturday, October 5, 2019

Viewing: 10:00 am ~ 11:00 am

Service: 11:00 am

FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

2101 Saw Mill Road • White Plains, New York 10607

Rev. Dr. Leroy Richards, Officiating

Rev. Kristina Sammy

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional...Rev. Dr. Leroy Richards and Rev. Kristina Sammy

Solo.....“How Great Thou Art” by Deirdre Jenkins

Opening Prayer

Scripture Readings

Psalm 23.....Kristian Acosta (Great-grandson)

John 11: 17-25.....Gabriele Smith (Granddaughter)

Tribute.....Armando Acosta (Grandson-in-law)

Poem.....“Goodbye, Grandad”
by Milan Acosta (Great-granddaughter)

Solo.....“It Is Well With My Soul” by Deirdre Jenkins

Tributes.....Renee Chamber Lipscombe (Family Friend)
Yasmin Walker (Niece)

Obituary.....Yvonne Francis

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Y. Thorpe, Jr. (Godson)

Solo.....“There’s a Balm in Gilead” by Deirdre Jenkins

Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. Leroy Richards

Benediction & Recessional

Interment

*Monday, October 7, 2019
Calverton National Cemetery
210 Princeton Boulevard
Calverton, NY 11933*

Obituary

Richard “Dick” Silva was born to Joseph and Annette Webquish Silva on October 31, 1918 in Boston, MA. He was the eldest of four children of this union. His siblings Joseph, Balbina, Vincent, and nephew Craig predeceased him in death.

While pursuing his academic studies at the Boston Trade School, Richard became an all-scholastic football player while competing on an undefeated team in 1937. After graduating from Boston Trade School, he began his career as a welder working on cargo ships in the Boston Harbor. He would later join the esteemed Plumbers and Steamfitter Union in 1944.

In 1945, he enlisted and joined the United States Army. Shortly thereafter serving his country for 2.5 years, he met and married Phyllis Sharps and relocated to Albany. From this union, a daughter Shirley and son Richard were born. Unfortunately, his son, Richard, predeceased him in August 1968.

In the 70’s, Richard married Hattie Brown and together they raised Jerome T. Brown Sr., her son from a previous marriage. Together, Richard and Hattie also raised and became surrogate grandparents to Yashareé and Adrena White (great nieces) after the passing of their grandmother. Richard and Hattie were active members of Union Missionary Baptist Church. Dick Silva was a 33 rd Degree Mason of Prince Hall and a Shriner.

After 30 years of proficiency as master welder and steamfitter, Richard pursued an instructor-training program at Purdue University in August 1978. He successfully completed the program and was given an award by the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada (UA). He was an instructor for 35 years in the apprentice program for Local #7. During his tenure, he trained countless Local 7 welders. After retiring in September 1982, he dedicated his time and expertise to continuing his mentorship role until the age of 88. On July 26, 1997, Local 7

honored Richard Silva as being instrumental in establishing their welding program as one of the finest in the UA. In a heartfelt ceremony, Richard Silva with his loving family at his side, was honored for his unyielding service as a welding instructor. At the ceremony, he received a UA watch and plaque that reflects the naming of Local 7's welding shop in his name. Brother Silva's message to the audience was simple "Never Stop Learning".

Richard was always willing to help the less fortunate and established the Lamar Bryant Fund. Lamar was a young man who fell victim to a horrendous railroad accident.

In his later years, he resided with his daughter, Shirley, in the Bronx, NY and equally loved being surrounded by his granddaughters and great-grandchildren. In 2018, he was featured on NBC's Today Show for turning 100 years old. In addition, he received a certificate from New York State Governor Mario Cuomo and a letter from NYC's Mayor Bill de Blasio, commemorating the joyous occasion.

On September 21, 2019, he departed this life to be present with His Lord.

He leaves to celebrate his legacy, his daughter Shirley Smith, stepson, Jerome Brown (Rhonda); his granddaughters, Gabriele Smith and Dr. Dana Acosta (Armando); his great-grandchildren Milan and Kristian Acosta; nieces Annette Robinson-Travis (Walter), Yasmin Walker (Wilson) and Martistine Harper (William); nephews, Earl Thorpe (Sandra), Terell Strickland, Sr. (Sue) and William Charles Strickland (Shirley); godchildren Hassani Hamilton, Rev. Y. Thorpe, Jr. and Candice Elliott; cousin Ella Blanch Grant; dear friends Audrey Price and Renee Lipscomb and a host of other family and friends.



Dearest Pop,

Thank you for all of your love and support. I am grateful for the many years God gave me with you. In particular, how joyous it was to spend the last 13 years with you. You brought much love and joy to our family. I will always treasure your many stories, funny as well as the ones with a moral lesson. Your happiness was my happiness. My heart will miss you immensely until we see each other again.

*Lovingly, your daughter,
Shirley*





Goodbye, Granddad

by Sarah Harrison

*Heaven has received another angel,
the night sky another star.*

Your life has become a loving memory.

I know you will never be far.

I know you are watching over me as my life goes on.

I will treasure the memories I have of you.

I can't believe you're gone.

You were a loving, caring granddad.

You were there for me a lot.

*You will always hold a place in my heart,
a loving, treasured spot.*

You were really one in a million, a cut above the rest.

All who knew you would agree. You simply were the best.

So, Granddad, I will say goodbye.

I love and miss you with all my heart,

*But as long as I have my loving memories,
we will never be too far apart.*

Loving you always,

Gabriele, Dana, Milan, and Kristian





My Dearest Uncle Richard,

How much I wish I could be with you and the family now. I look back on all of the wonderful conversations and jokes that we had. I smile and cry with so much love for you. YOU were my best time travel and sports buddy and most outspoken Uncle. You reminded me of all the great times we had in the family with Mother, Uncle Vincent, Aunt Rowena (the real Geeche woman of the family), Uncle Joe, Craig and of course Grandma and Joe Sr. Not to mention all of the great times we shared at Mom's parties with Aunt Hattie, Uncle Louis and so much more family. I will miss you so very much but know that I will see you again. I will keep an eye on the Patriots and Red Sox for you but most of all will love and hold on to your Shirley as she is my Rock now and forever. Thank you so much for the wonderful years of Love, Laughter and Kindness that your big joyous Heart gave me.

*Your forever loving niece,
Annette Maria*





Pallbearers

Rev. Y. Thorpe, Jr. • Armando Acosta
Ulysses Glen • John Coker, III

Acknowledgement

The family of **Richard "Dick" Silva** acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.



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