



A Celebration of Life



Orville Leroy Keller

June 15, 1949 – April 6, 2020

Saturday, August 8, 2020 - 3:00 PM

CRESTON AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

114 East 188 Street

(Between Creston & Morris Avenues)

Bronx, NY 10468

Order of Service

Rev. Marci E. Stanley

Musical Prelude

Hymn of Praise

Prayer

Ozzie Patterson

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Psalm 121: 1-8

Monique Gamble

New Testament - John 3:16-18

Fruzenjnae Smith

Musical Selection

Goin' Up Yonder

Reflections

(3 minutes or less)

Musical Selection

"Take Me To The King"

Acknowledgments

Obituary

Davie Jemison

Musical Selection

Never Would Have Made It

Eulogy

Benediction

Recessional

Officiant

The Rev. Marcia E. Stanley

Obituary



Orville "Roy" Keller was born in Harlem Hospital, NY on June 15, 1949 to the late Orville and Theresa Keller. He was the older of their 2 children.

Roy was raised and educated in the Bronx, NY and graduated from Samuel Gompers High School in 1969.

After graduating from high school, Roy was employed by Farberware, the maker of copper, tin and aluminum cookware in the Bronx. Roy remained with Farberware until he joined the army in October, 1969.

Roy enlisted in the US Army in October, 1969 and was sent to Fort Dix, NJ for training and then transferred to Germany for nearly 2 years. He was an Army Radio and Communication Security Repairer, whose primary function was to ensure that repair functions complied with Army and National Security Agency policies and standards. Roy received the National Defense Service Medal and qualified as a Sharpshooter on the M16. He received an honorable discharge in May, 1972.

Roy returned to Farberware after his discharge. In 1988 he began working at New York Blood Center (NYBC) in Manhattan as a Blood Distributor. Roy remained at NYBC until his passing in April, 2020.

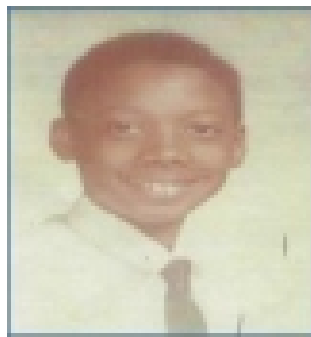
Creston Avenue Baptist Church (CABC) was the Keller family church and the church where he met his future wife, Almedia Gamble. Roy and Almedia were married on April 22, 1989. Roy and Almedia were active members of CABC. He held several positions at CABC as a Trustee, Head Deacon, head of the Pastor Aid committee, a member of the Hospitality Committee and Men's Ministry.

Roy and Almedia, traveled extensively, to biennial family reunions in Charleston, SC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Newark, NJ. They loved going to Atlantic City, NJ and taking cruises to the Caribbean & Hawaiian Islands. Their travels also took them to Los Angeles, CA, Las Vegas, NV. Roy enjoyed listening to music especially from the 60s and 70s (The O'Jays, Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, Supremes, The Temptations, etc.) and hard bop jazz (Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Horace Silver, etc.). A big fan of black and white cowboy movies (Hopalong Cassidy, Lash LaRue, Johnny Mack Brown, etc.)

Roy loved to eat. It did not matter if it was Soul, Chinese, Mexican, Italian, etc. If it was cooked in your kitchen, in a fine restaurant, on a food truck/wagon, take out, or a deli - Roy was a firm believer that the art of cooking should be honored, appreciated and consumed and not to do so would be insulting.

He was a talker and but more importantly he was a listener. Not a gossip but someone who could engage in conversation on a myriad of subjects and allow you to express your thoughts freely. He would offer advice that actually helped and without being condescending.

Roy leaves to cherish his memory: his wife of 32 years Almedia; a sister Diane; 2 nephews, Damon, Davey; 2 nieces, Monique, Patricia; 2 grandnephews, Amir, Michael; 1 great grandnephew, Kristan; 2 grand nieces, Fruzenjnae, Kendra; 2 great grand nieces, Madison, Milan; 2 sister in laws, Annie, Carlene; 1 brother in law, Carey; many cousins, 6 godchildren Kendra, Christopher, Janne, Lorraine, Lorenz, Laurel and countless others who considered Roy their god father, Lisa, a good friend of the family, and his longtime friend and confidant, Ozzie.



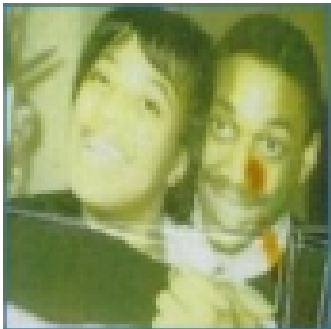
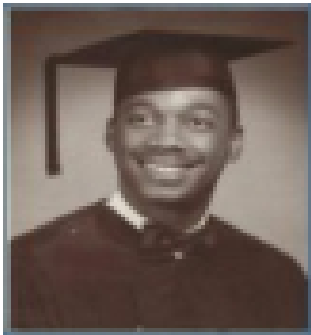
Afterglow

I'd like the memory
of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow
of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly
down the ways,

Of happy times and
laughing times and bright
and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who
grieve, to dry before the sun;
Of happy memories that I
leave when life is done.



Memories



Memories



Personal Remembrances

Almedia Gamble-Keller - Those we love don't go away, they walk besides us every day unseen. Unheard but always near, so loved, so missed, so very dear.

Ann Byrd - I knew I was getting a good brother in law, but getting a friend, that was a bonus

Damon Byrd - Roy's calm demeanor and easy sense of humor have always been a comforting sight for me. I learned the importance of having a strong work ethic from him. I didn't learn this from him lecturing me, but by watching my uncle's actions. I will truly miss the deep conversations about anything and everything while having a good beer with my drinking buddy.

Ozzie Patterson - Roy, my Brother and friend who I miss very dearly. You were there for me when I needed you. You were that kind of brother I never had. The kind of brother and friend who would pick up me when I was down. You were that kind of brother and friend that stuck up for me when no one else would. When we saw each other last, when we went out and shared a meal, we said to each other – "See you later," I didn't know those words would come true. So I say now "See you later my Brother but always my friend."
Love, your Brother and Friend

Edwina Grady - Roy was a dear friend, who I call brother, because he treated me as if I was his sister. I miss him and I often think about the times, He, Almedia and I spent together. I will miss his big smile and his quiet demeanor always a gentleman and a true man of God. For encouraging my daughters just like a loving uncle would. I am glad that GOD allowed him to be a part of my life, and I will cherish the memories I have of him always.

Keisha Grady - I grew up with my father in my life, but he was not the type of person that you could go to for guidance. I didn't find that type of support until I met Roy Keller. I could go to Roy and talk to him about anything that was going on in my life and he would give me his ear and advice. During some of the toughest times I faced he was always there to encourage me. Roy was like a father to me and I will miss him.

Kendra Grady - I looked at Roy as a father figure, and I affectionately referred to him as 'Dad'. Throughout my childhood to adult years I desperately needed fatherly guidance, and he was there for me. He reassured me that I was worthy of the best that life has to offer. He loved on me with hugs and kisses, and truly cared for my well-being. When I think of him, I think of a man that was clear on who he was and who he belonged to. He was selfless and consistent in his service to others, whether it was in the church, at work, to his wife, family, or friends. We are immensely blessed to have loved him and have been loved by him.

Mikie Grady - Memories that come to mind when I think of Roy was how he took on an important role as god father to my little sister. He filled a need in her life and did a great job at it. As he became our family, he always took pleasure in finding time to speak such encouraging words about my son. A mild mannered man who's loving disposition spoke volumes. His jovial spirit will definitely be missed

There's an open gate at the end of the road
Through which each must go alone.
And there, is a light we cannot see,
Our Father claims his own;
Beyond the gate our loved one finds
Happiness and rest.
And there is comfort in the thought
That a loving God knows best.

Acknowledgements

*The members of the Keller family is comforted by your
praise, your caring and your sympathy.*

*Expressions of condolences as we mourn the memory of
our loved one. Our burden has been made more bearable
because of your concern. Warmest and sincerest
appreciation is extended to each of you.*



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