

Celebrating the Life for
Reverend William Carlous Holmes

Sunrise
May 4, 1944

Sunset
July 29, 2020



Monday, August 17, 2020 - 12Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Reverend William Carlous Holmes was born on May 4, 1944 to the late Fannie Scarborough Holmes and the late Jack Carlous Holmes in Farmville, North Carolina. He was predeceased by two sisters, Phllyis Wheatley Holmes Suggs and Marie Francis Holmes.

He received his education at the H.B. Suggs High School, where he played football and enjoyed singing in the choir. He joined the St. Stephen's A.M.E. Zion Church at an early age and served in Church School Activities. In 1965 he relocated to New York City and enrolled at the National School of Broadcasting and received a certificate in announcing. He was employed for the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation as a motor vehicle operator for many years.

Rev. Holmes was baptized in Friendship Baptist Church in 1974 and served many groups in the church. He served as a superintendant of Sunday school, a trustee and spiritual advisor to several ministries. Also, he served as president of the Early Morning Prayer Band at Friendship Baptist Church and the Monthly Union Prayer Band president for ten years. The Prayer Band consist of 16 churches in Harlem, the Bronx and Westchester area. In 1984 he was ordained a Deacon and served as Vice Chairman until answering his call to the ministry. In 1993, he was licensed to preach the gospel, that same year Rev. Holmes entered the New York Theological Seminary as a student in Christian Ministry. In 1995 he received his certificate in Christian Ministry from the New York Theological Seminary and entered the Blanton Peale Institute of Religion and Philosophy. He received his certificate in pastoral care and awareness in 1997. In the same year, he was ordained to preach the gospel under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Herman Hayes Watts. Rev. Holmes was elected by the officers and members of the Friendship Baptist Church to become Interim Pastor in 1999. In 2005, he graduated from The College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor's of Arts Degree. He continued to served the Friendship Baptist Church as worship leader and Minister to the sick until his death. He was the Early Morning Prayer Band President for ten years at his church. He served as superintendent of Sunday school, a trustee and spiritual advisor to several groups. The year 1984 was ordained a Deacon and served as Vice Chairman until answering his call to the ministry in 1993, licensed to preach the Gospel, that same year Rev. Holmes entered the New York Theological Seminary as a student in Christian Ministry, he was past president of the Monthly Union Prayer Band, which consists of (16) churches in Harlem, Bronx and Westchester New York area. In 1995 he received his certificate in Christian Ministry from the New York Theological Seminary and entered the Blanton-Peale Institute of Religion and Philosophy, he received his certificate in pastoral care and awareness in 1997. The same year he was ordained to preach the gospel under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Herman Hayes Watts. Rev. Holmes was elected by the officers and members of The Friendship Baptist Church, to become interim pastor in 1999. In 2005 he graduated from The College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Humanities and religious studies and continued his education for his Masters of Divinity Degree at the New York Theological Seminary at The Riverside Campus. He continued to serve the Friendship Baptist Church as worship leader and Minister to the sick until death.

He was a member of the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge. In 1977, Rev. Holmes was received, pasted and raised in Antioch Lodge No.66, Past Grand High Priest Widow Son Chapter No.1, Royal and Select Master's No.1, Past Patron Antioch Chapter No. 44, OES, Past Chapter Joshua Naomi Court No. 4, Past Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons, State of New York and Jurisdiction. He also served as Past Grand Chaplin to the most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

Reverend Holmes favorite scriptures was Psalm 27:4 One thing have I desired of the Lord, That will seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord. All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord. And to inquire in his temple. Psalm 27:14 Wait, on the lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen thine heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord! One thing he desired was to leave these scriptures with us that have directed his life." A Strong Believer in God.

On the morning of July 29, 2020, God tenderly embraced his son William and guided him on a journey home for his eternal rest and welcomed him into the heavenly Mansion that has been prepared for him as God promised. Reverend William Carlous Holmes leaves to cherish his memory of his devoted wife of years Selma Yearwood Holmes, one sister Minister Kathryn D. Holmes, one cousin James Walker, Springfield, Maryland, daughters Linette, Christina and Jeanine and son Carl, and many other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Rev. James A. Kilgore, Officiating
Ramon Bryant Braxton, Organist

Organ Prelude

Processional and Final Viewing.....ALL Clergy and Family
“When We All Get To Heaven”

InvocationRev. James A. Kilgore

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

Scripture ReadingRev. Lee Hodge
Old Testament-Psalms 23
New Testament-2 Timothy, 4:6-8

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Calvin Owens, Pastor
Community Protestant Church, Bronx, New York

Selection..... Reverend Jennifer Miller (Precious Lord)
Grace Baptist Church. N.Y.

Resolutions/ Acknowledgements..... Barbara Outlaw Barmore
Friendship Baptist Church

Obituary.....Angela Walker Campbell

Remarks or Tributes(2 Min. Please)
Rev. James A. Kilgore, Pastor Friendship Baptist Church
Rev. Robert Jones, PastorSecond St. John Baptist Church
Sister Betty Crawford.....Early Morning Praying Band
Prince Hall Masonic Lodge M.E. Charles E. Gillum, Jr.
Past Grand High Priest Holy Royal Arch Masons

Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts III, Pastor
The Abyssinian Baptist Church

Selection..... Abyssinian Baptist Church - Eunice Newkirk
(His Eye Is on The Sparrow)

Recessional Committal.....Rev. James A. Kilgore, Pastor
Friendship Baptist Church

OrganistRamon Bryant Braxton
“Going Up Yonder” - The Abyssinian Baptist Church - Eunice Newkirk

Interment

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Mount Hope Cemetery

50 Jackson Avenue at Saw Mill Road

Hastings-On-Hudson, New York



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!

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

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

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If Tomorrow Never Comes

If I knew it would be the last time I'd see you fall asleep, I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord, your soul to keep,
 If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door,
 I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for more.

If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted in praise, I would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day. If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two to stop and say "I Love You", instead of assuming you would KNOW I do. If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day, well I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let just this one slip away. For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight, and we always get a second chance to make everything right.

There will always be another day to say our "I love you's", And certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do's?" But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get, I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope you never forget, Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike, And today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight. So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today? For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day, That you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were too busy to grant someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear, Tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear, Take time to say "I'm sorry," "please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay". And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have

NO regrets about Today.

-Author unknown



God's Promise

God didn't promise
Days without pain,
Laughter without sorrow
Or sun without rain.
But God did promise
Strength for the day,
Comfort for the tears
And a light for the way,
And for all who believe
In His Kingdom above,
He answers their faith
With everlasting love.





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