

*Celebration Of Life  
For  
Samuel Livingston*

**Sunrise  
June 26, 1931**

**Sunset  
January 8, 2021**

**Funeral Services:**

**Thursday, January 21, 2021**

**Viewing: 9:00am-10:00am (Open to the public)**

**Service: 10:00am (Private due to Covid-19 restrictions and precautions)**

**Live Stream via Zoom: <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/81880713275>**

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

**2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027**

# *Obituary*

**Samuel Livingston**, affectionately known as “Sam” to most and “Grandpa” to many, went home to be with the Lord on January 8, 2021, at the age of 89, after a long battle with kidney disease.

Sam was born to Samuel Livingston II and Lina James on June 26, 1931 in Tallahassee, Florida and raised as a member of Miccosukee, Florida’s Indian Seminole tribe.

Sam was a skilled athlete in many sports including basketball, boxing, swimming, and track, but his passion was baseball, which he excelled at and turned down multiple offers for the minor leagues.

Sam attended Lincoln High School in Tallahassee, Florida and regularly attended reunions. He emancipated himself at age 16, and worked several jobs in Florida before moving to New York in 1950. In 1951, he met the love of his life, Maxine, whom he referred to as “Puddin”. He often boasted how the first time he laid eyes on her, he remarked “I’m going to marry her!”

Months later, Maxine would mark off days on the calendar anticipating Sam’s return from the Army, of which he enlisted at the age of 21. He served from 1952 to 1954, during the Korean War. While on active duty Sam played baseball, boxed, and cooked. As Sam previously predicted, he wed Maxine in 1958, and they later had four children.

Sam spent 19 years employed at Saint David’s School in New York, before retiring in 1997.

Sam was a minimalist and often mused about how “Puddin” loved to shop, while he didn’t require much. He would joke that if she didn’t come home with a bag he would know something was wrong.

Sam was very sociable, and enjoyed playing pool and cards with friends. Most notably: Lester, Little John, Bernie, and George.

While he valued his friendships, Sam was a loving husband and father who held an unwavering faith in God. He was a devout Christian, and was a member and worshipper for the last 30 years of his life at Abundant Life Tabernacle in Bronx, New York. He was an active member of the Wednesday prayer group and known for his singing.

Sam is predeceased by his wife: Maxine Livingston; mother, Lina James; father, Samuel Livingston II; sister, Rosa Lee Pride; brothers, Willie C. and James C. Clark.

He is survived by: his four children, Gail Livingston, Sharon Livingston, and twins, Stanley Livingston and Stacey Price; fifteen grandchildren, Ronald, Ronald, Dana, Spencer, Hannah, Donnell, Derek, Shada, Ricardo, Shauntae, Sharae, Stanley Jr., Briana, Gabriel, and Crystal; brother and sister-in-law, Ronald and Yvonne Newton; sister-in-law, Darlene Newton; son-in-law, Daniel Price; daughter-in-law, Elisa Livingston; eighteen great grandchildren; special nieces and nephews, Curtis and Latoya Newton, Henry Pride, and Lue Henry Davis; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

The family would like for you to know while Sam will be dearly missed, he would want everyone to know that he enjoyed life, and fought a good fight, but he was tired and ready to go home. Remember him for what he meant to you, and how he made you feel. Think of him often, smile, and say “Well Done”.

# *Order of Service*

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Bishop Jasper Rolle, Jr. Presiding Prelate of Abundant Life Tabernacle, Inc.  
Pastor Jeffrey Crenshaw, Officiant

Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn

Prayer of Comfort

Old Testament Reading:  
Psalm 90

New Testament Reading:  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Family Tribute

Soloist:  
Hannah Livingston

Church Resolution

Obituary and Acknowledgement

Soloist

Eulogy:  
Bishop Jasper Rolle, Jr.

Benediction

Recessional

INTERMENT:  
Calverton National Cemetery  
Calverton, 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 his call,  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah 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 savoured 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 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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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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*MB*

