In Loving Memory of Donald J. Givens, Sr.

Sunrise October 2, 1934 Sunset March 15, 2021

伊州家庭》中国的政治

<u>Service</u> Tuesday, March 23, 2021 • 12:00 noon

First Baptist Church Of Linden

929 Dill Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036 *Rev. Dr. Derrick R. Dumas*

Legacy Of Life

Donald J. Givens, Sr. (Duck), 86, entered into eternal rest on March 15, 2021. Donald was born on October 2, 1934 in Elizabeth, New Jersey – the oldest son born to the late Helen and Nathan Givens. He was educated in the Linden School system, where he graduated from Linden High School in 1952. He discovered his passion for boxing at the young age of 15 and earned the title of New Jersey Golden Glove Champion in 1953. Not long after graduation, he enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served 4 years and became the United States Air Force Featherweight Champion.

Returning home to Linden, he married his sweetheart, Geneva Davis in 1959. They were married for 51 years until her passing in 2006. From their union came three sons – Donald Jr, Derek, Tyrone and his son through boxing (of over 40 years), Rodney Price Givens. Don is also the proud grandfather of 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Don was a life-long resident of Linden, New Jersey and member of First Baptist Church. One of his proudest moments was being selected Senior Citizen of the Year in his hometown and most recently honored as City of Linden "Hometown Hero". The Givens last name has been synonymous with sports for a very long time. Don served as Linden PAL Pop Warner Football Coach and even taught karate to the local youth.

Donald retired from Exxon Chemical Center in Linden, where he worked for 35 years as a Senior Research Lab Technician. Don was inducted into the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame and is a member of the Linden Athletic Hall of Fame along with his father Noonie and 5 uncles. He was also a certified National and International USA Boxing coach and became the first African American to serve as President of the USA Boxing New Jersey Association.

Considered one of the best boxing trainers in the country, Don served as training camp coach for USA boxing top boxers at the US Olympic training center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Don started training kids in his basement and eventually started the Linden Boxing Club. He then joined the Elizabeth PAL where he stayed for 15 years until he began training at the Elizabeth Recreation Bayway Center, where he remained until his passing. He has traveled extensively with national and international teams to several countries such as Hungary,

Yugoslavia, Denmark and Nova Scotia. Don was one of the top-level amateur coaches in the country.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents – Helen and Nathan, his wife - Geneva, and siblings – Nathan, Joyce, Gerry, Phyllis, and Rodger. He leaves to cherish his fond memories and legacy to his sons Donald Jr. (Angela) of Linden, New Jersey; Derek (Kim) of Newark, New Jersey; Tyrone (Gail) of Aberdeen, New Jersey; Rodney (Stephanie) of Rahway, New Jersey; his grandchildren – Dondria, Shakira, Derek Jr., Tajah, Tionna, Denisha, Donald III, and Deja; eight great-grandchildren and a host of family and friends.

Order of Service

Scripture Readings Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Bishop Wayne Johnson

Solo

Musical Selections

Presentation

Tribute to Grandpa

Tajah Givens

Reflections

Rodney Price Dondi Givens, Jr. Tyrone Givens

Acknowledgment of Condolences

Angela Jordan

Legacy of Life

Angela Jordan

Solo

Music Ministry

Ministry of Comfort

Rev. Dr. Derrick R. Dumas

Recessional

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery 792 East Edgar Road Linden, NJ 07036 Don't Cry For Me

Don't cry for me. I will be okay.

Heaven is my home now, and this is where I'll stay.

I want you to be happy and try to stay strong.

Don't cry for me. I'm where I belong.

Don't cry for me. It was just my time,

but I will see you someday on the other side.

Don't cry for me. I am not alone.

The angels are with me to welcome me home.

Don't cry for me, for I have no fear.

All my pain is gone, and Jesus took my tears.

Don't cry for me. This is not the end.

I'll be waiting here for you when we meet again.

Phonomicologowane

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!



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~Entrusting Loved Ones Memories into Legacies~

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