

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 undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace
at the close of the day.
If 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 for 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 hearts and share with me,
God wants me now, He set me free.



Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Mordeford Ellis** wishes to thank all of you
for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of
kindness shown during our hour of bereavement.
May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

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Celebration of Life for



Mordeford Ellis *"Boysie"*

Sunrise:
April 19, 1944

Sunset:
January 11, 2022

Friday, January 21, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.

Calvary Temple International
1111 Preakness Avenue, Wayne, NJ 07470
Pastor Matt Battista, Officiating



Reflections of Life

When you are sorrowful look into your heart and you shall see that you are weeping for that which has been your delight. This morning we are gathered to mourn the loss of Mordeford Ellis. Mordeford—who was lovingly known as Boysie, Ellis and Grandpa Mordie—was a father, grandfather, husband, brother and friend to many.

Our grandfather was blessed to be born into the Ellis family, a large loving family where he was the seventh child to Oscar and Emily. On April 19th, 1944 in Clarendon, Jamaica he was given the name Mordeford a strong biblical name that later would later define his larger than life personality.

Boysie was as uncanny as he was very outspoken, after all he was in truth an Ellis. He received his formal education at Moores Elementary School. Mordeford loved life through labor. He loved his family fiercely and would often go to great lengths to provide for them. He started his career as a shoemaker in Jamaica for several years. He later became an entrepreneur through selling chicken and other goods around his community. The opportunity presented itself for him to visit Bermuda, where he lived and worked for several years. He learned of the farm work program being offered by the government of Jamaica and he became a part of the cohort of workers for several years after which he migrated to America. While residing in New Jersey, Mordeford drove a school bus for a number of years, and then later worked in environmental services at Valley Hospital from which he retired. He lived his post-retirement life as a landlord after acquiring multiple rental properties. It should be noted that it was on one of his trips around the community selling chicken that he met Icilida Thomas--Michelle's mom.

Our mom was his only child and we were his only grandchildren. Therefore, the four of us were able to create an extremely close bond. We have so many great memories of our grandfather that we will never forget.

From his impromptu backyard barbeques to birthday trips to Red Lobster and road trips to the beach, the memories are endless.

After the passing of his second wife Barbara, Mordeford never knew that he would find love again until he blessed his eyes on Yvonne Thompson, the two have been married for over nine years. They enjoyed cooking and tending to their beautiful backyard garden together and she was there for him during his last days.

He suffered from various health issues during the last decade of his life, but always fought them fearlessly. Unfortunately, he lost his battle to Covid-19 and took his last breath on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, a little after 3:00pm. We will not forget our grandfather. His sacrifices, love, and strength will run for generations. He continued to keep his hopes high throughout his illness and is an inspiration to us all. Sadness undoubtedly envelops us this morning and understandably so, but we must take solace in the truth that our dear Grandpa Mordie is now dancing, his breath has been freed from the restless tides of life.

Today, we give thanks for the life of a man we are so proud to call Boysie, the unique, the nonpareil, the extraordinary and unequivocally irreplaceable Mordeford Ellis.

Sleep on my brother, father, uncle, grand-father, grand-uncle and friend. May the perpetual light of God continue to shine on you. Blessings all.

He was predeceased by his parents; Emily and Oscar Ellis, Septeriah (Sunny), Jonathan (Uncle John), Samuel (Busha), Maybel (Aunt May).

He leaves to cherish precious memories his wife; Yvonne Thompson-Ellis, daughter; Michelle Ellis, granddaughters; Kayla Williams and Sydney Williams, step-children; Shadae Faulkner, Mark Walters Peter Walters and Victor Flores, brothers; Charles (Doctor), Alderman (Harvey), Leon, sisters; Cathelyn, Thelma, Merlin, Herphemia (Herfa), Hope (Hopie), and a host of other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings
Psalm 121
Psalm 23

Prayer

Selection
How Great Thou Art

Acknowledgments

Remarks

Reflections of Life

Selection
Great is Thy Faithfulness

Words of Comfort

Recessional

Interment
Redeemer Cemetery
90 Chapel Road, Mahwah, NJ