



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Calvin Thomas

Sunrise

April 10, 1941

Sunset

February 1, 2022

Service

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 • 11:00 a.m.

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. • Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Keshia Spencer, Officiating
Saint James AME Church Pulpit Associate

Bro. Jeff Motley, Organist

Min. Steve Hill, Soloist

Order of Service

SoloMin. Steve Hill, Soloist

Bro. Jeff Motley, Organist

Scripture Readings Rev. Cynthia McKnight

Old Testament: Job 1:21

New Testament: Hebrews 12:28

Song Selection “I Won’t Complain”

Words of Expression

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Keshia Spencer

Reading of Obituary Jonathan Thomas

Eulogy Rev. Theresa Andrews

Saint James AME Church Pulpit Associate

Recessional Musical Interlude

Interment

*Hollywood Memorial Park
1500 Styvesant Avenue
Union, New Jersey*

Reflection of Life

Calvin Thomas was called home on February 1, 2022. He was born on April 10, 1941, to Viola Swindell and John Calvin Thomas in Gainesville, Florida. He had three siblings: Harry and J.C., who preceded him in death, and Marvin, who currently resides in Gainesville, Florida.

After attending Florida A&M University, Calvin enlisted into the United States Marine Corps in 1963 at the age of 22. During his tenure, he was stationed at many locations around the world and served at least two tours in the Vietnam War. His honors include: Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the Rifle Sharpshooter Badge, the Pistol Expert Badge, and the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal for his exemplary service in Vietnam. After six years of service to his country, Calvin was honorably discharged on December 3, 1969, with the rank of Sergeant.

Upon his discharge from the military, Calvin resided in East Orange, NJ. After some years as a Newark Special Police Officer, he met the love of his life, Corliss, in 1978. They were married on August 17, 1980, at Canaan Baptist Church in Paterson, NJ. Later that year, he enrolled in the Essex County Police Academy, whereupon graduation he was assigned to the Essex County Sheriff's Department. After working in the Process Division, earning meritorious accolades along the way, he was promoted in 1984 to the rank of Detective in the Bureau of Narcotics. He dutifully served the Essex County community until his retirement in 2006.

Apart from his skilled expertise in law enforcement and hard work, Calvin was an avid fan of horse racing and sports, and he faithfully supported the New York Jets, New York Knicks, New York Mets, and Florida Gators with pride. He also possessed a deep love and appreciation for music, honed by his years as a radio DJ in Florida. Though he preferred to live modestly, he gave to others unceasingly, regularly donating to Toys for Tots among other charities.

He is survived by his wife, Corliss Thomas; his children Eric Thomas of Hillside, NJ, Jonathan Thomas of Norwalk, CT, and Jasmine Thomas of West Orange, NJ; his brother, Marvin Thomas of Gainesville, FL; his sister-in-law, Esther Thomas of High Springs, Florida; and a host of nephews, cousins, other family members, and loved ones.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Self-Pity

I never saw a wild thing sorry for itself. A small bird will drop frozen dead from a bough without ever having felt sorry for itself.

- D.H. Lawrence

Invictus

Out of the night that covers me, black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever gods may be for my unconquerable soul. In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance. My head is bloody, but unbowed. Beyond this place of wrath and tears looms but the horror of the shade, and yet the menace of the years finds and shall find me unafraid. It matters not how strait the gate, how charged with punishments the scroll, I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.

- William Ernest Henley

Acknowledgements

The Thomas Family wishes to thank everyone for the well wishes and condolences during this time.



Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

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Carolyn Whigham, Director

