



Ollie Russell Bracey

April 25, 1939 - August 31, 2016

On Wednesday, August 31, 2016, Almighty God in His infinite mercy gently and tenderly closed the eyes of our loved one, Ollie Russell Bracey, the youngest and seventh child of the late Walter and Ida Bracey. A native Washingtonian, born on April 25, 1939, he was educated in DC public schools and graduated from Anacostia High School. Immediately after receiving his high school diploma, he joined the Air Force and was honorably discharged in 1959.

Joined in holy matrimony to Gwendolyn Eason on July 10, 1971, they celebrated 45 years of wedded joy just a few months ago. Their union produced one daughter, Shannon Elisha. They also shared in the care, raising, and nurturing of two daughters from a previous marriage, Gail Denise and Glynnis Anita.

Ollie began his federal government career at the Government Printing Office. He found his niche at the USAID, where he worked faithfully for 42 years and retired from there on December 30, 1999. Because of his gregarious nature and hard-working discipline, he is still remembered by his co-workers and friends. His discipline and excellent work ethic didn't stop with retirement. Ollie served as a hard-working member of the St. Lucille A.M.E. Zion Church Usher Board and blissfully played the put-upon husband by "driving Ms. Gwen" and doing his "Honey, Do..." list until his health forced his second retirement.

Though Ollie worshipped at St. Lucille AME Zion Church for over twenty years, his spiritual foundation was established at an early age at the St. John CME Church in Washington, DC. As an adult, Ollie joined the Metropolitan Wesley AME Zion Church with his wife and youngest daughter. He continued to grow under the 17-year pastorate of Rev. Dr. William W. Anderson at his final church home, St. Lucille.

An infectious laugh, a clever and wry sense of humor, generous and loving nature, Ollie's departure leaves a hole in the Bracey family. Both family and friends will miss his wide smile. A voracious reader of mysteries and the Washington Post and a compulsive consumer of Altoids and Nutri Grain bars, both of those stocks will plummet in the coming months.

There to greet him upon his arrival in heaven from his family, were his parents who preceded him in death; four sisters, Alice Monroe, Delores Harris, Nellie Hawkins, and Sylvia Biggins; one brother, Walter Bracey, Jr.; and two nephews, Melvin Maxwell and Lionel Harris; and one great-nephew, Walter Bracey, III.

Left to celebrate his life and forever cherish his memory are his loving, dedicated, and devoted wife of 45 years, Gwendolyn E. Bracey; three daughters, Gail "Cookie" (Maurice) Howard, Glynnis (Maurice) Shane, Shannon "Diamond" Bracey; one brother, Willis Bracey; two grandchildren, Shantel Howard and Miles Shane; a wonderful group of sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Mary Estelle (Carl), Carrie Donaldson, William (Jean) Eason, James Eason and Melvine Miller; and, a host of special nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends

Cemetery Details

Cheltenham

Cheltenham, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **15**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Lucille AME Zion Church
5100 Astor PI NE
Washington, DC

Service

SEP **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Lucille AME Zion Church
5100 Astor PI NE
Washington, DC

Tribute Wall



“ *Ollie Russell Bracey*

October 23, 2023 at 08:15 AM



“ *My deepest condolences sent to the family at this difficult time. I have fond memories growing up of my father's beloved cousin "Ollie." My father Frank Clark, and Ollie were first cousins, with us growing up in New York, and him and a large amount of the Bracey's creating legacy in Washington. My grandmother (Irene), was Oliver's beloved nephew. I have as stated great childhood memories of the sisters, to include my favorite, Sylvia! I wish that I had opportunity to see him, as many years have now passed. I will be sure to share with my mother of wonderful Ollie's death, and reunification with the Lord.*

Amy (Clark) Washington (843) 469-2048

amy - October 03, 2016 at 12:17 PM

TW

“ Dear Gwen,
This is Miki, Charles' niece. Today, I spoke with Carrie and was sadden by the shock of the loss of Ollie. The pain, the grief, and the feelings of helplessness can seem unbearable. At such times, we need to go to God's Word for comfort. At your spare time, please read 2 Corinthian 1:3-4. The Bible helps us to understand how God and Jesus feel about death. You know the account when Jesus' friend Lazarus died, after Jesus seeing Mary and Martha crying, Jesus too gave way to tears (John 11:33-35). God identified death as an enemy when He said “The last enemy, death, is to be brought to nothing.”—1 COR. 15:26.

I will continue to keep you and your family in my prayers that God blesses you with endurance and comfort. May you find comfort in the above scriptures.

Miki (Taren)

Taren Williams - September 16, 2016 at 01:25 PM

RW

“ To Gwen, Shannon, and the Entire Family of Bro. Ollie Russell Bracey, be it known that the Pastor and Members of Varick Chapel AME Zion Church-Asheville, NC are praying and holding you all in our hearts doing this your "Night Season", we pray that you will find comfort in knowing that this is not a GOOD BYE....but.....We will see you later!

Rev. Damita Jo Wilder - September 14, 2016 at 09:59 PM



“ We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - September 14, 2016 at 05:30 PM