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In Loving Memory

BENJAMIN L.
MINNIFIELD

*Remembering His
Yesterday
Celebrating His
Tomorrow*



February 27, 1932 ~ August 12, 2013

BENJAMIN L. MINNIFIELD

February 27, 1932 ~ August 12, 2013

Benjamin L. Minnifield was born on February 27, 1932 to the late Mr. and Mrs. Minnifield of Jefferson County, Alabama. After receiving his education in Jefferson County, Benjamin served his country as a member of the United States Army.

In search of better employment opportunities, Benjamin was part of the "great migration" from the south to the north. His relocation was fruitful, as he became employed with the General Motors Tonawanda Engine Plant where he worked for several years as a Mechanic. But Benjamin was also a carpenter by trade and had an entrepreneurial spirit. Venturing into self-employment, he became the owner of a grocery store which blossomed into a fish market which was located on the corner of Genesee and Hickory Streets. He became known as the "Fish Man." Although he was indeed a fisherman at heart, Benjamin himself did not eat fish.

On Christmas Day in 1966, Benjamin married the love of his life, Melvinia M. Gaskin. Together they shared 47 years of loving happiness until his passing.

Benjamin joined fellowship with the Hopewell Baptist Church under the leadership of the founding pastor, Reverend John F. D. Lyles. He remained a faithful member under the later pastorate of Reverend Dennis Lee, Jr., attending until health issues no longer permitted him to. Benjamin's personal ministry and passion was caring for senior citizens. He would repair things in their homes, take them shopping or just on an outing, and would never overcharge them for anything. In his leisure time, he was also a member of the Elks Lodge.

As Benjamin fought a good fight while hospitalized from June until his passing, his beloved Melvinia was right by his side, holding his hand. Benjamin's change came on August 12, 2013, when the Lord graciously called him home. His memory is cherished by his loving and devoted wife, Melvinia M. Minnifield; his four children that he was blessed with: his son Terrence Moore and his three daughters Monita Laurent, Robin Hunter and Gloria Reed; goddaughter Christine Barnes; four grandchildren; a devoted sister-in-law, Bell Henley; nine nephews and nieces: Joseph, Corddaryl, Yahita, Donnette, Dezzeryn, Dojetta, Shakira, Shakiyah and Tenisha (Donald), and a host of other beloved relatives and dear friends. Family members who preceded him in death were his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Minnifield; Corddaryl Henley, Sr., Melvin Henley, Rieta M. Gaskin McGee, Sharon Brown, Frances A. Pratt and Sammie Jackson.

HOMEGOING CELEBRATION

MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2013

HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

1301 Fillmore Avenue · Buffalo, New York 14211

Reverend Dennis Lee, Jr., Pastor

Officiating

VISITATION 11 AM

Family Processional and Viewing

Receiving of Friends

HOMEGOING SERVICE 12 NOON

Musical Prelude

Processional..... Pastor and Clergy

Parting Glimpse..... The Family

Sealing of the Bier Thomas T. Edwards Funeral Home

Congregational Song "I Will Trust in the Lord"

Opening Selection..... Hopewell Baptist Church Choir

Scripture Readings

Old Testament..... Reverend Davis

New Testament Reverend Ashley

Prayer of Comfort..... Reverend Raymond Pugh

Solo..... Mr. Darrell M. Saxon II

Expressions..... Family and Friends

(Please Limit Remarks to Two Minutes)

Acknowledgement of Condolences

Reading of the Obituary..... Connie Jefferson

Sermonic Solo Mr. Mitchell McCleod

Eulogy..... Pastor Dennis Lee, Jr.

Recessional

INTERMENT

Forest Lawn Cemetery

1411 Delaware Avenue · Buffalo, New York 14209

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE



*“Oh Lord, I want you to help me.
Help me on my journey, help me all night long.
Oh Lord, I need you to help me.”*

*The Lord sent me a brown-eyed angel, and our love blossomed into a
lifelong marriage. My soul mate, there is a void, but I will fill that void
with 47 years of memories. I love you Benjamin ...
I miss you and will always love you.*

*Your Loving Wife,
Melvinia M. Minnifield*

*Time is always too short for our loved ones, and Dad it's really too short
for you and I. My heart saddens when I think I won't see you again, but
I know you'll be watching over me always.*

*I Love You Dad,
Your Daughter Monita*

*Dad, I was so proud when you strived to walk me down the aisle on my
wedding day. I was so happy twice that day - you were there and my
husband was there. Dad, I love you and will always miss you.*

*We Love You Dad,
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Reed*

To My Benji ~

I will miss you. We always understood each other. We were more than sister and brother-in-law - we were family, and that was solid gold.

Your place is in my heart forever.

*I Love You Brother,
Your Sister Bell*

For many, many years you were my only uncle. I took pride in that you were my uncle. I love you to the depths of my soul and especially so because you were my pieces mate. You don't know what you meant to me. You'll always be the one.

*Your Niece,
"San"*

Every time I saw you, you gave me that big smile and would say "How you?" Then we would finish our conversation with you saying, "Get your degrees and your 'rithmetic." You will truly be missed Uncle Ben.

*Love,
"Miss Moo" (Shakiyah)*

An Uncle, A Father and A Friend

by Shakira L. Henley

*When I needed an example of strength,
You were an uncle who showed me the way.
When I needed someone to show me comfort and love,
You were a father who showed me compassion.
When I needed a friend,
You were that too.
For being all these things to me
I love you and cherish every moment.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



PALLBEARERS

Herbert
Julius Blackman ("June Bug")
Patrick Newsom
Lanny Harper
Michael Mitchell
Harry Morris

CARE OF OUR LOVED ONE ENTRUSTED TO

THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC.

995 Genesee Street · Buffalo, New York 14211
(716) 894-4888 · www.thomastedwardsfuneralhome.com
Mr. Darrell M. Saxon II
Manager, Funeral Director

WITH OUR GRATITUDE

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you for the kindness expressed through your thoughts, prayers, food, monetary gifts, visits or phone calls. We give special thanks to Pastor Dennis Lee, Jr. and the Hopewell Baptist Church family for the love and compassion you have shown. "Thank you Pastor for keeping me looking well-groomed by keeping my neckties tied neatly." May God bless and keep each of you in His love.

The Family of Benjamin L. Minnifield

Image by Design

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