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2005-02-05; Pamphlets; A Celebration of Life and Service for Alfred Roosevelt Jarrett

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A Celebration of Life and Service
For
ALFRED ROOSEVELT JARRETT

In Loving Memory

Saturday, February 5, 2005
Wake: 10:00 A.M.
Funeral: 11:00 A.M.

St. Luke AME Zion Church
314 East Ferry Street
Buffalo, New York 14208
Rev. Dr. Robert L. Graham, Pastor
OBITUARY

Alfred Roosevelt Jarrett was born in Buffalo, New York, December 11, 1934, the youngest of five children, to the late Roosevelt and Ruth Holly Jarrett. On the wings of angels, Alfred (Al) took flight on Tuesday, February 1, 2005, at 3:15 P.M. from Sister’s Hospital. “The Song Has Ended, But the Melody Lingers On”.

Alfred dedicated his life and service to Christ at a very early age. He was organist at St. Luke AME Zion Church at the age of 12 and Minister of Music for St. Luke since graduation from Howard University. He received his early education in the Buffalo Public Schools, PS. #47, and Hutchinson Central High School (now Hutch-Tech). His music education began in 1942 with study of the violin, then piano at Hickory Street Center. His organ lessons began in 1948.

Alfred graduated Cum Laude from Howard University in 1956 and earned a Master of Music Degree there in 1967. He attended Fredonia State College for Music Education Methods with special concentration in Choral and Instrumental Techniques, State University College at Buffalo and Villanova University for Elementary Education and Administration.

Alfred was proud to have been a member of the famed Howard University Choir during it’s “golden years”, under the direction of Dean Walter Lawson and Evelyn D. White. He was in demand as an accompanist for local singers and instrumentalists; he was organist for many local church performances of works like Handel’s Messiah and Dubois’ Seven Last Words; and formerly the accompanist for the Royal Serenaders Male Glee Club and the Zion Chorale of Western New York. He assisted in the preparation of the chorus for a concert version of Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess for the Philharmonic Orchestra and the Ethiopian Chorus for staged performances of Verdi’s Aida for the Greater Buffalo Opera Company. Music was a major part of Alfred’s life. When gangs plagued the neighborhood in the 70’s, Alfred Jarrett taught students Mozart and Beethoven. “When he touched a child, he opened the child’s mind, eyes, and heart to the beauty of music”.

Alfred taught music in the Buffalo Public Schools before becoming Supervisor of Music for the Buffalo School System. He also served as Chair of the Music Department of the Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts.

Al Jarrett was well known in the community for his achievements and service. His numerous awards and accomplishments include, but are not limited to, induction in Phi Kappa Lambda National Honor Society in Music; American Legion Citizenship Award; Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; a special District Conference award from presiding Elder Williams; appointed by Bishop J.C. Hoggard to represent the AME Zion Church on the consultation for church union; National Music Educator of the Year award, “Award in Excellence” from the Buffalo Opera Guild; nominated by Greater Buffalo Opera Company for the National Award of Excellence; Classical Music Educator of the Year; Daeman College Teacher of the Year; and was featured in a Buffalo Evening News article, “Mr. Opus”.

Alfred leaves to cherish his memory, a loving and devoted sister, Mildred J. Stallings, cousins and other relatives, a loving church family, friends, and many professional colleagues.
Loving Memories

If he could have spoken before he died, these are the words he probably would have sighed.

"This life for me is truly past.
I loved you to the very last.
Weep not for me, but courage take;
And continue to live for my sake.
You know for you I did my best;
Now, God has granted me eternal rest".

He did not wish a last farewell, or even say goodbye.
He was gone before we knew it, And only God knows why.
Sincere, loving, and kind in heart and mind, What a beautiful memory he left behind!

I truly love you, Al.

Sis

Pallbearers
Greg Pratchet
John Hairston
Benjamin Lipford
Douglas Gaston
Kermit Fletcher
Freddie Tinch
Thomas Smith
Tracey Singletary

Honoray Pallbearers
Raynardo Shedrick (cousins) Sherman Abdulla
Men of the Cathedral Choir

Interment
Forest Lawn Cemetery
Buffalo, New York

Auspices
H. Alfred Lewis Mortuary, Inc.
968 Jefferson Avenue
Buffalo, New York

Acknowledgements
When we thought that our loss was too great to bear, we looked up and our friends were there.
With flowers and words written and spoken; with smiling faces and hearts open.
You comforted us and shared our grief; may God bless and keep you, granting all relief.
Our gratitude cannot be adequately expressed with mere words, but "Thank you" for lifting the clouds and letting the sunshine through.

The family requests your presence at the Funeral Luncheon immediately following the Interment at the Hearthstone Manor, 333 Dick Road.
ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Scripture of Sentences .......... Rev. Dr. Robert Graham

Invocation ...................... Rev. Annette Hood

Hymn of Assurance .. “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”, pg.251

Scriptures:
Old Testament . . . . . Job 14:1-7 ......... Rev. Darryl Daniels

Prayer of Comfort .............. Rev. Robert E. Williams

Choral Worship .............. “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Tributes:
George K. Arthur, Former Council President
Yvonne Hargrave, Superintendent Buffalo Public Schools
Florence Baugh, former President of Buffalo School Board

Choral Worship .............. “I Need a Touch”

Obituary (Read Silently) .......... “Thou Art Worthy”

Solo ......................... Mr. Wardell Lewis

Resolutions .................... Church Clerk

Hymn of Comfort .............. “Guide Me O’Thou Great Jehovah”

Eulogy ....................... Pastor Robert L. Graham

Benediction

Recessional .............. “Siyahamba”