



*Fairmont Heights High School*  
*Alumni Association*

**Memorial Service**

**Remembering Alumni, Faculty, Family and Friends**

New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church  
7501 Walker Mill Drive  
Capitol Heights, Maryland 20743

**Saturday, December 3, 2022 – 11 A.M.**

# **FHHSAA**

FHHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 2727  
Landover Hills, MD 20784-0727



***FAIRMONT HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION***

***To The Family of John Williams***

October 21, 2022

It deeply saddens us to have lost our beloved comrade, extraordinary teacher and leader of the Fairmont Heights High School and its Alumni Association.

While serving as President of the Fairmont Heights High School Alumni Association from 1999-2013 he possessed laser focus on serving and supporting the school, its students and the community. His dedication and commitment was unparalleled. During the 1970's, he was a relentless pioneer for desegregating public schools in Prince George's County, Maryland. Mr. Williams was a major advocate for obtaining the historical designation for the original Fairmont Heights High School and spearheaded the development and construction of the new Fairmont Heights High School.

Mr. Williams was a true leader that had the confidence to stand alone; the courage to make tough decisions; and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. While he may not have set out to be a leader but rather became one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent.

He maintained immense passion as he represented the organization in front of elected leaders and spoke eloquently and effectively about the needs of the students at the school and the community.

Mr. Williams leaves behind many memories. We will always remember his soft spoken, loving spirit and warm smile as well as his commitment to Fairmont Heights High School. His fierce advocacy and community work have touched many people in our county and throughout the state. Mr. Williams has left a legacy that matters, one in which he served others and made an impact for Fairmont Heights High School that will extend beyond his life. We should all hope to live a life of purpose as Mr. Williams did and hope to leave a positive impact on others.

Mr. Williams we shall never forget you and your contributions to the Fairmont Heights Alumni Association. Hornets never die, they only buzz away.

The Executive Board and Alumni Members  
Fairmont Heights High School Alumni Association



**Fairmont Heights High School  
Alumni Association  
2022 Memorial Service**

Presentation of The Colors .....	Fairmont Heights High School JROTC CMDR: Col. Samuel S. Licorish
Pledge of Allegiance .....	Everyone
Opening Hymn.....	Messengers of Zion Youth Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Welcome and Intro of Worship Leader.....	Faye Martin Howell (71), Delegate of 24 <sup>th</sup> District
Worship Leader .....	Gary C. Clark (69), 1 <sup>ST</sup> Vice President FHHSAA
Scriptures - Old Testament .....	Valary Morrison (69)
New Testament .....	Diane Sharp (76)
Prayer .....	Paula Cash (66), FHHSAA Chaplain
The Occasion .....	T’Wana Warrick-Bell (73), FHHSAA Scholarship
Introduction of Minister .....	Gary C. Clark (69), 1 <sup>ST</sup> Vice President FHHSAA
Selection .....	Messengers of Zion Youth Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Message .....	Bishop Joseph A. Robinson (55) Royal Oak Pentecostal Church
Selection .....	Messengers of Zion Youth Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Candlelight Ceremony .....	Faculty – Lonice Priester, Principal FHHS Staff – Anna Crutchfield Alumni – Pierre Crutchfield (65) Family & Friends- From Audience Veterans – Albert Cooks (63)
Selection .....	Messengers of Zion Youth Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Remarks .....	Lonice Priester, Principal FHHS Rev. Robert R. Johnson, Jr. New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Closing Remarks .....	Joan Crowder (68), President FHHSAA
Benediction .....	Bishop Joseph A. Robinson (55) Royal Oak Pentecostal Church Alma Mater (Original) Lead by Valary Morrison (69)

NAMES THAT WERE SUBMITTED  
FOR THE 2022 MEMORIAL SERVICE

NAMES	CLASS	DATE
La Verna Savoy	1969	November 14, 2021
Richard Calvin Ferguson	1964	December 07, 2021
Anthony S. Queen	1961	December 14, 2021
Franklin Willis	1965	January 07, 2022
Norman Frederick Hall	1953	January 08, 2022
Raymond F. Boose	1965	January 10, 2022
Jean Downs Tolliver	1970	January 12, 2022
Elmer Goldsmith	1970	January 20, 2022
Maurice R. Brown "Moe"	1977	January 22, 2022
Frances Vanita Randall Jones	1963	January 24, 2022
Delores Frayer Brown	1966	January 2022
Russell Malloy	1968	January 20, 2022
Carol Ann Williams Boone	1962	February 04, 2022
Maxine Evans Tyree	1967	February 04, 2022
Delorise Dougans	Faculty	February 05, 2022
Robert B. Ferguson	1966	February 2022
William Carpenter	1960	February 14, 2022
Bonita Delores Brooks	1960	February 18, 2022
Barbara Ann Durant Davis	1950	February 20, 2022
Carolyn E. Evans	1970	February 24, 2022
Gloria Ellerbe Pope	1957	February 26, 2022
Phillip Billings		March 08, 2022
Shandy Richardson, Jr.	1967	March 09, 2022
Lynnette Russell Battle	1968	March 2022
Lucy Junaita Jenkins	1972	April 01, 2022
Lawrence A. Thomas	1968	April 07, 2022
Charles Thomas Smith	1955	April 08, 2022
Raymond Nichols	1961	April 13, 2022
Paula Rivers	1965	April 18, 2022
Larry Hughes	1971	April 28, 2022
Odell Lawson	1967	May 18, 2022
George R. Blair	1961	May 23, 2022
Harry Floyd	1961	June 03, 2022
Delores Hinton Spaulding	Staff	June 11, 2022
Paulette Sarvis Gant	1971	June 16, 2022
Richard Scottie Owens	1959	June 20, 2022
Gloria Harrell Blueford	1966	June 28, 2022
June E. Clark Jones	1952	June 29, 2022
Robert Earl McMullens	1966	June 29, 2022



Charles "Charlie" Jackson	1975	July 03, 2022
James W. Edwards III	1962	July 04, 2022
Mary I. Thomas Duckett	1951	July 17, 2022
Mary Jeter Thompson	1962	July 18, 2022
Mansfield Prince	1963	July 19, 2022
Dennis S. Gist	1958	July 20, 2022
William Allen Grimes	1965	July 25, 2022
G. Antoinette Harrison Matthews	1960	July 28, 2022
Joyce Ward Robertson	1963	July 29, 2022
Irving Alphonso Bacon	1969	August 02, 2022
Raymond Bell	1963	August 08, 2022
Donald Bell	1963	September 02, 2022
Mark Jackson	1967	September 2022
Robert L. Tucker	Faculty	September 2022
Ronald Rice		September 17, 2022
Matthew Lang	2000	September 20, 2022
John Henry Countee, Jr.	1966	October 02, 2022
Gwendolyn Collier	1968	October 03, 2022
John J. Williams	Faculty	October 10, 2022
Edward James Owens	1972	October 21, 2022
Alberta Fisher	Faculty	November 04, 2022
Patricia Broadwater Brown	1971	November 09, 2022
Deborah Morton	1972	November 18, 2022
Eleanor Bingham	1969	November 23, 2022

All other alumni who have "BUZZED AWAY" are included in this Memorial Service Program even though their names were not submitted. "HORNETS FOREVER!!!"





Lynnette R. Battle



CAROLYN EDWANDA EVANS



Joyce Ward



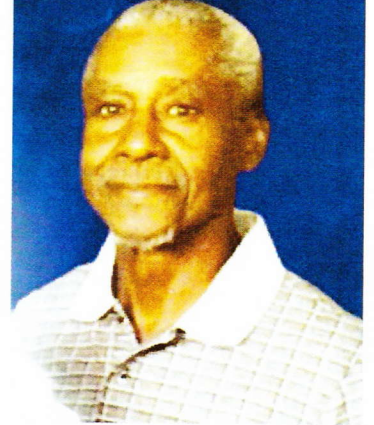
Bonita Brooks

Delores Frayer Brown



Delorise Carter Dougans

Harry Mack Floyd

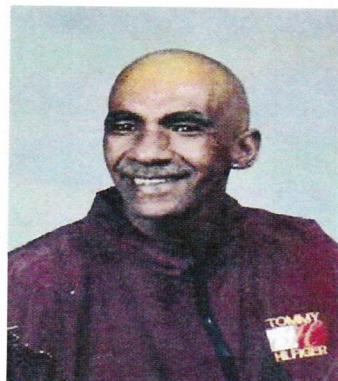


JEAN DOWNS



ELMER LEWIS GOLDSMITH

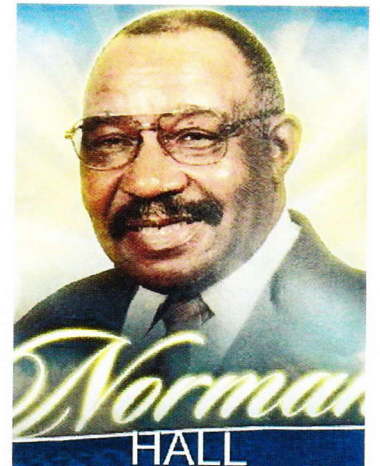
Anthony Queen



Raymond Bell, Jr.

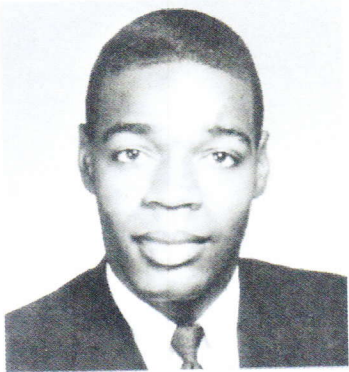


Frances Vanita  
Randall Jones



Norman  
HALL





**Robert Ferguson**

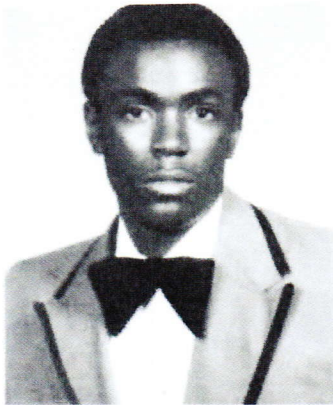


**Gloria Harrell  
Blueford**

**Carol Williams Boone**



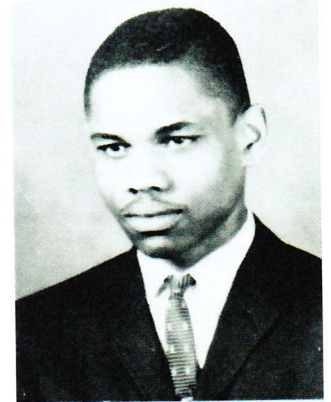
**Mansfield Prince**



*Brown, Maurice*



**G. Antoinette Matthews**



**William Carpenter**

**Maxine Evans**



**Franklin Willis**



**Richard Ferguson**



**Raymond Boose**



**Barbara Durant Davis**



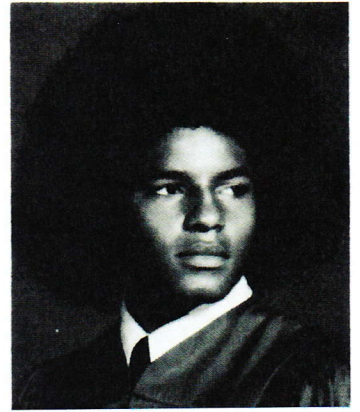
**Gloria Ellerbe Pope**



**James Edwards, III**



**Charles Jackson**



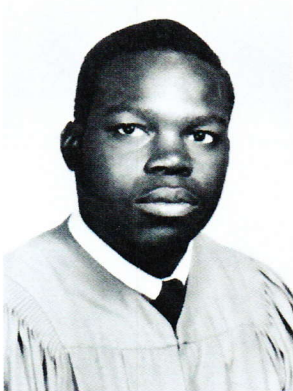
**Paulette Sarvis Gant**



**Russell Malloy**



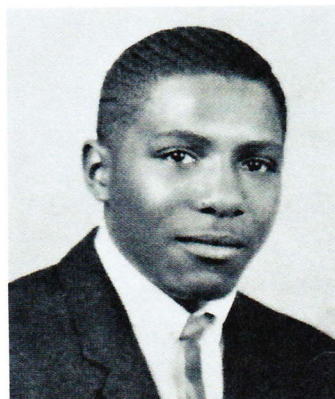
**Larry Hughes**



**Lucy Jenkins**



**Richard Owens**



**Dennis Gist**

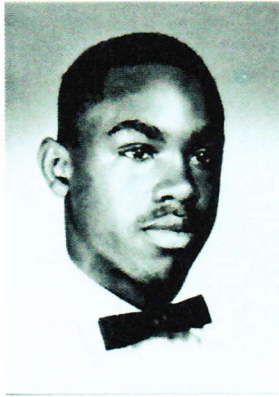






Paula Rivers

Mark Jackson



June E. Clark Jones



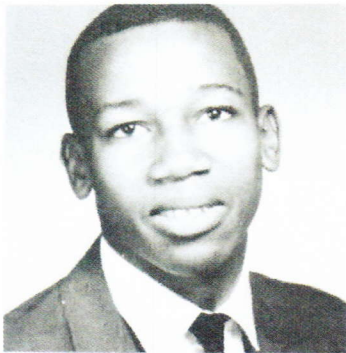
Delores Hinton Spaulding

Odell Lawson



Mary J. Duckett

Donald Arthur Bell Sr.



Robert McMullens



Mary Jeter Thompson

Irvin Bacon

La Verna Savoy



Friends



Family



*In Loving Memory of*  
JOHN J. WILLIAMS



April 23, 1932 – October 10, 2022

**Friday, October 21, 2022**

Kappa Service: 9:30 am

Viewing: 10:00 am

Service: 11:00 am

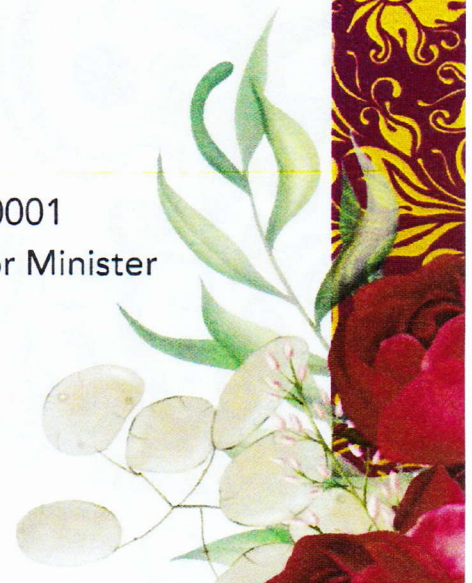
[www.shilohbaptist.org/livestream](http://www.shilohbaptist.org/livestream)

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

1500 Ninth Street, NW • Washington, DC 20001

The Reverend Wallace Charles Smith, DMin, Senior Minister

[www.shilohbaptist.org](http://www.shilohbaptist.org)





**John Junior Williams** was born on April 23, 1932, in Greenville, NC. His father was John Henry Williams and his mother was Ida Mae Perkins. His siblings are Carrie Baldwin, Donald Williams, Charles Williams, and Oscar Williams, and he is survived by his sister Hattie Forbes. He would later leave North Carolina for Baltimore, Maryland, to join his family and attend college. Eventually, he would later move to Prince George's County, MD. His loving wife is the late Rev. Loretta Wright Williams, and his three children are his sons, John Andre Williams, Tewodross Melchishua Williams, and Daryl Jose Williams.

John was a devoted father, grandfather, husband, veteran, and mentor and exhibited pure agape love in his everyday life. He was also an educator, activist, community leader, mentor, translator, deacon, entrepreneur, and radio producer. John attended Morgan State University where he earned his BA in Foreign Languages. He received his Master's in French Language and Literature from George Washington University and completed additional studies and certificates at the University of Maryland Overseas, Morgan State University; College Park, Georgetown University, and American University. John was a foreign language teacher at Richmond County HS in Warsaw, VA, and at Fairmont Heights HS. He was also a Full-Time Substitute teacher at Central HS and Full-time Retiree-Rehiree. He also joined the brotherhood of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. in 1954, through the Alpha Iota Chapter at Morgan State; and as a lifetime member in the Hyattsville-Landover Chapter. John also served in the United States Army and worked in intelligence while stationed in Germany. John was a member of his beloved Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, DC, and served as a Deacon for many years. Later, he would be awarded Deacon Emeritus. He also ran for office in Prince George's County for the House of Delegates in 1978 under the Democratic Party.

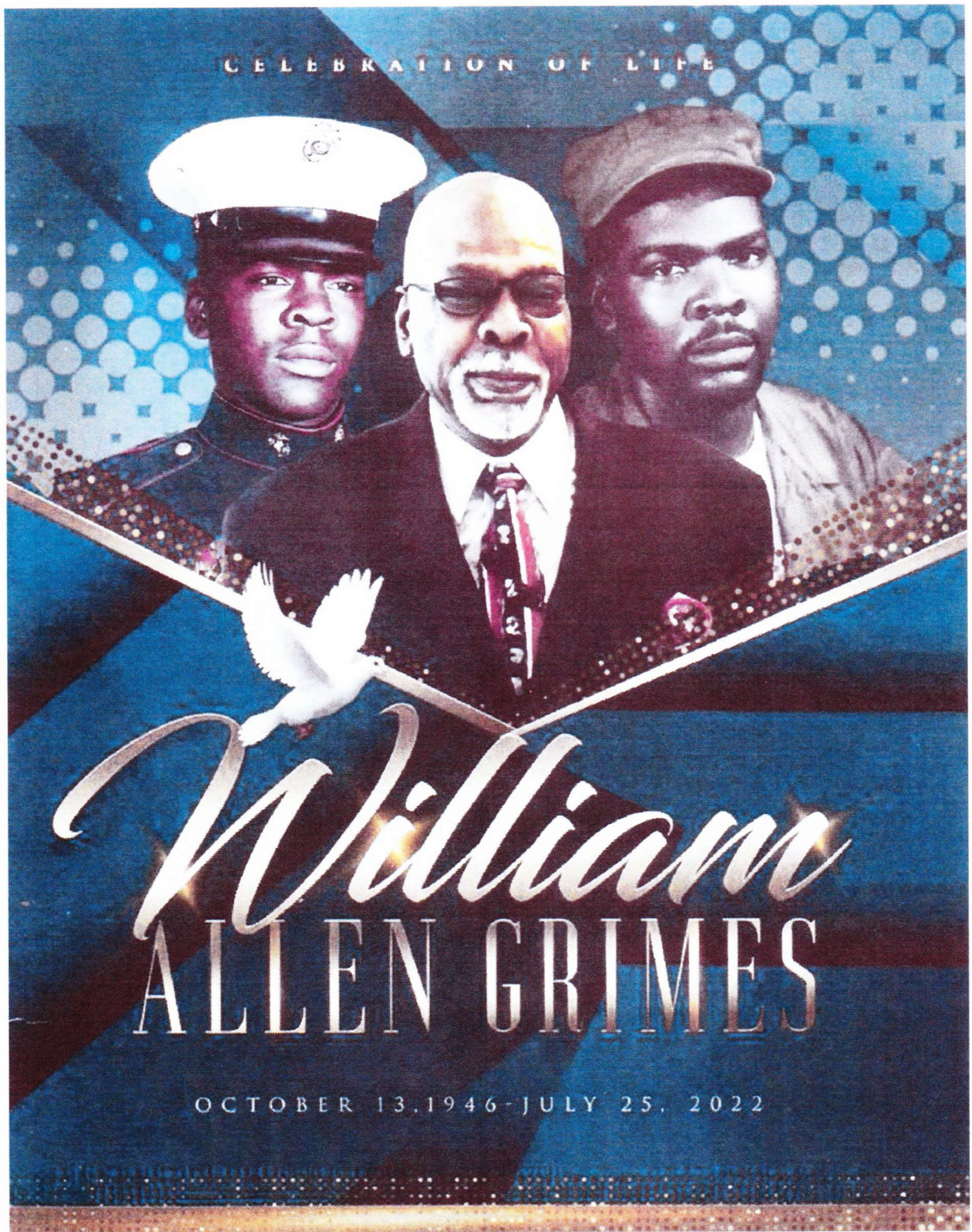
John helped to "change the face of the county" in terms of education and activism, as he was the organizer and lead plaintiff in the 1972 desegregation versus Prince George's County Public schools. The NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the American Civil Liberties Union filed a class action suit on behalf of all African American students and nine of their parents in the county. The action sought to further eliminate segregation within the County's Schools. *Vaughns v. Board of Education of Prince George's County*, which resulted in the transfer of approximately 33,000 students to abolish the last vestiges of the dual-school system. The decision was a landmark and a point of pride and achievement in the African American community. John was the recipient of numerous awards and recognition such as the outstanding Educator and Teacher of the Year, The Theresa D. Banks Award (1982), Prince Georgian of the Year (1995), Leadership in Service Award by the Harlem Renaissance (2010), Certificate of Appreciation from the Southern Poverty Law Center; Black Living Legend Award by the City Council of Baltimore (2011). He was selected by the Prince George's African American historical Preservation Group to provide an oral history of Prince George's County and was interviewed as part of the documentary (2009). He also assisted with humanitarian efforts and helped to raise more than \$100,000 in scholarships and medical supplies for the country of Haiti, a country that he would often visit.

John taught English, French, Spanish, German, and Journalism while at Fairmont Heights HS. He was also the chairperson of the foreign language department for over 48 years. At Fairmont Heights HS, John was the faculty sponsor of the chess program, school newspaper, and senior class and wrote the curriculum for French cooking. He also taught and worked with the Upward Bound program at Howard University. John always encouraged entrepreneurship, and financial empowerment and created many investment clubs in the community and at church. He operated several businesses and was a consultant to other business start-ups. As the father of a son with special needs, John tirelessly served on the Board of Directors for The ARC and worked with New Horizons Supported Services, where he and his wife Loretta sought to improve the lives of those with disabilities. He was a champion for social justice, education, desegregation, equal rights, and opportunity for all and worked tirelessly to better the lives of people here in Maryland and around the world. John also worked as a full-time substitute teacher at Central HS and taught English as a second language for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) at Oxon HS and Flintstone Elementary, where he worked with international students new to the county. He would eventually retire from PGCPSS in 2007.

John is survived by his son, Tewodross and daughter-in-law, Jennifer Gee Williams (Capitol Heights, MD); and son, Daryl (Bowie, MD). His grandchildren are Laila Williams (Atlanta, GA) and Adriel Williams and his granddaughter-in-law is Asako Williams, and great-granddaughter, Uta Lula Williams (Japan). His other grandchildren are Asukile Melchishua (Washington, DC.), Sakile Melchishua (Denver, CO), Belaynesh Melchishua, Bayyana Melchishua, and Malcolm Williams (Capitol Heights, MD). His wife Loretta Williams transitioned in 2014 and soon after, his son John Andre Williams transitioned in 2015. In his final years, John was cared for by his dedicated grandchildren, Bayyana and Belaynesh, great caregivers, certified nursing assistants, and his son Tewodross. John loved music, dancing, eating sweet potato pie, walking in the park, and spending time with his family. John would live to the age of 90 years old before he made his transition.







The Fairmont Heights High School Alumni Association gives a special tribute to William Allen Grimes for his outstanding service to the FHHSAA. He was a very devoted lifetime member in good standing and chairman of the Memorial Service committee. His jovial attitude and kindness will be missed by all.





William Allen Grimes, affectionately known as "Allen" was born October 13, 1946, in Washington, DC to the late Robert Earl and Helen Elizabeth Nickens Grimes. He is a proud alumnus of Fairmont Heights High School, Landover, MD, where he had long lasting relationships that started as early as elementary school. Allen grew up in St. Phillips Baptist Church and subsequently became a member of Real Power AME Church. During the Pandemic, while his church home had not re-opened, Allen commented that he needed to be inside a church. So he and his good friend "Rock" attended the Newborn Church of God in Christ.

As a youth, Allen was a Boy Scout and as an adult, Allen entered the US Marine Corps, which did not make his mom happy but she was proud of her baby. On December 7, 1965, Allen served in the Vietnam War as Speciality 0311 Rifleman. Allen was wounded in 1967 and was discharged on June 10, 1969, under Honorable Conditions. His Decorations included: National Defense Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal w/1\*, Vietnamese Campaign Medal w/device, Purple Heart Medal, Letter of Commendation, President Unit Citation, Combat Action Ribbon, and Rifle Marksmanship Badge.

Allen's athletic career involved playing football for Fairmont Heights HS and the DC Bears Semi-Pro Football Team. His work career ended with the United States Postal Service. However, educationally, he received his AA Degree from PGCC, a certificate from University of Md. Adult Education College, and was only a few credits short of receiving his Bachelor's Degree from University of Md.

His service did not cease after leaving the USMC. He was proudly active in the Community Civic Association, Fairmont Heights H.S. Alumni Association, and feeding families including some members of his family. We are thankful for his varied commitments to service.

Like his brothers Jimmy, Roland, and Robert, Allen was "Big Fun". He enjoyed his culinary delights (but we joked how he used too much Rosemary spice), cartoons and Western shows, family parties and holidays, the Black Ski Club, membership in the American Legion-Glenarden Post, the Fairmont Heights long-term friends, The Jive 5, and his Armed Forces Military Buddies. People enjoyed him as well; when he walked into the room, you knew it was going to be a party. Allen was immaculate in his appearance, especially clothes and he smelled of sweet cologne. But his smile could melt your heart and he had a heart of love. Although he never married or had children, he was engaged to Joyce Washington before her untimely passing, spent his earlier years with his high school sweetheart Virginia Nelson, and in his latter years with his dear friend Mildred Murphy.

He loved that House on The Hill, where he grew up, affectionately known as "1105" and he loved his neighbors on The Hill...the Webbs, the Butlers, and his current neighbors (as they looked out for each other), Freddy Chavez and Marie-Louise Ngo Mbock. The Hill will never be the same without a Grimes.

Allen leaves to mourn a family that he enjoyed so much, his devoted loving nieces, Sonia Brooks and Carmen Grimes, a special sister, Patricia (Duchess) Ward, sister-in-law, Wyemia Grimes, many nieces and nephews including but not limited to great-nieces and nephews Faith Brinkley (Al), Joshua Brown, Jasmin Grimes, Tillan Brooks, Taylor Grimes and Darius Grimes, great-great-nephew and niece, Jayden Brown (Josh) and Zoie Brinkley (Faith), a host of Nickens' Family Members, Fairmont Heights Classmates, Armed Forces military comrades, his ride or die crew...The Jive 5, and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Helen, three brothers James (Jimmy), Robert Earl II, Roland (Tiny), and nephews, Roland (Bubba), Róddric (Rod) and fiancée Joyce Washington.





**Gwendolyn Collier**



**Patricia Broadwater Brown**

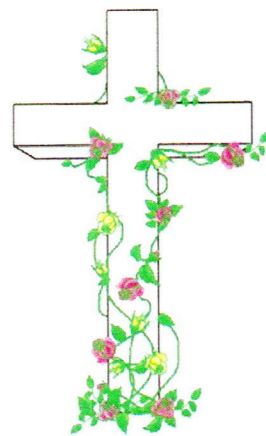
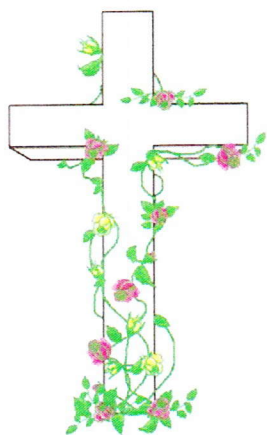


**Edward Owens**

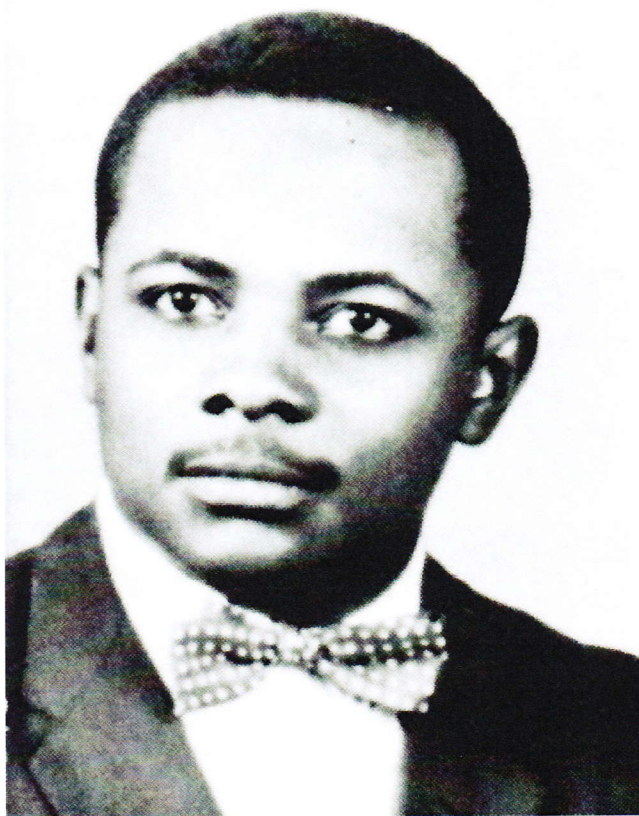


**Deborah Morton**

# **Robert L. Tucker**



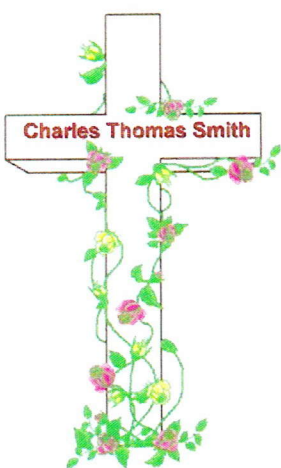
**Matthew Lang**



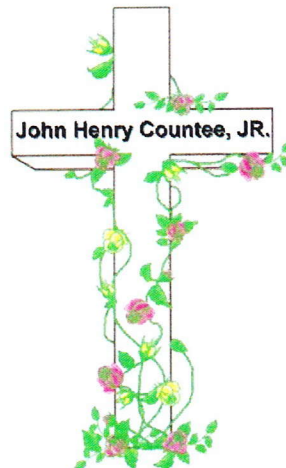
**Eleanor Bingham**



**Ronald Rice**



**Charles Thomas Smith**



**John Henry Countee, JR.**



**Alberta Fisher**



## *In Her Loving Memory*



**G. ANTOINETTE HARRISON MATTHEWS** was the first of three daughters born to the late Andrew Jerome Harrison and Laura Bertha Patterson Harrison. Upon her birth, Antoinette truly blessed her parents as she so willingly greeted them for the first time, on June 25, 1942, at Freedmen's Hospital (now Howard University Hospital), in Washington, DC. Antoinette was called home to be with her Lord and Savior on July 28, 2022. On this day, Antoinette's heavenly angel embraced her as she passed away peacefully with her devoted family by her side.

Her early years were spent in Fairmont Heights, MD, where she attended Fairmont Heights Elementary and Fairmont Heights High Schools. Antoinette excelled as a student. Upon graduating from high school, Antoinette attended Morgan State College, now Morgan State University. Her parents and family members were ever so proud of her for this accomplishment.

Antoinette was raised in a Christian family where attending church was a requirement and participating in activities was expected. Consequently, as a young girl, she accepted Christ and received her sacraments from The Church of the Incarnation. Later in life, she converted to the Baptist faith when she joined The New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, Capitol Heights, MD, where she was baptized and became a long-time member. Antoinette loved singing for the Lord, so she was excited to become a member of New Mt. Nebo's Senior Choir.

In 1961, as a blossoming young lady, Antoinette met and fell in love with Bernard Matthews. They were married on August 11, 1962. From that union, they had four adorable children. While a devoted wife and mother, Antoinette also managed to pursue a career at the C & P Telephone Company. She was proud to have worked there for many years until she retired in 1993.

Being the oldest of her siblings, Antoinette was about taking care of business and learned the concept of tough but gentle love from her mom. She prioritized her family and made sure the household was always in order before anything else. She was also a dedicated worker; she obviously instilled that same work ethic in her devoted children. Even though Antoinette took on the role of the 'serious, no nonsense' sibling, she loved her family and her forever friends. Hanging out with her family made her the happiest! On a warm, hot, or cool day, you could almost always find her out in the backyard or on the porch, as she admired the 'fruits' of her labor in her yard. She especially enjoyed tending her plants and traveling. Having many plants around the house is evidence of her 'green' thumb.

Antoinette was predeceased by her parents and her sisters Elizabeth Harrison Benns and Marian Aurelia Harrison. She leaves to cherish her memory, her loving husband, Bernard Matthews of 59 years; son, Darryl K. Matthews; daughters, Timora Walker, LaShonia Matthews, Rojai Matthews Shade (Marquan), and Sheree Matthews-Chatman (Bernard). She leaves behind grandchildren, ShaDonna Matthews, Darryl K. Matthews, Ronnesha Walker, Ronald Walker, Jr., Raymond Walker, Kevin Booker Jr., DeSean Booker, Markia Shade, and Jaelyn Shade. She also leaves behind a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great nieces, and nephews; as well as first-cousins, Geraldine Patterson-Blake, Shirley Q. Marshall, and Deacon Diana M. Roach; brother-in-law, Carol Benns, and sister-in-law Wanda Wood; and a very devoted best friend, Minnie McBurnett. They were life-long and loving best buddies.



## *Mary Irene Duckett*

**M**ary Irene Thomas Duckett, the daughter of the late Henry Daniel and Rosie Irene Smith Thomas, was born on June 4, 1931, in Washington, D.C. She departed this life on July 17, 2022, peacefully at her home of residence in Smyrna, Georgia. A faithful Catholic all of her life, she was a member of St. Matthews Church in Collington, MD, Our Lady of Mercy Church in Kenilworth, MD, and the Church of the Incarnation in Washington, D.C.

Mary spent her early years growing up in Collington, MD. She was educated in the Prince George's County Public School System and was a proud member of the first graduating class of the newly opened Fairmont Heights High School in 1951. She furthered her education by obtaining numerous certifications to enhance her secretarial skills in preparation for civil service work by attending the Cortez Peters Business College and the Atlantic Business College in Washington, D.C. and additional business education study in Nashville, Tennessee. Her exceptional typing and shorthand skills enabled her to become the first African American to be employed as a secretary in the US Treasury building. She often shared being the first and only person of color in this position was not easy, but she excelled, receiving promotions and providing mentorship and encouragement to others like herself. She was most proud of her 30 years of government service at the Department of Treasury and especially the influence and experience she was able to share with her fellow employees.

On October 18, 1953, Mary was united in holy matrimony to the late Lawrence James Duckett, Sr. of Bowie, MD. This remarkable 60-year union was blessed with a son Lawrence Jr. and a daughter Rosemary. Mary enjoyed the performing arts and often attended musicals, shows, and concerts when she was able. Some of her other favorite pastimes were working with the women's sodalities in her churches, socializing with family and friends, dancing, celebrating and traveling!

In addition to her parents and husband, Mary was predeceased by her son Lawrence James Duckett, Jr., daughter Rosemary Theresa Mixon, sister Theresa Thomas, brother Henry Sylvester Thomas and sister-in-law Helen Doretha Franklin Thomas. She leaves to cherish her memory a loving and devoted granddaughter Ashley Irene Mixon; son-in-law James Mixon; nephews Henry Andre (Hank) Thomas and Joseph Lorenzo Thomas; nieces Gracie Bell Thomas, Rose Townsend Thomas, and Mary White Thomas; great nephews Marcus Henry Thomas (Shanieka) and Gerand Francis Thomas (April); great nieces Krystal Marie Thomas and Lauren Nicole Thomas; great-great nephews Jayden Thomas, Kaysen Thomas, Jordan Thomas; great-great niece Kayleigh Thomas as well as a host of cousins and devoted family friends.



## *Obituary*

**On Friday September 2, 2022, Donald A. Bell Sr was called home to be with his Heavenly Father. Donald was born to the late Amy Elizabeth Bell and Lawrence Beverly Bell Sr., on February 15, 1945 in Lincoln-Vista, Maryland.**

**Donald spoke of attending church at Ebenezer United Methodist Church with his parents. He later joined Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Reverened J. P. Blair. He served on the Culinary Ministry, the Usher Board, the Trustee Board and shared teaching Sunday School. In his later years, he assisted with the upkeep of the church.**

**He was educated in the public school system in Prince Georges County, Maryland, and graduated from Fairmont Heights High School. Throughout his career others got to experience his excellence in his two favorite subjects English and math. Donald prided himself in the way he articulated as he cummunicated with his customers, family, and friends in his one of a kind slow melodious tone; making certain that everybody understood what he said and what he meant.**

**During our quiet moments he would often reminence about his family. Especially the times he worked alongside his father on the railroad laying tracks. Donald worked as a supervisor for over 25 years for Chapman Sales and Service until he retired. Being in charge was a forte. During his final days in the hospital he instructed Donnie Jr, saying “Debbie cannot keep taking off work you need to coordinate with her and take turns.” Donnie Jr said, “You still trying to be in charge” as we laughed.**

**Donald had a lot of interests in his life. One of the things he treasured was joining the Mason, Charles H. Wesley Lodge #147 and was dedicated to his service. He became Deputy Grand Inspector in 2006 – 2007. Donald really got excited showing off his people skills when he assisted with the logdes fund raisers such as the crab feast, deputant ball, and jazz concert.**

**On September 24, 1994 he married Debbie Y. Lynch at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church where they both attended. Donald enjoyed taking rides on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon showing his wife the neighborhood where he grew up.**

**Donald leaves to cherish his memory devoted wife, Debbie Y. Bell, children, daughter Lavon Darlene Bell, son’s Donald (Donnie) Arthur Bell Jr., Braden Deon Bell (Lydia), stepson Terrance Wagoner, grandchildren, Ashleigh, Ava, and Lola, step granddaughter, Summer, brothers, Vernon (Jacqueline), Theordore (Teddy) Linda, sisters-in-laws, Bernice and Carolyn along with a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives, and friends. His brothers, Lawrence Jr, Richard, and Nathaniel proceeded him in death.**



## **A SYNOPSIS OF THE LIFE OF**

Raymond Ivile Bell, Jr.

*“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven...” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

### **“A Time to Be Born”**

Raymond, Jr. was born on Sunday, November 11, 1945, to the late Raymond Ivile, Sr. and Julia Annette (Jackson) Bell in Glenn Dale, MD, joining his five older siblings--Lloyd Curtis, Shirley Yvonne, Cecelia Annette, Emilie Marie, Peggy Ann. He was followed by two younger siblings-- Margaret Jean and Calvin Leon (who died in infancy). The late Dorothy Snowden was his Godmother.

### **“A Time To Die”**

On Monday August 8, 2022, Raymond, Jr. departed this earthly life at Adventist Health Care White Oak Medical Center for a time of eternal healing.

### **The Time In Between**

Raymond, Jr., June as he was called, began his Christian journey at Dorsey Methodist Church in Glenn Dale, Maryland. In his adult years, he and his mother joined Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Lanham, Maryland.

He grew up in a very close neighborhood on Brookland Road in Glenn Dale where almost everybody was related or at least called as if they were relatives. His late cousins, James (Jimmy) and Daniel (Danny) Jackson, were his best buddies. They got in and out of trouble together. His playgrounds were the Dorsey church's grove and even the Church cemetery (where we were careful not to step on the graves). At that time, these were the community playgrounds. June was the preacher when we “played” church.

Raymond, Jr.'s education journey began at Bowie Demonstration Elementary School in Bowie, MD. He matriculated to Fairmont Heights High School, graduating in 1963.

Being among the younger siblings and spoiled, he wore “Cavalier suits” in his teenage years (which was not the usual men's store to shop in

those days) and “Stacy Adams shoes”. June also drove fast cars. All of which his parents afforded him the privilege.

He married the former Margaret Pee and they had two daughters: Karen and Talita Annette and one son Dwayne. They were later divorced.

Building up for his future, his various employment experiences, included the United States Post Office, Macke Vending Machines, Ardmore Carry-Out, and JLT Trucking in Landover, MD. He retired because of declining health.

When his health further declined, Raymond resided at several health care facilities. His sister, Shirley was very devoted to seeing him through this phase of his life. His last residence was at Monique Assisted Living, Beltsville, MD where he lived for 7 years. He received dialysis at DaVita Health facility in Calverton, MD. His sister noted that Raymond enjoyed visiting his barber, Thomas Robinson, who gave him his fresh haircuts and shaves.

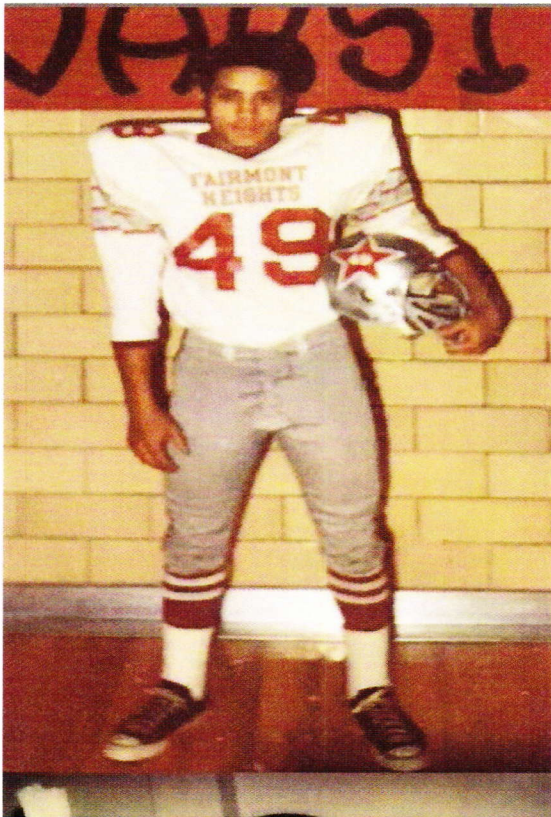
For sure, you know some other things about him that we don't know; and we know some things about him that you don't know. Paraphrased from The Book of Common Prayer: he has left undone some things which he ought to have done; and he has done those things which he ought not to have done. But, thanks be to God, he has done some things that he should have done! Today is a TIME for remembering those things--A CELEBRATION of his LIFE.

### **His Family Over Time**

Raymond's sister, Emilie Williams and her husband James predeceased him. Nephews, Ricardo Bell and Derick Davis also predeceased him.

He is survived by two daughters, Karen Bell and Talita Young (Michael); one son, Dwayne Bell; five grandchildren: Kevin and Keith Baskin, Ashley Young, Dwayne Harvell, and Danayja Bell; five great grandchildren, Kea'Vion Baskin, Keimari Baskin, Jayce Baskin, Josiah Baskin and Zalia Harvell; one brother, Lloyd Curtis (Jobie) Bell, and four sisters: Shirley Hawkins (Nicholas, Sr. deceased), Dr. Cecelia Snowden (Rev. John, deceased) Peggy (Ronald, Sr.) Dearing, and Margaret Jean Bell; and a host of nieces, nephews, grand-and great grand- nieces and nephews and many, many cousins that are descendants of the Jackson, Wood, Bell and Plater families.





*Elmer L. Goldsmith*  
*"Frosty"*  
*September 6, 1952*  
*January 22, 2022*  
*Rest In Peace*



In Loving Memory

Of our Sister

# Frances Cabrini Wilson

(Frankye)



Class of 1964

"One Worthy of Remembrance"



In Loving Memory

Of our Brother

# Donald Hamilton Wilson



Class of 1954

"Always a Gentleman"



*In Fond Memory of the Beloved  
Members of the F.H.H.S. Class  
of 1966*



Delores Frayer Brown

Robert B. Ferguson

Gloria Harrell Blueford

Robert Earl McMullen



## Alma Mater

It's Fairmont Heights High School  
Our Alma Mater fair  
In sunlight and star shine  
We see thee in all thy glory.  
The gray and maroon, thy colors so glorious,  
Ever we praise and hold them  
High to the breeze as the symbol  
Of our unfailing allegiance.  
This anthem, Fairmont Heights, our pledge  
Of trust shall be  
That thy sons and daughters shall keep faith  
With thee forever.

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## Acknowledgements

### Memorial Service Committee

Chairman	Miguel McCloud (65)
Co-Chairman	Joseph Tolson (66)
Member	Michael L. Marshall (63)
Member	Damita Goldsmith (69)
Member	Gary C. Clark (69)
Member	Pierre Crutchfield (65)
Member	Joan Crowder (68)
Member	Sandra Boose White (69)
Member	Paula Cash (66)
Member	Myron Sharp (73)
Member	Diane Sharp (76)

The Memorial Service Committee would like to give special thanks to Rev. Robert R. Johnson Jr., Bishop Joseph A. Robinson, Gary C. Clark, Choir Director: Norma Legette & the Messengers of Zion Youth Choir, Lonice Priester, Principal-Fairmont Heights High School, FHHS JROTC, all of the family members, special guest, alumni and volunteers, who helped make this Memorial Service Program a success.

**NOTE: Previous Memorial Service programs and photos are posted on the FHHSAA website - [www.fhhsaa.com](http://www.fhhsaa.com) .**





*Old hornets never die!*



*They just buzz away.*

