



*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 07, 2024 - 11:00AM



**Fairmont Heights High School
Alumni Association
2024 Memorial Service**

Welcome	LaDonna Jones (84)
Pledge of Allegiance	Everyone
Opening Hymn	Messengers of Zion Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Welcome and Intro of Worship Leader.....	LaDonna Jones (84)
Worship Leader	Gary C. Clark (69) First Vice President, FHHSAA
Scriptures – Old Testament –	Brenda Black Hart (66)
Ecclesiastes 3: 1-4	
New Testament –	Joseph Hart (66)
John 14: 1-3	
Prayer	Wendy Haskins Pierce (69) Chaplain FHHSAA
The Occasion	John W. Brooks (70)
Introduction of Minister	Gary C. Clark (69) First Vice President, FHHSAA
Selection	Messengers of Zion Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Message	Pastor Wayne Mitchell (69) Founder of New Beginnings Orphanages International (NBOI) Dallas, Texas
Selection	Messengers of Zion Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Video Presentation of “Buzzed Away” Hornets	
Candlelight Ceremony	Faculty – Dr. Lonice Priester, Principal FHHS Staff – Anna Crutchfield Alumni – Pierre Crutchfield (65) Family & Friends- Markette McCloud Veterans – Albert Cooks (63)
Selection	Messengers of Zion Choir New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Roll Call of Classes	Gary C. Clark (69), First Vice President FHHSAA
Remarks	Dr. Lonice Priester, Principal FHHS Rev. Robert R. Johnson, Jr. New Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
Closing Remarks	Joan Crowder (68), FHHSAA President
Benediction	Pastor Wayne Mitchell (69)

Alma Mater (Original)

NAMES THAT WERE SUBMITTED
FOR THE 2024 MEMORIAL SERVICE

NAMES	CLASS	DATE
Stanley Maurice Allen	1960	October 17, 2023
Clarence H. Wells, Jr.	1970	December 02, 2023
Jean Fletcher Neal	1963	December 03, 2023
Vernon Robinson	1963	December 06, 2023
Earl McPherson, Jr.	1981	December 06, 2023
Catherine Latney	1965	
Watson Harris	1970	December 11, 2023
Ella Lorraine Boykins Martin	1965	December 19, 2023
Marleen Tilghman	1960	
William Isaac Edwards	1966	December 22, 2023
Yvonne Robertson	1983	December 22, 2023
Anthony Raymond Robbins, Jr.	1997	December 25, 2023
Lawrence E. Bennett	1987	December 27, 2023
James Wesley Frayer	1968	January 01, 2024
Michael T. Sharp	1967	January 01, 2024
William Powell	1965	
Mary Ellen Wilkinson Ross	1960	January 10, 2024
Jimmie Lee Imes	1956	January 11, 2024
Jasmine Denise Snoddy	1998	January 11, 2024
Russell Frye	1974	January 12, 2024
Treny Mae Franklin	1968	January
Francis Robinson	1965	January 21, 2024
Jacqueline Brown Mitchell	1978	January 25, 2024
John Isaiah Allen	1968	February 01, 2024
Dionne Tibbs	1988	February 01, 2024
Herbert Leroy Johnson		February 08, 2024
Diane Wilson-Bragg	1957	February 13, 2024
Lynda Bradley Gravatt	1966	February 23, 2024
Robert Wood		February 28, 2024
Terrie Greene	2002	March 03, 2024
Duane Anthony Smallwood	2014	March 05, 2024
Ronny Clark	1962	March 09, 2024
Joseph E. Pratt, Sr.	Faculty	March 11, 2024
Helen Veronica Cole	1956	March 11, 2024
Ninotchka Davis Porter	1959	March 15, 2024
Kenon Johnson	2000	March 15, 2024
Sandra Cox Brown	1966	March 23, 2024
Clyde Edward Boykins	1960	March 27, 2024
Donald Lee Stewart	1965	March 27, 2024

Charles Edward Markham, Jr.	1967	April 15, 2024
Olivia Carter	1967	April 26, 2024
Joseph Freeman Franklin	1963	May 06, 2024
Susan Chawu	1983	May 11, 2024
Arthur Maurice Green	1971	May 12, 2024
Eric Mason	1991	May 14, 2024
Shirley Morgan Howard	1978	May 16, 2024
Samuel Marshall	1960	May 22, 2024
Vincent Shipp	Faculty	May 26, 2024
Brenda Regina Williams Robinson		
Robert Robinson	1969	June 20, 2024
Sharon White Ellis	1969	June 23, 2024
Donald Eric Gallion	1997	July 21, 2024
Mildred Wheeler-Goree	1964	July 30, 2024
Barbara Calhoun Gales	1964	August 03, 2024
Jovett Hall Solomon	1971	August 04, 2024
Laverne Freeland Massie	1966	August 17, 2024
Raymond Dodd	1965	August 23, 2024
Larry Blackwell	1970	
George E. Cook	1962	September 05, 2024
Clarence Ellsworth Franklin, Jr.	1975	September 06, 2024
Sandra Countee Bowman	1960	September 07, 2024
Gale Victoria America Harrison	1966	September 10, 2024
James Nichols Belt	1964	September 12, 2024
Jared R. Simmons	2002	September 12, 2024
Desiree Rustin Deloach	1973	September 14, 2024
Carl Wellman	1966	September 17, 2024
Basil Chittams	1960	September 20, 2024
Cleo Thomas	1975	September 25, 2024
Edward N. Franklin (Hoppy)	1958	September 29, 2024
John McGee	Faculty	October 06, 2024
Sarah Pauline Gamble	1957	October 06, 2024
Jerry L. Edmonds	1972	October 09, 2024
Karen Sumter	1983	
Phillip Adams (Skippy)	1963	October 23, 2024
Timothy Dale Harvey	1983	November 11, 2024
Antonio L. Abney	1963	November 25, 2024
Francine Harper	1966	

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

Anthony Robbins Jr.



Ella Boykins Martin



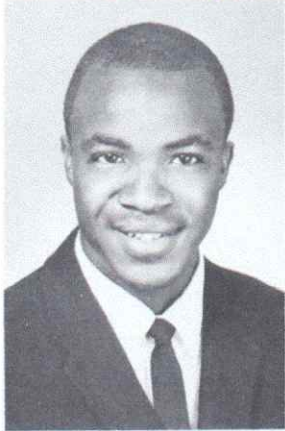
Yvonne Robertson



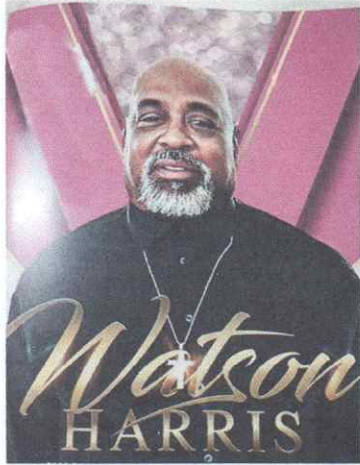
Lawrence Bennett



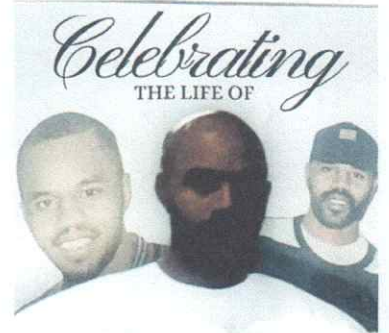
James Frayer



Michael T. Sharp



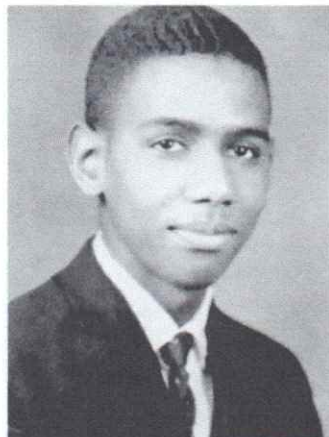
Jean Fletcher Neal



Earl McPherson Jr
SUNRISE: 9/2/63 SUNSET: 12/6/23



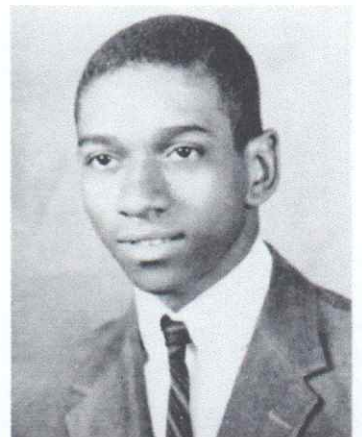
Clarence H. Wells Jr.



Vernon Robinson



William Edwards



Stanley M. Allen

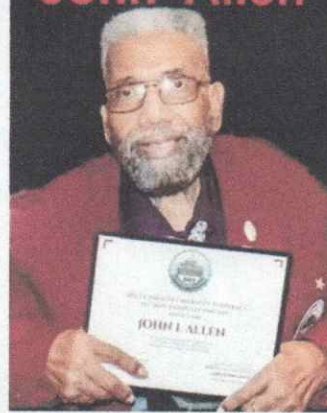
Russell Frye



Jasmine Snoddy



John Allen



William Powell



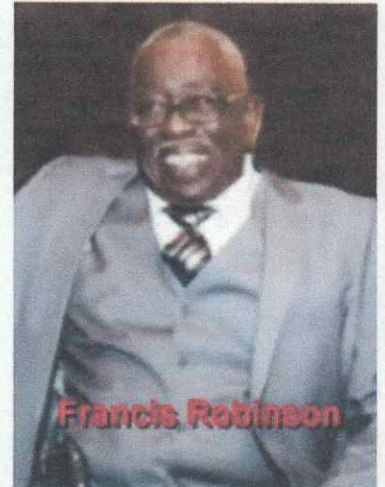
In loving memory of



Treney Mae Franklin



Diane Wilson-Bragg



Francis Robinson



Jacqueline Brown Mitchell



Dionne S. Tibbs



Catherine Latney



**Mary Ellen
Wilkinson Ross**



Herbert Johnson



Marleen Tilghman

Terrie Greene



Sandra Cox Brown



Helen V. Cole



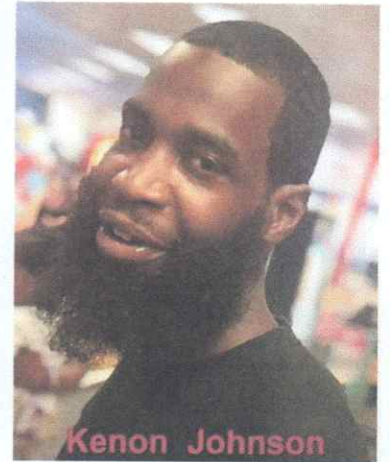
Lynda Bradley Gravatt



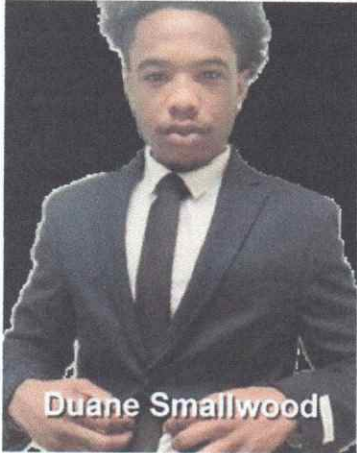
Ninotchka Davis Porter



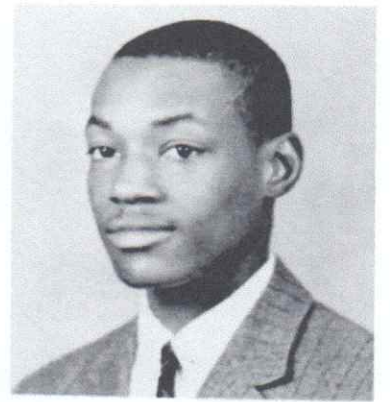
Joseph E. Pratt Sr.



Kenon Johnson



Duane Smallwood



Ronny Clark

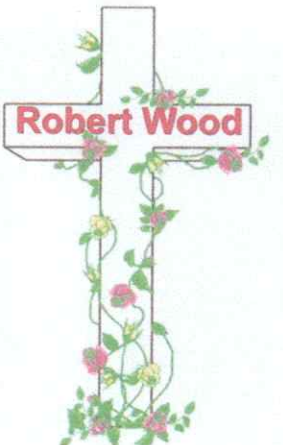


Olivia Carter

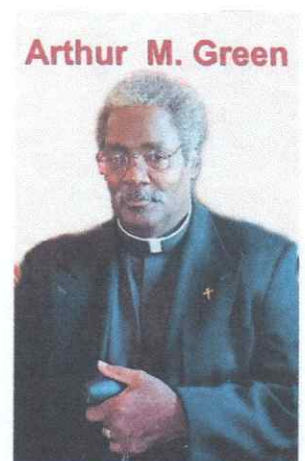
Clyde E. Boykins



Charles Markham



Robert Wood



Samuel Marshall

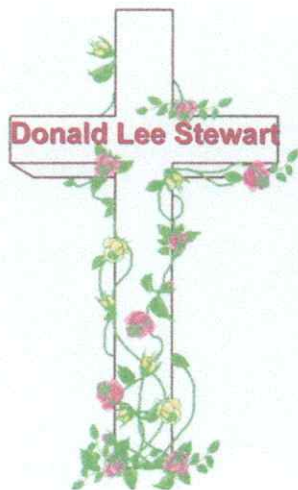
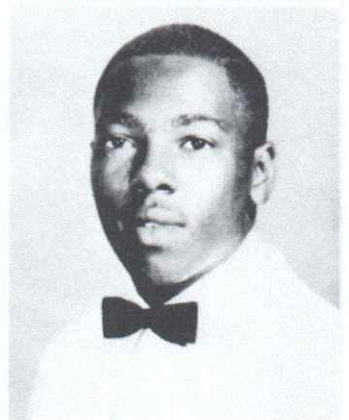


Joseph Franklin

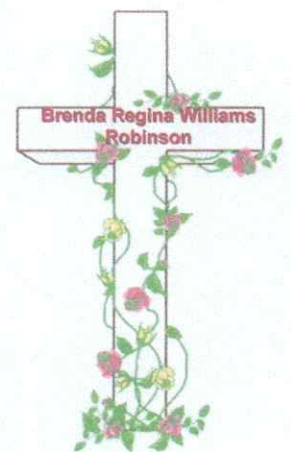
**Sharon White
Ellis**



Robert Robinson



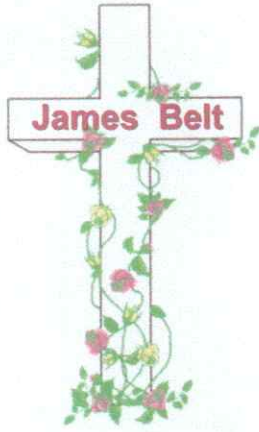
Annet Susan Chawu



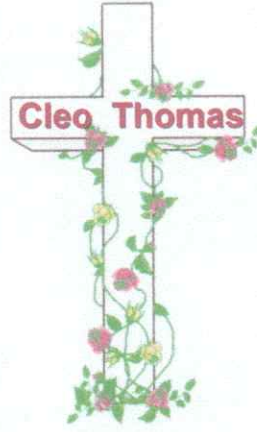
Larry Blackwell



James Belt



Cleo Thomas



Sandra Countee Bowman



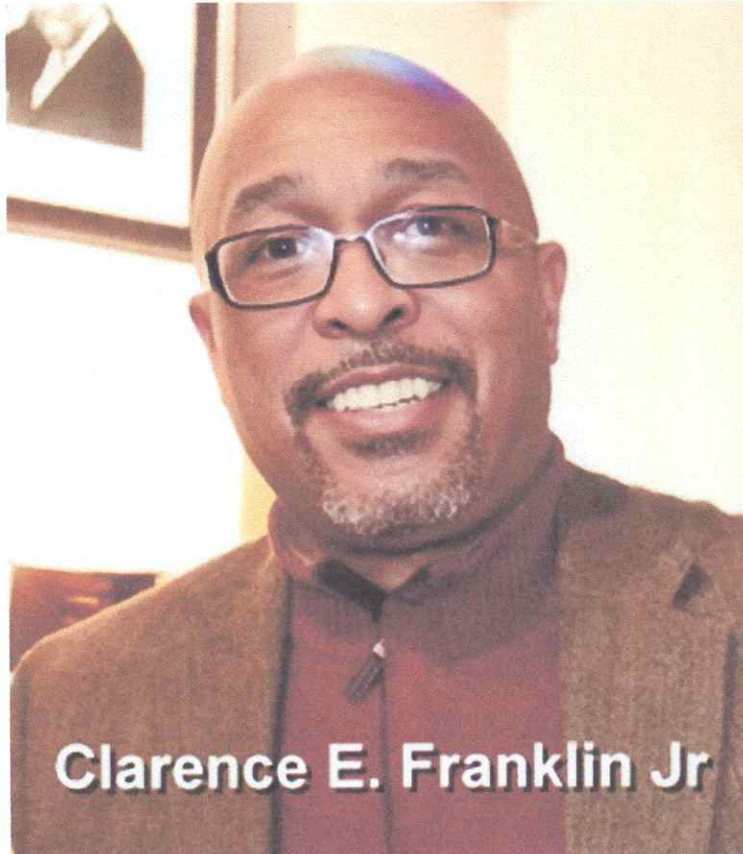
Barbara Calhoun Gales



LaVonne Freeman Mische



Desiree Rustin Deloach



Clarence E. Franklin Jr

Raymond Dodd



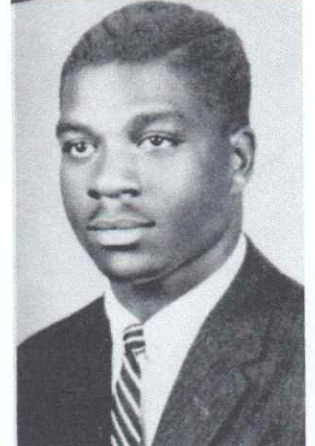
**Jovett Hall
Solomon**



**Gale Victoria
America Harrison**

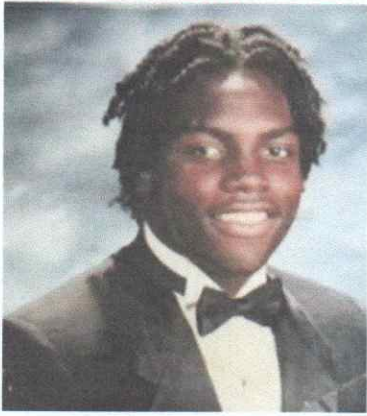


Carl Wellman



Edward Franklin

Jared R. Simmons



Karen Sumter



George E. Cook



Sarah Pauline Gamble



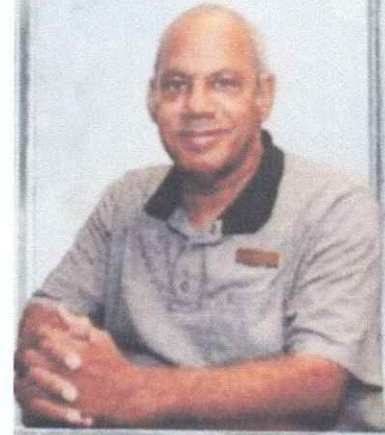
Tim Harvey



John M. McGee



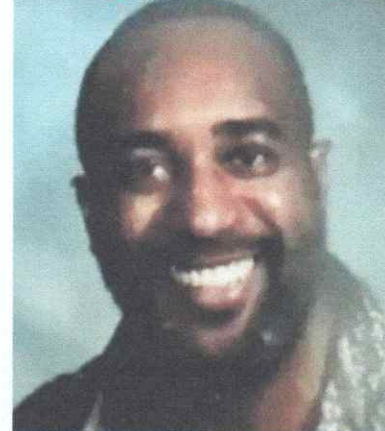
Basil S. Chittams



Jimmie Lee Imes



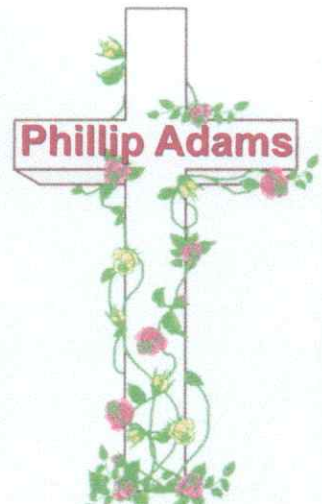
Jerry L. Edmonds



Francine Harper



Antonio L. Abney





Lynda Gravatt (Bradley)

Obituary

Lynda Gravatt, a three-time AUDELCO Award winner and winner of the Helen Hayes Award: died Friday, February 23, 2024, in New Brunswick. She was 76.

Ms. Gravatt's career spanned nearly 70 years. She first appeared on Broadway in *The King and I* at age 4, and last appeared as Big Mama in the 2018 revival of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. In between, she mentored generations of aspiring actors, including Dave Chappelle, worked as a director, and was a founding faculty member of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, DC, the premier arts high school in the nation's capital.

In his Netflix special, "What's in a Name?" Chappelle remembers "Miss Gravatt," as the students Ellington called her. "She was very businesslike but also warm; she was very intimidating but also palpably kind. She was a paradox of a human being."

She was less a paradox than a synthesis of what it takes to be a Black woman making a living as an actor in the U.S. Lynda was trained in the Bible and in Shakespeare, in African dance as well as tap and ballet. She performed a one woman show about Senator Barbara Jordan, and played Lena, the matriarch of Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, nearly half a dozen times – each time a different incarnation. She once told a reporter that she harkened back to her days as a volunteer for SNCC, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, every time she encountered Lena. "People were being harmed, people were being tortured," she said. "It's something that's stayed with me all my life."

Lynda was, above all, a race woman, a Black woman, who dedicated her life and her art to uplifting the humanity of Black people. Each character she portrayed carried herself with dignity and intelligence.

Her talent and gravitas made her a memorable presence on screen. She was often pegged to play the judge, as she did in the *Bounty Hunter* and *Delivery Man*; and on the small screen, she appeared as a rotating series of characters (including a judge) in all three of the

Law and Orders series. She played “Denzel Washington’s “wife”, Venita Wells, in Roman J. Israel, Esq.

Lynda Gravatt was raised Linda Bradley, by her adoptive parents, Fontaine and David Bradley of Queens, N.Y. Her biological father, the comic tap dancer and comedian, James “Stump” Cross, and his girlfriend Margie, surrendered her as a baby. Her aunt, Sylvia B. White, affectionately known as Aunt Bert, and her grandmother, Juanita Peyton, were strong influences in her upbringing. She attended **Fairmont Heights High School**, graduated with a BFA from Howard University in 1971, and earned an MFA in directing from George Washington University about ten years later.

It was while in Washington D.C. that she began migrating away from dance towards theater work. As a student of the legendary professors, Owen Dodson, Paul Carter Harrison, Eleanor Traylor and Vera Katz, at Howard, she began developing her voice.

The black theater movement in DC, specifically ultimately led to the creation of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, a magnet high school created by educators and Black Arts advocates Peggy Cooper-Cafritz and Mike Malone. Lynda joined as a founding faculty member of the Ellington School in 1974 and became a lynchpin until she left to jumpstart her stage career.

As a director, Lynda shepherded many new productions at New Brunswick’s Crossroad’s Theater. Her last Crossroads production, “Chicken and Biscuits” ran in December 2022. She directed Ruby Dee’s one woman show, My One Good Nerve in the Gensis Festival. Her acting credits at Crossroads include Dee’s adaptation of Rosa Guy’s novel, The Disappearance, The Amen Corner, Young, Gifted and Black, and Home.

Lynda Gravatt is the Grande Diva of D.I.V.A., Inc, a society for women in the arts, founded at Howard University in 1983, and its fellow organization, the beloved D.I.V.A. Brothers. Among the six women founders is Harriett D. Foy, one of her most cherished mentees.

For the last 33 years, she has been the partner of dramaturg Sydne Mahone.

Lynda is survived by Sydne, and her sons, Oge and David, and their wives, Monique, and Dr. Heather Platt. She has five grandchildren: Ishmael, Ishana, Isabelle, Josephine, and Lucas. She also leaves a sister, Lee Hooper; a niece, Holly Hooper; and cousins, Mary “Bootsie” Andrade, Tony, Diane, Randy, Jr., and Sean Payton; and a half-sister, June Cross. She will be deeply missed by two closest friends, Rosalyn “Rusty” Baylor, and Alice Roper Richardson: and by the many friends and students who basked in the warmth of her sun.



Sandra Cox Brown

8/23/1948 - 3/23/2024

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

VISITATION

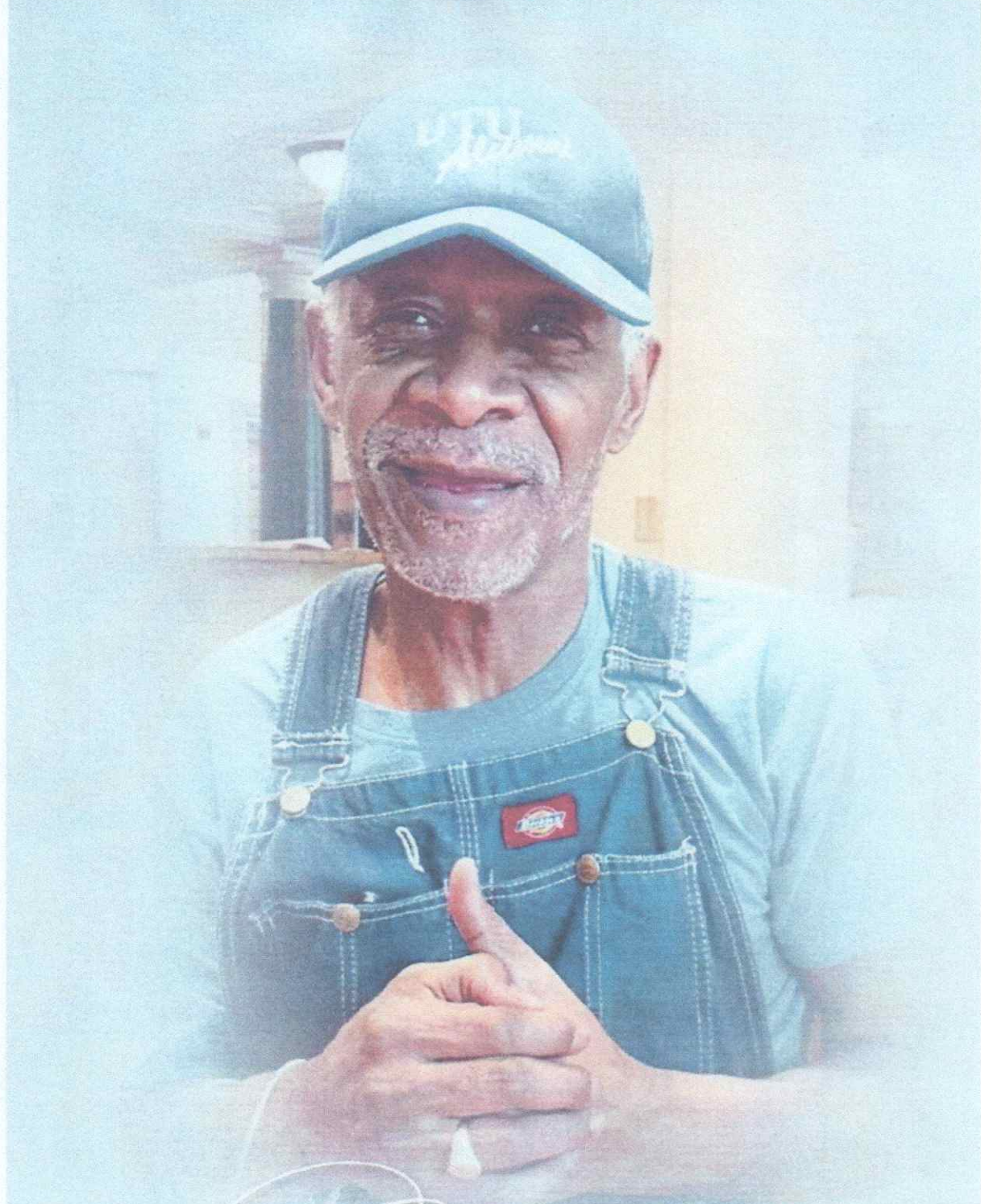
11:00AM-11:30AM

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

11:30AM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
700 HIGHLAND AVENUE
WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27101

A TRIBUTE OF HONOR & LOVE



Charles

EDWARD MARKHAM, JR.

JUNE 18, 1949 | APRIL 15, 2024

In Loving Memory

Of our Sister

Frances Cabrini Wilson

(Frankye)



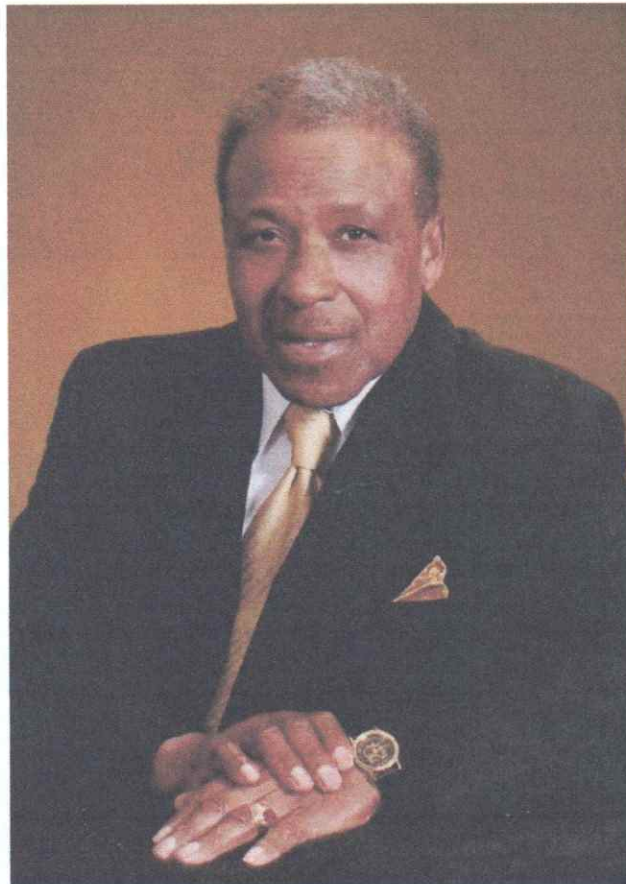
Class of 1964

"One Worthy of Remembrance"

In Loving Memory

Of our Brother

Donald Hamilton Wilson



Class of 1954

"Always a Gentleman"

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.

Acknowledgements

Memorial Service Committee

Chairman	Miguel "Mickey" McCloud (65)
Co-Chairman	Joseph Tolson (66)
Member	Michael L. Marshall (63)
Member	Damita Goldsmith (69)
Member	Faye Martin Howell (71)
Member	Pierre Crutchfield (65)
Member	Charles Allen (65)
Member	Sandra Boose White (69)
Member	Paula Wilkinson Cash (66)
Member	Myron Sharp (73)
Member	Diane Sharp (76)
Member	Fred Smith (63)
Member	Eugene E. Hodge (61)
Member	Jeannette Alston Clemons (67)
Member	Wendy Haskins Pierce (69)

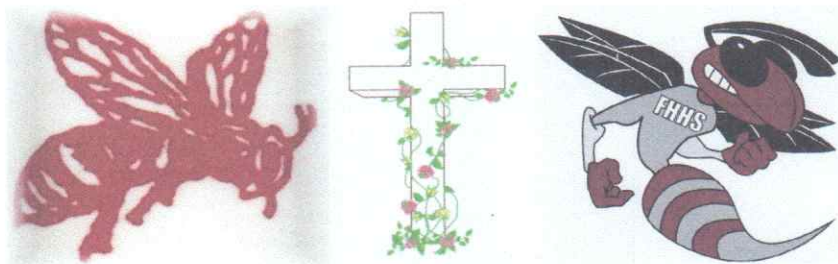
The Memorial Service Committee would like to give special thanks to Rev. Robert R. Johnson Jr., Pastor Wayne Mitchell (69), Choir Director: Norma Legette & the Messengers of Zion Choir, all of the family members, special guest, alumni and volunteers, who helped make this Memorial Service Program a success.

NOTE: Previous Memorial Service programs and photos are posted on the FHHSAA website - www.fhhsaainc.com .





Old hornets never die!



They just buzz away.

