



Alfred Willis Edwards.Sr.

June 13, 1924 - May 23, 2013

During lunchtime on May 23, 2013, God sent a host of angels to Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center to adorn Alfred Willis Edwards, Sr. in a white robe and golden crown to welcome him to his eternal home.

Alfred Willis Edwards, Sr. was born in Richmond, Virginia on June 13, 1924 to the Reverend Alfred Matthew and Deacon Irene Edwards in their family home. Her parents stressed the importance of having a good education and strong faith in God to Alfred and his siblings; this foundation was laid by attending Providence Park Baptist Church, where he served over 70 years.

Alfred, Sr. is a product of the Richmond Public School System, attending Providence Park Grammar School, Booker T. Washington Middle, and Maggie L. Walker High School; he is an alumnus of the Class of 1942—the first graduating class. Upon graduation, Alfred, Sr. matriculated to Virginia State University; however, his collegiate studies were abbreviated due to his being drafted into the military. Alfred began his naval career in 1943 and served for three years; his tour of duty took place at the tail end of World War II. The Navy provided him with the opportunity to visit places beyond his imagination, such as Rio De Janeiro, Brazil; Naples and Sicily, Italy and Africa.

After returning to Richmond in 1946, Alfred Sr., was walking through the

Providence Park area on a warm summer day and laid his eyes on the most beautiful woman that he had ever seen. He was captivated by her petite stature, long flowing hair and beautiful smile. After a few years of courting, Alfred asked Zena to be his wife and they were wed on January 29, 1949. Four children were born to this union; Alfred Jr., Zeno, Tanya and Warren.

Alfred Sr., graduated from the J.L. Loving Jr. School of Practical Tailoring on June 14, 1948. His love for sewing, alterations and keeping men's suits sharp was a passion that continued throughout his 34 years of service to Bellwood Defense General Supply. During his 34 years at Bellwood, he served as an inspector and inventory manager until his retirement on August 24, 1979. After retirement from Bellwood, his love for clothing alteration was the basis for him opening a family run tailor shop in Azalea Mall.

In addition to tailoring, Alfred Sr., also had a passion for attending church, dancing, singing, gourmet cooking (making his world famous spoon bread) and dogs. Before a few years ago, you could always see him pulling into church and around town in a Cadillac. He served Providence Park in various capacities over the years, but mainly as a trustee and a member of three choirs as a tenor. His favorite song to lead in the George Crawford Choir was Ain't Got Time to Die. Throughout the years, Alfred Sr., has abided in Christ, learned wisdom, grown by the Word, had mercy, stood with hope, traveled by prayer, walked by faith and lived by God's grace. He shared himself with Providence Park until he suffered a stroke in March 2012.

The Lord has been gracious to the Edwards' family, by lending his servant, a loving husband, faithful father, cherished grandfather, and steadfast family member and friend to many. He leaves to cherish his memory, his children: Alfred W. Edwards, Jr. (Geraldine) of Richmond, VA., Zeno Edwards (Judy) of Raleigh, NC, Tanya Hart (Clarence Jr.) of Richmond, VA and

Warren Edwards of Mitchellville, MD.; six grandchildren (affectionately known to them as PaPa Al), Clinton (Dedra), Gerard, Nicole (Gregory Sr.), Yvonne (Adilson), Jasmine (Reggie) and DeAndre; six great-grandchildren, Giselle, Cayley, Zion, Zaylie, Gregory Jr. and Lillian; two brothers, William Edwards and Dr. Rondle Edwards, two sisters-in-law, Mary Boland and Mary Edwards and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

4000 Pilots Lane
Richmond, VA 23222

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAY 28. 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

MAY 28. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Service

MAY 29. 12:00 PM (ET)

Providence Park Baptist Church
468 E. Ladies Mile Road
Richmond, VA

Tribute Wall



“ *May the family find peace in the coming days.*
Cousin
Jamie Wagstaff



Jamie Wagstaff - October 19, 2024 at 12:13 PM



“ *Alfred Willis Edwards. Sr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *To the Edwards family:*

I was sadden to hear of the passing of Mr. Edwards. May all of the great memories of him, help to ease your pain of sorrow.

Please remember that he is not suffering but is asleep in death waiting on the fulfillment of John 5:28 & 29, which states, " Marvel not at this because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice, (Jesus) voice & come out."

We can see Mr Edwards again, right here on this earth but under different conditions (Psalms 37:9,10,11 & 29).

I hope these words can bring you a measure of comfort until the fulfillment of them

Love,

Mamie A. Boyd - May 29, 2013 at 09:11 PM

WJ

“ *May Peace Be Unto The Edwards Families.*

Willie "Will" Layton Jr., Sue and Family

Willie Layton, Jr. - May 29, 2013 at 05:20 PM

RF

“ *TO Clarence & Tonya and the Family of the late Alfred Willis Edwards, Sr.*

We Wish You God's Peace. When sadness fills our hearts, sometimes we must believe what we can't see. May God show you the way to new hope, peace and happiness.

*Rev. Joseph J. Ferguson & Family
St. Paul United Church Family, Handsom, VA*

Rev. Joseph J. Ferguson - May 28, 2013 at 05:57 PM

NI

“ *My condolence to the family. It times like these that we need comfort from the Bible. The Bible promises that our dear loved ones have the hope of the resurrection hear on earth in the near future we find this promise at (John 5:28, 29) Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice 29 and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life, those who practiced vile things to a resurrection of judgment. The resurrection is possible because God sent his Son to give his life for us. So it is an expression of Jehovah's love and undeserved kindness.—Read John 3:16; Romans 6:23.*

Nita - May 27, 2013 at 09:43 PM

CA

“ *My family and I would like to send our condolences to your family. Jesus knows how you feel, and he understands the pain and emotions that death bring. Hebrews 4:16. With deepest sympathy Carolyn and family.*

carolyn - May 27, 2013 at 02:29 PM

MP

“ *I AM VERY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR LOST I KNOW HE WILL BE GREATLY MISS. IF YOU TRUST IN THE BIBLE AND READ REV 21;4, THERE IS HOPE OF A PARADISE EARTH WHERE THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH OR SICKNESS*

MALVENA PALMER - May 25, 2013 at 07:32 AM



“ *We the March Family and 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.*

March Funeral Homes - May 24, 2013 at 01:19 PM