



Charles W. Kess

February 27, 1926 - July 8, 2005

CHARLES WESLEY KESS, son of the late Albert "George" and Iona Kess, was born on February 27, 1926 in Baltimore, Maryland. He departed this life after a brief illness at the Keswick Multi-Care Center. He received his education through the Baltimore City Public School System after which time he joined the navy. After an honorable discharge, Charles met and married Novella Pearl McCann of North Carolina and through that union five daughters were born. He was widowed at an early age. Later Charles and Priscilla were introduced by a mutual friend and after a brief courtship they were united in holy matrimony. Again, he was blessed with another daughter and his only son. Charles, a self taught pianist, loved music and sang for many years with a group called The Baltimore Singers, with church choirs, as well as being a well-known soloist. He instilled the love of music in his children by introducing them to classical music and insisting that they all study the piano. He formed a singing group with his daughters, when they were very young called "The Kess Girls" who sang at local church functions. He delighted in making everyone who graced his door, including friends and neighbors, sing whether they were tone deaf or not. Charles was a fun loving man who commanded respect from the young and the old alike. He was a "little man with a big cigar" who truly enjoyed life to the fullest. He was the life of every party and always brought a smile to the faces of those around him. He had a golden tenor voice and took great pride in rolling his "R's" as he taught his children the fine art of diction while singing. He was employed by the Bethlehem Steel Company

until his retirement and relished spending Sundays with his wife, children, grandchildren, and sons-in-law. A gentle but humorous man, Charles adored his grandchildren and affirmed that any music talent they possessed, came from his musical genes. Charles accepted Christ as a child and re-dedicated his life to the Lord prior to his going into the hospital under the loving guidance of one of his daughters. His oldest daughter puts it best when she stated, "Daddy did three things right. He married Mommy, kept us together after she died, and married Priscilla." Charles was preceded in death by his three brothers and one sister. He leaves to celebrate the memory of his life: his devoted wife, Priscilla Kess; daughters, Cynthia Kess-Wilson, Jacqui Kess-Gardner, Angela Shelton, Dale Torrence, Lakita Godsey, Karen Nixon, and son Charles A. Kess. He is also survived by sons-in-law, James Gardner Jr., William Shelton, Rev. AndrĚ Godsey, and Reginald Nixon. He lovingly leaves: grandchildren, Terri Kess, Charles Wesley Kess II, Jamaal Gardner, David Torrence, Daneka Torrence, Jermaine Gardner, Daniel Shelton, David Shelton and Andre Godsey Jr.; granddaughter-in-law, Sharon Kess; mother-in-law, Florence Gaines; twelve sisters-in-law, six brothers-in-law, and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends, including special friends, Marcus Williams and Winston Wactor.

Tribute Wall



“ Charles W. Kess

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ To The Kess Family, you have my deepest symathy. May God continue to watch over you Charles W. Kess III and your family.##imported-begin##D. Smith##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ I send my heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. Charles Kess. I want all of you to know that my parents (Paul & Delores Rollins)and my grandparents were especially fond of your father, grandfather, and possibly your great-grandfather. Please know that your lost is felt with the Rollins family. My siblings and I will cherish the memories of your father.##imported-begin##Howard K. Rollins II##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the Kess family. May God watch over you and remember "To be absent in the body is to be present with the Lord." and that Mr. Kess is at peace.##imported-begin##Janice Corbin##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Hello Family & Friends, I am so sorry to hear of your loss and I am offering my condolences. The scriptures can be of great comfort to us all. I am reminded of the scripture at John 11:25,26 where Jesus says "I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life; and everyone that is living and exercises faith in me will never die at all." It is my hope that you will be comforted by this scripture.##imported-begin##Sophia Briscoe##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy during your time of sorrow but knows that the God of comfort is with you all during this time of tribulation. (2Corinthian 1:3-4) Due to the many unforeseen occurrences that brings tragedy to our lives Jehovah God promises one day soon Death will be no more (Rev 21:3-4) and his son Jesus Christ have been given the authority to bring all those in the memorial tombs back to life. John 5:28-29 What a wonderful prospect for our future and our loved ones who have lost their life to our enemy death.##imported-begin##Carter##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ To the family, please accept my sincere condolences during this time of your loss. Please read and find comfort in Psalms 34:18, John 5:28,29 and Rev. 21:3,4. God promises to do away with death and the pain that it causes. May these scriptures bring you strength and encouragement during your time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Sean##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM