



## Franklin Delanor Roosevelt Lyons, Sr.

March 20, 1937 - October 27, 2012

Franklin Delanor Roosevelt Lyons, Sr. Most Wonderful Past Grand Master, PH, 75, departed this life October 27, 2012. He was well known among the citizenry of the Commonwealth of Virginia and other states. He was born March 20, 1937 in Nash County, North Carolina and at a young age, moved with his family to Richmond, Virginia. He received his education in the Richmond Public Schools and was a graduate of Maggie L. Walker High School where he received many awards and letters in football.

He was employed by Phillip Morris, Inc. In November 1959, and was one of the first black employees to enter the cigarette making department. He was also among the first group of blacks to be accepted as a Cigarette Making Machine. After 34 years of service at Phillip Morris, Franklin retired in 1993.

Franklin was a member of Triumphant Baptist Church in Richmond where he was a past member of the Finance Committee and Trustee Board Ministry, serving as Chairman of this board from 1997 to 1999. He resided in Henrico County for 30 years where he served as President of the Montezuma Gardens/Oak Hill Civic Leagues. He was past Chairman of the Transportation and Safety Commission, member of the Recreation and Parks, member of the NAACP, and past member of the Richmond Urban League and Astoria Beneficial Club. He was a candidate for Fairfield District Supervisor in 1995.

His Frateranal affiliations were: Past Master Edward Jones Lodge #324, where he held the office of Assistant Secretary, Past High Priest Haggi Chapter #18, Holy Royal Arch Masons, Mt. Olivet Commandery #2 Knights Templar, East End Chapter #79 Order of Eastern Star of VA, PHA, Mocha Temple #7 A.E.A.O.N.M.S, Inc. Past Potentate, Richmond Consistory #22, 33rd Degree Mason and Sir Knight of Knights of Pythagoras.

His Grand Lodge affiliations were: Chairman M.W.P.H. Grand Lodge Convention 1986-1990, Past Chairman Club Virginia, Grand Lodge Ball Committee and Past Chairman, Assistant District Deputy Grand Master 1980-1986, District Deputy Grand Master 1986-1982 (awarded District Deputy Grand Master of the Year 1988-1999), elected Right Worshipful Jr. Grand Deacon in 1992, Chairman Masonic Foundation Board and Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master for the Jurisdiction of Virginia M.W.P.H. Grand Lodge, and Most Worshipful Grand Master 2002. He was instrumental in the Compact Signing of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Virginia and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, F. & A.M., Inc.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Raleigh Lyons; parents, Marion and Lillie Mae Phillips Lyons and brother, James E. Lyons.

He leaves to cherish his loving memory two daughters, Francine Puryear and Francine Pryor (Wayne); two sons, Franklin D. R. Lyons, Jr. (Roxie), Timothy C. Lyons; five grandchildren, Pierra, Danielle, Gabrielle, LaKeeya and Yolanda. six great-grandchildren, Pherin, Chance, Tyjahne, Goddess, Majesty, and Destin; six sisters, Mary Gaddy, Martha McBride, Delores Hicks, Shirley Harris (Clifford), Barbara Johnson, and Bertha Johnson; two sister-in-laws, Elenora Farrington (Norman), Sontiere Ennadame (Abdula); four aunts, Gladys Granderson, Mary Holmes, Georgiana Lyons, and Ada Gray Phillips; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.



# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

4000 Pilots Lane  
Richmond, VA 23222

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

NOV 2. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - Laburnum Chapel  
2110 E. Laburnum Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23222  
(804) 321-4200  
info@marchfh.com  
<https://www.marchfuneralhomevirginia.com/>

## Service

NOV 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Triumphant Baptist Church  
2003 Lamb Ave  
Richmond, VA 23222

# Tribute Wall



“ *Franklin Delanor Roosevelt Lyons, Sr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I work with Frank at Phillip Morris, who was my mechanical fixer and the memory will not be forgotten.*

*William Huggins*

**William Huggins** - November 03, 2012 at 08:49 AM



“ *My condolence to your family. I pray your strength thru this time. Frank was loved by many, and will be greatly missed. But we know he is in a better place. May God bless you and give you the strength you need.*

*Margaret Ann Hawkins Randolph*



**Margaret Ann Hawkins Randolph** - November 02, 2012 at 06:01 PM



“ *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** - October 30, 2012 at 01:31 PM