



George G. Brown

October 31, 1917 - December 15, 2020

George Grafton Brown, also affectionately known as “Grafton” or “Graf” was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He was the fourth of seven children, and the last surviving child born to the late Frances Jackson and Walter Plummer Brown. His siblings, Willie, Ida, Oliver, Constance, Harvey, and Mordecai, preceded his death.

Grafton was educated in the Baltimore City Public Schools. Prior to his passing, he had a long-standing relationship with six surviving classmates from the 1934 class of Dunbar Junior High School. That’s 86 years! He graduated from Frederick Douglass Senior High School three years later. In 1945, his pursuit of higher learning led him to enroll at what was then Morgan College where he majored in History. As a disciplined student, he made the Dean’s List, yet was also active on campus as a member of the Social Science Club, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and President of the Class of 1951. After graduating from Morgan College, he attended Johns Hopkins University where he took post-graduate classes in Political Science. He also traveled by train for three years to attend Howard University School of Law because segregation in the state of Maryland would not permit him to attend Law School in his state of residence. Grafton had one more year to complete Law School, however, while attempting to balance work, school, and family life, it started to take a toll on his health and following medical advice, he made the difficult decision to cease his studies.

Grafton met the love of his life, Catherine Rosemond Taylor at Frederick Douglass Senior High School while they were members of the Choral Group. According to him, she had this walk that was undeniably her own. Catherine would have family and friends laughing as she often told the story of how she “could not stand” Grafton because of his clever ways of seeking her attention through the art of flirting. Yet, his courtship led to a proposal and they got married on February 16, 1941. From this union, Dean and Jo-Ann were born. There must have been sparks and magic because the two of them were soul mates and life-long partners for seventy-three years before Catherine’s passing in November 2014.

As a couple, they enjoyed traveling the United States through group excursions. Their adventures took them to the West Coast, Southern Tours, Alaska, the US Virgin Islands and many trips to the Concrete Jungle, New York City, which they loved. They were also business partners and co-owners of the Walbrook Gift Shop in the late 1950’s.

God, family, charity and healthy friendships were constant drivers in Grafton’s life. His Christian life began at Douglas Memorial Community Church where he attended until he converted to Catholicism through Baptism and Confirmation in December of 1965.

He became a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Church where he was a devout Catholic and served as a lector and member of the Holy Name Society until the church closed its doors in 1995. Saint Ambrose became his next church home for several years where he was instrumental in many of its fundraising activities. A few years later he became a member of New All Saints Roman Catholic Church. After retirement, his faith led him to establish his private and philanthropic Society of St. Joseph, during which he directed personal donations to the poor and underserved.

During World War II, Grafton tried to enlist in the U.S Army, but due to having “flat feet,” he was not accepted. To aid in the war efforts, in 1940 he took on a civilian job with the United States Government where he worked for five years at Edgewood Arsenal in the Ordinance Manufacturing Department. After the war ended, his next job took him to the General Chemical Company in New York City where he worked as a Clerk Messenger from 1945-1946.

Grafton was driven to balance school while pursuing his goals towards professional growth. In 1947 he was hired as a janitor at the Light Street office of Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company (C&P). He went to school during the day and worked at night. His rigorous schedule greatly agitated Catherine because it was so difficult to awaken Graf to go to work. To hear her tell the story of she being his human alarm clock, as he juggled school and work, gave an impression that despite the challenges it brought to their marriage, she knew he had potential and they persevered.

Grafton’s work ethic and potential paid off when he was offered a promotion at C&P to Administrative Assistant. He held that position for twelve years before his next promotion in 1964 to Commercial Representative. This led to bigger and better advancements within the company. In 1965, he became a Business Manager in charge of personnel and operations at the Pennsylvania Avenue branch before moving to the new office in Mondawmin Mall, where it was known, at that time, as the most important telephone office in the city of Baltimore with over 200,000 phone owners in his Northern district.

In 1979, Grafton’s final promotion to Community Relations Manager of the Northern district at C&P offered even greater responsibilities. He was put in charge of building relationships with civic and community groups in his district. Through his involvement and charitable budget, on behalf of C&P, he was able to present programs and funds to schools, civic organizations, and

community groups. He humanized C&P by making it more personable to the people that the company served. He received hundreds of letters of thanks, awards, and accolades for the hard work and passion that he put into this position. Shortly after 33 years, Grafton retired from C&P in February 1981.

While working at C&P, Grafton ran for the House of Delegates for Baltimore City's Fourth District. His slogan was "Pull Lever 9D Down for George G. Brown." He also held an appointed position on the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City for seventeen years; ten years as Commissioner and seven years as Chairman. He was appointed by three Governors over time. He really enjoyed that position. Furthermore, it gave him something to do after retirement.

During his working years, Grafton was a member of several Boards of Directors to include, but not limited to, William S. Baer School, Associated Catholic Charities, Big Brothers of America, Young Men's Christian Association, Maryland Public Broadcasting Corporation, Baltimore Telephone Credit Union, and more. Memberships included NAACP, Morgan State College Alumni Association, and Urban League, just to name a few.

Aside from Grafton's work ethic, he made time for his various past times. He was an avid reader; keeping abreast of the daily news and current events. Most importantly, his Daily Missal and Bible were daily reflections for him. Grafton also had a gift of the use of words. After his retirement from the Liquor Board, he was gifted his first personal computer from which he would create personal greeting cards that he would often give to friends and family. He had a craving for sweets which coincided with his passion for baking; his New York Style Cheesecakes were in high demand, especially during the Christmas holiday season. Lastly, he had a passion for the arts. He loved music, was a collector of art, and a frequent attendee of the theater along with his late wife, Catherine.

As Grafton leaves his earthly journey, he leaves to mourn his devoted children, Dean G. Brown and Jo-Ann K. Brown; granddaughter, Akiisha Dunmoodie; grandson, Carlos Dunmoodie, Jr. (Heather); great-grandson, Darren Dunmoodie; great-granddaughters, Olivia and Simone Dunmoodie; a host of nieces and nephews, family, and friends.

The journey George traveled will be remembered and the tasks he performed will be revealed by God whom he worshiped above all worldly life.

Previous Events

viewing

DEC 28. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Live Streaming

DEC 29. 10:00 AM.

Live Streaming Link
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7131958730?pwd=ajZ3NFYwWTlyR1NyMStJUTJyNUxwdz09#success>

Wake

DEC 29. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

New All Saints Church
4408 Liberty Heights Ave
Gwynn Oak, MD 21207

Service

DEC 29. 10:30 AM (ET)

New All Saints Church
4408 Liberty Heights Ave
Gwynn Oak, MD 21207

Tribute Wall



“ George G. Brown

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ The Family of Jacqueline & James Massey share our heartfelt condolences to the Brown Family. We will miss the caring and kind personality of Mr. Brown at the New All Saints Saturday Mass.

The Massey's - December 29, 2020 at 10:30 AM



“ My great uncle Grafton was a wise and caring person. To me he was the family Griot. I loved to listen him recant stories of the early trials he overcame to succeed in life and his love of family, friends and faith. He was the go-to person to get advice and consultation. He will always live in my heart. I will miss him dearly. Love, Gloria Erwin Jones

Gloria Jones - December 29, 2020 at 10:20 AM



“ May the Lord's peace and comfort be with you always.



D. Yemoh - December 29, 2020 at 08:56 AM

J.

“ Jeannette L .Hall lit a candle in memory of George G. Brown



Jeannette L .Hall - December 28, 2020 at 04:45 PM

J.

Mr. Brown was a kind, friendly, and cheerful gentlemen. I will miss his gentle smile. New All Saints/Ashburton Community Friend. My sincere Condolences to the family.

Jeannette L .Hall - December 28, 2020 at 05:14 PM

LD

To the Brown family,my thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. I hope you're able to find peace and comfort during this difficult time.
Lillian Daily

lillian daily - December 29, 2020 at 01:06 PM

BB

“ Baltimore City Liquor Board purchased the Simpl y Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of George G. Brown.



Baltimore City Liquor Board - December 28, 2020 at 09:42 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of George G. Brown.*



December 27, 2020 at 11:09 PM



“ *Sending my love and condolences to the entire family. Love Ra'Shaun Shaw*



R.Shaw - December 26, 2020 at 11:49 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 - December 19, 2020 at 01:48 PM