



LT. COL. George Louis Fountain

May 20, 1916 - August 28, 2011

In Leiu of Flowers; Baltimore Tuskegee Alumni Foundation Scholarship Fund
P.O. Box 2541, Baltimore MD 21215

George Louis Fountain was the first child born to Essie Keene Vincent Fountain and Charles Wesley Fountain on May 20, 1916 in Fairton, New Jersey. He and his sisters, Gertrude and Sara, moved from Fairton to Bridgeton, New Jersey . He also had a half-brother, Willie Fountain, the son of his father and his father's first wife who died. George enjoyed a happy childhood living in New Jersey. He skipped a grade in grammar school in Fairton and graduated from Bridgeton High School at age 17 where he was the valedictorian of the class in 1935. Upon high school graduation he immediately joined the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) to earn money for college. The CCC was a federal government work relief program for unemployed, unmarried men between the ages of 18-25 during the Great Depression. CCC camps were rough and dangerous, where he quickly learned how to survive. Reserve U.S Army officers were in charge of the CCC and this was his first exposure to the military.

Upon completion of the CCC, "Louis," as he was affectionately known, went off to college. He wanted to study aerospace engineering and said he was accepted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but could not afford to attend. Instead, he chose Tuskegee Institute, in Tuskegee, Alabama where he

majored in Industrial Arts with a 5-year scholarship. At Tuskegee he worked several jobs on campus including volunteering to work with Dr. George Washington Carver. He also worked to build Moton Airfield for the 99th Pursuit Squadron. While at Tuskegee George Fountain was a member of the Tuskegee Reserve Officers Training Corp (ROTC). His ROTC commanding officer was Benjamin O. Davis the commander of the World War II Tuskegee Airmen. George was accepted as a member of the distinguished Tuskegee Airmen program. However, he declined the offer knowing he would be required to leave college before graduating. It was at Tuskegee that George met the love of his life - Marie Fontaine from Martinsville, Virginia. He worked long hours and studied hard. He generously helped to pay the tuition of Marie and Stanley Goldsboro, his best friend from Bridgeton. They all graduated, he married Marie and his first child, Jacqueline (dec.) was born. George completed Officer Candidate School (OCS) and earned his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Regular Army July 4, 1944. After OCS, he was roommates with baseball great Jackie Robinson before deploying to command front line troops in Italy during World War II. In Italy he was a member of the 366th Infantry Regiment (Buffalo Soldiers).

At the conclusion of the war he served in the Philippines where his second child was born. He returned to duty in New Jersey, where his third child was born, and he was promoted to the rank of Captain. In 1950 he deployed to the front line in the Korean Conflict. He became one of the first black officers to command troops in the newly desegregated U.S. Army.

He returned to state side duty at Fort Eutis, Virginia where he single-handedly desegregated on-base housing for black soldiers. He completed many assignment locations including Tule, Greenland. Promoted to the rank of Major, he and his family moved so that he could serve again. He moved to Orléans, France, where his fourth child was born, and then on to duty in Mannheim, Germany. He returned to the states, where he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel while serving at Fort Totten, New York. He retired

honorably from military service in 1964. He was highly decorated, received numerous awards including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart during combat. He was proud that he never lost a man. Upon his military retirement George Fountain and moved his family to Baltimore, Maryland. While in Baltimore, he served as the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer (EEOO) at Ft. George G. Meade until 1992 opening doors for many. He and Marie helped to found the Baltimore Tuskegee Alumni Association which is still active today.

George was married to Marie (dec.) for 55 years. At 1:52 a.m. on Sunday August 28, 2011, he departed this life at the age of 95. He leaves to mourn three loving children and their spouses: Wynnona and Virgil, Georgene, George Jr. and Renee; eight dear grandchildren: Michelle and Leon, Brian, Addai and Egem, Shani and Lakai, Jamal, Marie, George III and Shelby; two spirited great-grandchildren: Najjah and Jahir; a beloved sister Sara Wright; nieces, nephews, Fountain cousins, Fontaine cousins Doris Loper and son; treasured friend Penny Lawrence (wife of his Tuskegee roommate Frank Lawrence, and many others that he touched along his tremendous life's journey. He was a man of strong moral character with an unwavering commitment to doing what is right.

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

Wake

SEP **19**. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

SEP **19**. 12:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *LT. COL. George Louis Fountain*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *17 files added to the album Memories Album*



March Funeral Homes - September 09, 2011 at 03:14 PM



“ *George wNate sharp Jrs touched reading your tribute to your father in the Bridgeton News.A great man. The kind any good man would like to have known. You were blessed with his life. My condolences, May God bless.*

N. Sharp Jr Millville

Nate Sharp Jr - September 07, 2011 at 05:45 AM

RJ

“ May you have peace and comfort from our God above who comforts us during all of our tribulations. May the hope of the resurrection give you hope and strength to endure in the days to come. Acts 24:15 promises that there is going to be a resurrection of the dead. Untill tthen, may your cherished memories help you to cope with your loss.

Rita Johnson - September 06, 2011 at 03:14 PM

MS

“ You don't know me but as one of Jehovah's Witnesses I would like to offer my condolences to your family. Death is such a terrible thing for a family to go through, I actually lost my mom about 2yrs ago. I'm truly grateful that I have the truth about death and look forward to the future when there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.”—ACTS 24:15. I'm sure you would love to see your dead loved one again! Any Jehovah's Witnesses that you meet would love to show you in the Bible the truth about death! Again so sorry for your loss!!

Ms Springer - September 06, 2011 at 09:08 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 - September 01, 2011 at 09:36 AM