

HOMEGOING CELEBRATION
for
MR. ALEXANDER GRAVES, JR.



Sunrise

May 13, 1925

Sunset

March 30, 2007

Wednesday, April 4, 2007
Four O'clock in the afternoon

Jordan- Matthews High School Auditorium
910 East Cardinal Street
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Reverend Mary J. Turner, Pastor & Officiant

Corinth A. M. E. Zion Church
491 Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Rev. Dr. S. J. Farrar, Presiding Elder
Durham District

*In Loving Memory
of
Mr. Alexander Graves, Jr.*



May 13, 1925 - March 30, 2007

The Lord's Prayers

(Mat. 6: 9-13)

*After this manner therefore pray ye:
Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, for ever.*

Amen.

~Order of Service~

Prelude

Processional

Selection

Scriptural Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Acknowledgments/Resolution

Remarks (3minutes please)

Solo

Family Tribute

The Lord's Prayer

Eulogy

Special Thanks

Omega Hymn

Recessional

Soft Music

Corinth AME Zion Church Choir

"Blessed Assurance"

Rev. M. Phillip McCleave

Rev. Barry Gray

Elder Samuel B. Obie

Corinth AME Zion Church Choir

"It's Your Time"

Mrs. Alpha Cheek

Charles Turner, Mayor

Siler City, NC

Rev. Dr. S. J. Farrar

Presiding Elder

Durham District

Rev. Anissa Little

Mt. Olive AME Zion Church

Durham, NC

Rev. Winston M. Hill, III

Presiding Elder-AME Church

Philadelphia District

Rev. Stacey Frazier

Mrs. Charmayne Frazier-Owens

Rev. Mary J. Turner, Pastor

Corinth AME Zion Church

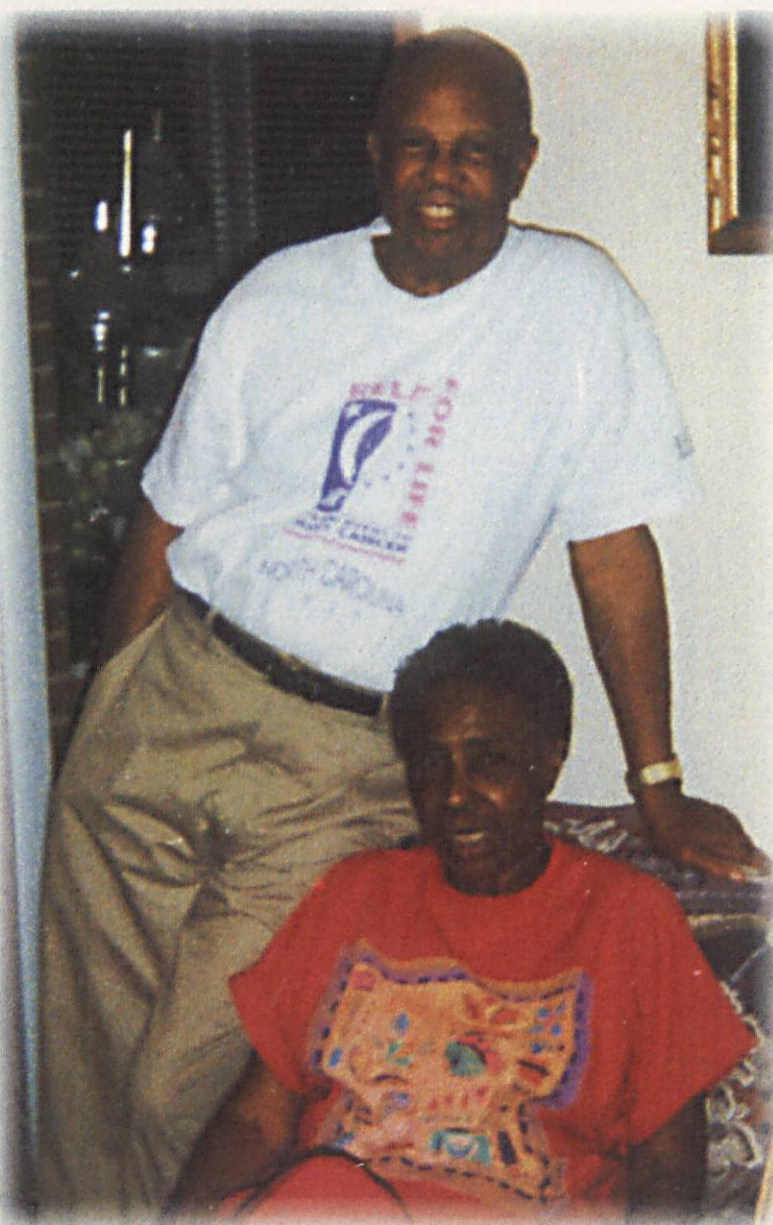
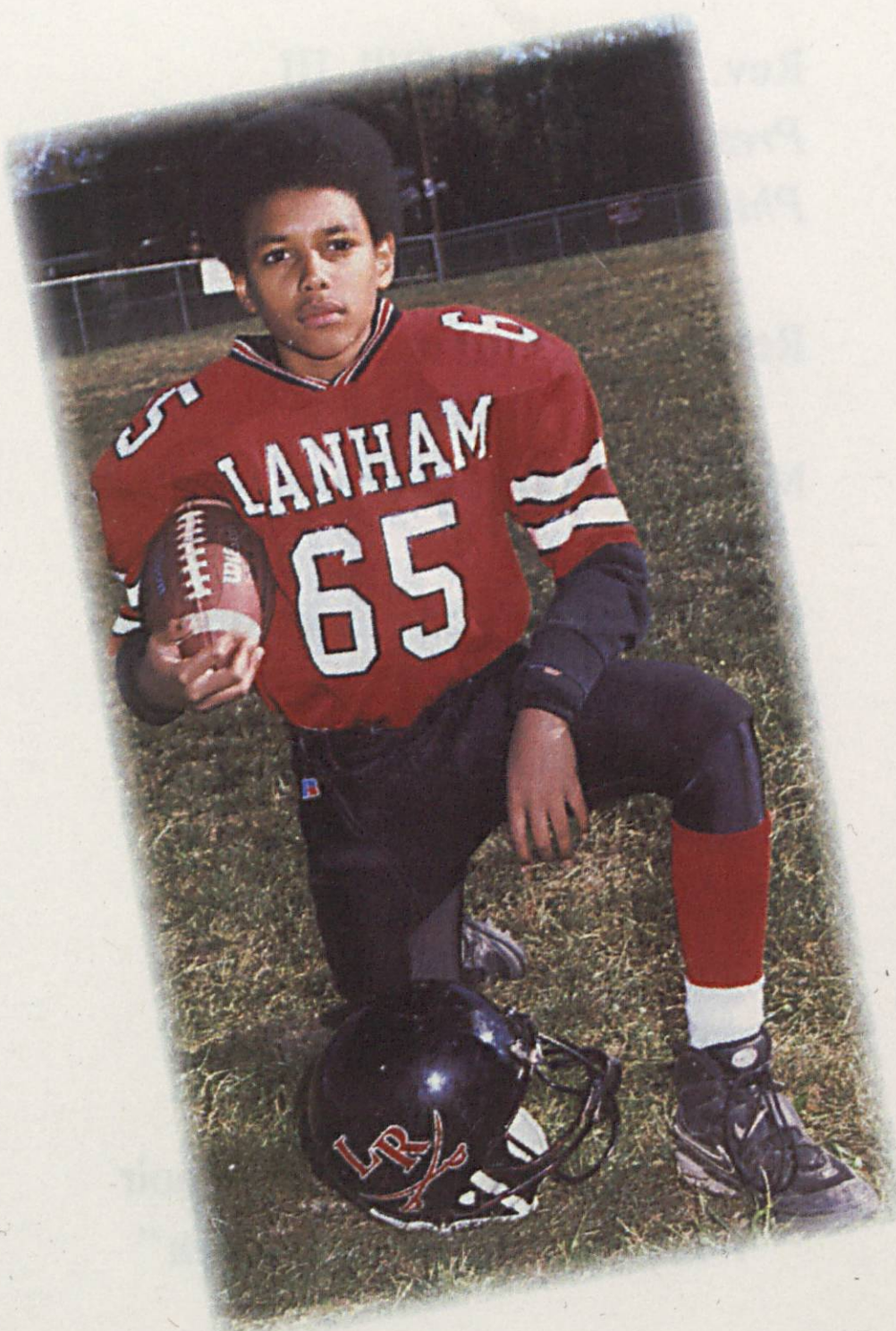
Siler City, NC

Dr. Alan C. Graves

Corinth AME Zion Church Choir

"When We All Get to Heaven"

~Reflections of Life~



Reflections of Life

"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations."

Psalms 90:1

As God in his infinite wisdom so precious grants us the privilege of awakening to the beauty of a new day, so it was for our dear brother on the morning of Friday, March 30, 2007. He was always energetically and actively engaged in meaningful activities and projects. There was a purpose and a plan for each and every day of his life.

As dusk began to fall, His Heavenly Father summoned him home from his faithful labor to his reward. Mr. Alexander Graves, Jr. of 409 East Eleventh Street, Siler City, NC was born May 13, 1925 to the late Alexander and Bessie Graves of Waterbury, Connecticut.

He received his elementary and high school education in Waterbury graduating from Leavenworth High School in 1942. He later enrolled at N. C. A & T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

He was drafted and served two and a half years in the United States Army from 1943-1946. Upon his honorable discharge, he again enrolled at N. C. A & T State University. While a student there, he met and married the love of his life, the former Madeline Spruill of Creswell, North Carolina on December 18, 1948. They were blessed with a 58-year marriage. Born to Alexander were three sons, Dr. Alan Craig Graves; Larrie Jones and Alexander Graves, III who preceded him in death.

He received a B. S. degree in engineering and certification to teach mathematics and physics in 1950 and received his M. S. degree from N. C. A & T State University in 1958.

He taught in the Greene County Training School from 1950-1952 in Snow Hill, NC and at Washington High School from 1952-1957 in Shelby, NC.

In 1957, he and his family moved to Siler City, NC where he taught at Chatham High School until 1969. He served as assistant principal at Jordan-Matthews High School from 1969-1984 and retired in 1984 after 34 years of dedicated service.

His record of service as a statesman, scholar and humanitarian has provided immeasurable benefits to our church and community. He is a member of Corinth A. M. E. Zion Church where he served on the Senior Usher Board, Trustee Board, past Superintendent of the Sunday School and presently Superintendent Emeritus, past church secretary, and past chairman of the Finance Committee of the Durham District of the Central N. C. Conference.

He is past president of the Chatham County Schools Retired School Personnel, past Basileus of Tau Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in Greensboro, NC, past potentate of El Jebel Temple # 97, Burlington, NC and past Commander-in-Chief of the James T. Diggs Consistory No. 308 in Burlington, NC; a thirty-third degree mason and past Master and secretary of the Light of the World Lodge # 711, Siler City, NC. He served 20 years as Grand Knight Director of the NC Council of the Knights of Pythagoras and Deputy Supreme Knight from 1995-2001.

He was past Scout Master from Troop 172 in Siler City from 1962-82, youth director of the American Legion Moffitt-Poole Post #277, Siler City, NC and youth director of the El Jebel Temple #97 Drill Team. He has served as past chairman of the Chatham County American Heart Association and has served on the following boards: Chatham County Education Foundation, Chatham County Hospice, Professional Development School in Chapel Hill, NC; and past member of the Chatham County Economic Development Commission.

Over the years he has served in many civic organizations: the Siler City Recreation Board, 1966; the Planning Board/Zoning Board, 1970; Siler City ABC Board, 1982-1988; Siler City Commissioner, 1988-2003; the Planter's National Bank Board; and as assistant coach in football, basketball, and baseball.

Brother Graves has received numerous honors and awards during his lifetime and is listed in Community Service of North Carolina, International Who's Who in Community Service, 1974, and Notable Americans of the Bi-Centennial Era, 1976.

Lovingly and faithfully, he leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Madeline Spruill Graves; a son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Alan Craig Graves (Christina) Lanham, MD; two sons (Larrie Jones and Alexander Graves, III who preceded him in death); grandchildren, Edward R. Milliken, Jr., Raleigh, NC; Troy Johnson, Hartford, CT; Monica Jones, Waterbury, CT.; Larry "Scottie" Jones, Hawaii; Erika Graves, Alysha Graves, and Brianna Graves, Lanham, MD; Antoine Gordon, Bowie, MD; one sister and brother, Lucille Sanders Moore and Fletcher Graves, both of Waterbury, CT., who preceded him in death; a daughter, Ella Milliken, Siler City, NC and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends.

~To My Best Friend~

I kept my promise, to love, honor, and share.

*I kept my promise that to you, that I would always be there
Until death do we part, that is what they say.*

Oh my love why did you leave me that day?

*I wasn't ready for you to say goodbye, as I look into the
heavens with tears in my eyes, I wasn't ready for you to die.*

My best friend why did you leave and not say goodbye?

With so many questions and no answers as to why.

*I would have gone with you, however God knows best and
took you home to give you rest.*

*I was not ready, no not just yet, With only one regret that I
didn't tell you one last time I love you, and forever you will be
mine.*

My best friend this you must know, and never forget.

*I will see you again when God calls my name and say's it is
time to go home and be with your best friend once again.*

Casket Bearers
Light of the World Lodge #711

Floral Bearers
Friendship Chapter #521 O. E. S.



With Gratitude

The Graves Family wishes to express sincere thanks and gratitude for celebrating with us the life of our husband, father, grandfather, neighbor and friend. We are grateful for you and all of your expressions of love, acts of kindness and compassion that have been shown to our family during this difficult time. We pray that God will continue to bless you and may His Divine favor rest upon each of you.

Love,
The Family



Services Entrusted to
Farrar Funeral Service
718 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Siler City, NC
(919)742-3134
~Interment Corinth AME Zion Church Cemetery~