

Celebration of Life
For
Dr. William Pretty, Jr.



Thursday, October 2, 2003
11:00 a.m.

First Calvary Baptist Church
Sanford, North Carolina

Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Smith, Officiating

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In Loving Memory

Alpha

November 11, 1943

Omega

September 28, 2003



"We Love You!"

The Celebration

Reverend Thomas E. Smith, Sr., Officiating

The Prelude

The Family Processional

The Invocation

The Hymn of Praise "How Great Thou Art"
First Calvary Baptist Church Choir

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Twenty-third Psalm
New Testament Matthew 25:14 - 23

Prayer of Comfort

Hymn "The Other Shore"
First Calvary Baptist Church Choir

Reflections (3 minutes please)

President of Shaw University Dr. Clarence Newsome

Chairman of the Shaw University Trustee Board Dr. Willie E. Gary

Chairman of First Calvary Trustee Board Mr. Vestal Fox

Business Associate Attorney Bill Wilson

Friend Dr. Erastus Smith, Jr.

Family Mr. Tony Baldwin

Remarks Mr. James Norris
Childhood Friend

Solo "May the Work I've Done Speak for Me" Rev. Nathaniel Wood

Acknowledgements, Resolutions and Obituary Mrs. Margaret Murchison

Eulogy Rev. David Dolby

Morticians' Brief

Recessional "Because He Lives"

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*"Now may the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing,
that you may abound in hope by the
power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15: 13*

Life in Retrospect

William Pretty, Jr. walked in the principle of stewardship which is God's plan to fulfill our lives so that we will abound having all our needs met and meet the needs of others.

William Pretty, Jr., excelled in this principle. He ended his walk on Sunday, September 28, 2003 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill, North Carolina at the age of fifty-nine years.

He was the first child born to William Pretty, Sr., and the late Lovie Pretty of Raleigh, North Carolina on November 11, 1943. His entire life was devoted to spiritual, family, civic, academic and political endeavors.

As a young lad, he became a member of First Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, where he actively participated in Christian youth training. This early training helped to cultivate his philanthropic character that established the standard for his vision for life.

He was a graduate of J.W. Ligon High School Raleigh, North Carolina. After graduation, he matriculated at Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree. While attending the university, he met and married his long-time companion, Mildred Southerland, whom he referred to as "Mill." To their union, two sons were born, Reginald Fitzgerald and Furney Lavone. Later they became the proud grandparents of three beautiful granddaughters; Gabriella, Alexondria, and Isabella. They were the "apple of Bill's eye."

The Prettys moved to Sanford, North Carolina in 1978 to open the first McDonald's on Horner Boulevard. Later, a second store was opened on Spring Lane. As a McDonald's entrepreneur, Bill's name became a household word.

Bill had a special rapport with young people and always went out of his way to nurture them. His motto was, "The work experience, no matter how short is very valuable." To support his motto, even when overstaffed, young people were employed at McDonald's. He served as a mentor for youth at local elementary schools.

In the Sanford Community/Lee County, altruistic endeavors were well-known through the Fuel Fund for the Elderly, Headstart, Disaster Relief Fund and many church functions. In addition to his charitable contributions, he was active politically.

Because of his long-term commitment to education and humanitarian endeavors, he was selected to be a member of the Board of Trustees of Shaw University, and on November 22, 2002, an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters was bestowed upon him.

He was a faithful steward of First Calvary Baptist Church from the time he moved to the Sanford Community until his passing away. Bill was active in the Sunday School, Bible Study and regular worship. He served as Vice-Chairman of the trustee board and a member of the Benevolent, Finance and Budget Committees. Being proud of both Shaw University and his church, Bill's latest undertaking was to implement "Shaw Day" at the church scheduled for October 19, 2003. This project will provide scholarships and grants-in-aid for underprivileged students wanting to study at Shaw.

Bill was a true humanitarian in his walk as a steward. His love for mankind and his outreaching personality created many valuable and long-lasting relationships with all people.

Left to cherish precious memories are his father, William Pretty, Sr.; wife, Mildred Southerland Pretty; two sons, Reginald F. and his wife Antress, Furney and his wife Mary Beth; three grandchildren, Gabriella, Alexondria, and Isabella; one brother, Milton Pretty; three sisters, Glenda Wilkins, Vanessa Dunn and Beverlyn Pretty; a beloved mother-in-law, Geneva Southerland; brothers-in-law, David Southerland (Laurinda); Erwin Southerland (Jackie), and William Southerland (Brenda); sister-in-law Martha Southerland Waymon (Joe) and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

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"A Tribute to Bill"

Should you go first and I remain
To walk the road alone.
I'll live on memories garden dear,
With happy days we've known.
In the spring, I'll wait for roses red
When fade the lilies blue.
In early Fall, when brown leaves fall
I'll catch a glimpse of you.
Should you go first and I remain
One thing I'd have to do,
Walk slowly down the path of death,
For soon, I'd follow you.
I want to know each step you take
That I may take the same;
For some day down that lonely road
You'll hear me call your name,
Bill...
I loved you then and I love you now.

~ Mill ~

To Our Pops!

What do we say? As your sons, we love you. You were an excellent example of what a father should be. Perfect... no, but a very loving father who always cared, taught and provided for his sons. You taught us to be proud of who we are, to care for Momma, to look out for family, to help and to be kind to others, to work hard and to be excellent.

You enjoyed life and taught us that we should too.

While we didn't always talk, the silence did not separate the connections we had. I have come to know and understand that it is not what is said, but the actions taken that speak the loudest. And to that end, your loving voice is still being heard today. Pops, you made everything better just knowing you were there listening, directing, advising, and in the end, we knew everything was going to be alright. The impacts you made and are making are immeasurable. You have left a tremendous legacy that we will carry on so your efforts will not be in vain.

Thank You For Being Our Pops.

We could not have asked God for a better father here on this earth.

The Bible says in Proverbs 17:6,
that the "...glory of children is their fathers."
I want you to know that you were our glory.

Your Loving Sons,
Reginald and Furney

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To Our Beloved Son, Brother & Uncle

“For whatever was thus written in former days was written for our instruction, that by [our steadfast and patient] endurance and the encouragement [drawn] from the Scriptures we might hold fast to and cherish hope. Now may the God who supplies encouragement, grant us all to live in such full sympathy with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus. That together we may [unanimously] with united hearts and one voice, praise and glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ [The Messiah].”

Romans 15:4-5, Amplified Bible

William we praise and glorify God for allowing you to be
in our lives and family for a season.
And we thank you for the final assurance and instruction to:

“Tell Them All That It’s Alright”

~ Geneva Southerland and Family ~

We Love You GrandPa...
~ Your Pretty Princesses ~

Gabriella, Alexondria & Isabella



FROM DADDY AND SIBLINGS
Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay...
a golden heart stopped beating,
Your hard working hands put to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us, he only takes the best.
We'll always love you!

**Daddy,
Sisters and Brother**

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Accomplishments



- Doctor of Humane Letters, Shaw University
- Shaw University Board of Trustees
- The Board of Associates, Meredith College
- The Board of Visitors, Shaw University Divinity School
- The Board of Directors, Lee County Industrial Corporation
- The Board of Directors, Lee County Parks and Recreation Foundation
- The Board of Trustees, First Calvary Baptist Church, Sanford, NC
- The Treasurer of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association
- A Board Member of the Sanford YMCA
- A Board Member of Provisions Academy, Sanford, NC
- A Paul Harris Fellow of the Sanford Rotary Club
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
- A Member of the Benevolent Committee, First Calvary Baptist Church
- A Member of the Budget Committee, First Calvary Baptist Church
- A Member of the Finance Committee, First Calvary Baptist Church
- A Member of the Layman League, First Calvary Baptist Church
- A Board Member of the Lee County Regional Airport Authority
- Chairperson and a Board Member of the Sanford Housing Authority
- A Member of the Council of Effective Actions and Decisions
- A Member of the Sanford Democratic Party Executive Committee
- A Member of the Sanford Masonic Lodge # 101
- A Strong Supporter of the Boys and Girls Club of Sanford

William Pretty, Jr.

A MAN OF SUCCESS

A man who lived well,
laughed often and loved much;

A man who gained the respect
of intelligent men
and the love of children;

A man who has filled his niche
and accomplished his task;

A man who leaves the world better
than he found it,
whether through his wisdom or
his leadership;

A man who never lacked
appreciation of earth's beauty
or failed to express it;

A man who looked for the best
in others
and gave the best he had.

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Honorary Pallbearers

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

Active Pallbearers

Sanford Masonic Lodge # 101

Floral Bearers

The M.E. Singletary Missionary

The Lillie Akins Missionary

The Nannie Johnson Missionary



Interment

Lee Memory Gardens, Inc.

Hawkins Avenue

Sanford, North Carolina

"In Gratitude"

*We are filled with gratitude for your outpouring expressions of love and concern.
To those of you who have traveled miles to share in this eulogistic service-we thank you.*

To those of you who participated in this service-we thank you.

*For the flowers, the contributions to the scholarship fund for Shaw University,
the telephone calls, the food, the visits, your concern, your prayers-we thank you.*

For each act of kindness shown. May God richly bless you all!

~ The Family of William Pretty, Jr. ~

Professional Services Entrusted To

The Original

Horton Funeral Home, Inc.

604 South Horner Boulevard

Sanford, North Carolina 27330

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