

Mass of The Resurrection

For



Bertha L. Worsley High

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

12:00 Noon

The Episcopal Church of The Epiphany

500 North Fairview Rd.

Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27801

The Reverend Clifford C. Coles, Ed.D., Officiating

The Obituary

The pride of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Bertha L. Worsley was born on October 20, to the late John Laurence Worsley and Mary Grant Worsley. She departed this life and entered eternal rest at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 31, 2002 at Duke Hospital in Durham, North Carolina.

She was united in holy matrimony to the late Levi High for 23 years. He preceded her in death, as well as a sister in law; Helen Worsley and a brother in law; Reverend L. W. Reid.

Bertha, affectionately known by many as "Sibert", was inspired to teach and became a professional educator after completing high school at Booker T. Washington High in Rocky Mount, NC. She studied and received her B.A. Degree at Fayetteville State in Fayetteville, NC. She continued her studies at Shaw University, Raleigh, NC.

Education was a top priority to Bertha. She taught at Bulluck Elementary School in the Edgecombe County School System for 40 years. She worked hard to instill in others good character, effective skills, strong morale and value.

She joined the Episcopal Church at an early age and later became a member of The Church of The Epiphany, in Rocky Mount. At Epiphany she was active in The ECW, the church choir, and the Altar Guild. Even after moving to Durham, she remained a faithful member of Epiphany.

She was involved in several local organizations including the Booker T. Washington Senior Citizens Club, Shaw Alumni and the Retired Teachers Association. She was also a member of the Senior Citizens Club of Durham, North Carolina.

She leaves to cherish her loving memories: one sister, Julia W. Reid of Durham; one brother, John L. Worsley, Sr. of Rocky Mount; three nephews, Edward Reid of Durham; John L. Worsley, Jr. (Carrie) of Winston-Salem; James High (Shirley) of Rocky Mount; one niece, Hildegard Worsley of Rocky Mount; and a host of relatives and friends.

*For I am already being poured out like a drink offering
and the time has come for my departure
I have fought a good fight,
I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith:
Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown
Of righteousness, which the Lord,
the righteous judge shall give me at that day:
and not to me only, but unto all them also
that love his appearing.*

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

The Openingations.....

The Collect.....

Old Testament.....son.....Lament

Hymn 693....."Just As I Am

New Testament.....son.....1 Corinthians 15: 20-25

Hymn 660....."O Master Let

The Holy Gospel.....

The Homily.....The Reverend Cli

Prayers of Intercession.....

The Peace

Solo.....

Mrs. Debra Harding Allen

The Great Thanksgiving
(Eucharistic Prayer).....

Salutation & Corda

The Preface

Sanctus & Benedictus.....us

The Lord's Prayer.....

The Breaking of the Bread

Administration of Holy Communion

Communion.....

Prayer of Thanksgiving.....ing

The Communion.....

Blessing andsal

Recessional6....."Joyful, Joyf.

Interment

Northeastern Cemetery

PALL BEARERS

Men of The Episcopal Church of The Epiphany

FLORAL BEARERS

Women of The Episcopal Church of The Epiphany

*A heart of gold stopped beating
Two shining eyes at rest
God knows you have to leave us,
but he only takes the best
To some you are already forgotten
To others just part of the past
But to us who loved and lost you,
Your memory will always last.*

The Family

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family wishes to sincerely thank everyone for all
of the love and kind expressions shown to us
during the loss our loved one.

Services of Love and Memory By:
Stokes Mortuary
207 Albemarle Avenue
Rocky Mount, NC 27801
(252) 977-1313

Flower Bearers

Ladies of Reynolds Chapel

Pall Bearers

Climax Lodge # 832

Acknowledgment

In this hour of celebration for our cherished love, the family deeply appreciates the unrelenting services, visits, comforting messages, and great outpouring of sympathy and warm consolation from his church, friends, lodge brothers, and relatives.

We have sustained a great loss and though difficult to bear, we know that "Daddy" is at peace.

Your expressions of love have helped to ease our burden. May God continue to richly bless you and your family.

*Until we meet again,
The Family*

Memorial contributions may be made to:

*Hospice at Greensboro
2500 Summit Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27405*

*Reynolds Chapel Baptist Church
327 Hibler Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27409*



Funeral Home, Inc.

*3200 North O'Henry Blvd.
Greensboro, NC 27405
(336) 621-3461*

*The Celebration of Life
for
Major Stonington High*

March 22, 1929 - December 1, 1999



*Monday, December 6, 1999
11:00 A.M.*

*Reynolds Chapel Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina*

*Reverend D. F. Hedrick, Pastor
Reverend D. D. Baldwin, Eulogist*

Obituary

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" - 11 Corinthians 5:1....These words express the conviction of our beloved deceased.

Major Stonington High was born March 22, 1929 in Wake County. He was the youngest of nine children born to the late Stonington Henry High and Etta Jones High. He departed this life December 1, 1999 at the home of his daughter.

Born in Wake County, Major attended the public schools of Wake County. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from North Carolina Central University, and the Juris Doctorate Degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Major was a veteran, serving his country in the United States Marines and the United States Army. After discharge, he came to Greensboro where he became a major Civil Rights Movement Attorney and a principal organizer of the former Law firm of Lee, High, Taylor and Dansby.

Church participation was a very important part of Major's life. At an early age he was baptized into the fellowship of Wakefield Baptist Church in Zebulon, NC. As he traveled he always involved himself in the spiritual life of the community. After returning to Greensboro he chose to join Reynolds Chapel Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon. He also taught the Adult Sunday School Class and led the Wednesday Night Bible Study.

Major was a member of Climax Lodge #832, a member of Greensboro Consistory #106, an Honorary 33rd Degree Mason and the Grand Editor of the Prince Hall Masonic Journal.

He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

With loving memories he leaves behind: Mrs. Willie High of Greensboro; son, Major, Jr. of Greensboro; daughter and son-in-law, Renee and Timothy Martin of Greensboro; two grandsons, Brian Timothy Martin and Tyus Stonington Martin of Greensboro; two sisters, Eredena Young, of Raleigh, NC and Neda Harris of Greensboro; brother and sister-in-law, Sylvester and Mary High of Dumfries, VA; many nieces and nephews; and a host of other relatives, friends, and brother Masons.

Thanatopsis, "A View of Death"
So live that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan which moves
To that mysterious realm where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry - slave at night
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him and lies down to pleasant dreams.
by William Cullen Bryant

The Celebration of Life

Reverend D. F. Hedrick, Presiding

Prelude

Processional

Hymn

Scripture Readings
Old Testament

Rev. Warren Lewis

New Testament

Prayer of Consolation

Selection

Choir

Obituary and
Acknowledgment

Read Silently

Tributes

Reynolds Chapel

Mr. Alvin Elliott
Grand Secretary
Prince Hall Grand Lodge

Atty. David Dansby, Jr

The High Family

Family Tribute

Solo

"May the Work I've Done Speak for Me"

Eulogy

Rev. D. D. Baldwin

Benediction

Recessional

Interment - Wakefield Baptist Church Cemetery
Zebulon, NC

Major Stonington High
March 22, 1929 - December 1, 1999
A Few Accomplishments

- One of the first African-Americans to graduate from UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law
- First African-American from Guilford County to run for the NC General Assembly, thus paving the way for others to follow
- First Grand Attorney for The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina
- Grand Editor of The Prince Hall Masonic Journal
Mr. High won the praise and admiration of the entire Masonic family with the innovations he made in the Masonic Journal when he single-handedly transformed the Journal into a true documentary of Masonic activities throughout the State of North Carolina
- When active in the Shrine, played a major role in the acquisition of the Mosque and Grenadier Club for Khalif Temple #144
- Principal organizer of successful efforts to establish the Sanford Gardens, a 50 unit home for the elderly, located in Sanford, North Carolina, under the ownership of Khalif Temple
- A major Civil Rights Movement attorney who represented rent strikers at the Cottage Grove-Apache apartments in the late 1960's
- Served as Counsel for the former Malcolm X Liberation University in Greensboro
- Was a very fluent writer and had nearly completed a manuscript for a history of the Prince Hall Masons of North Carolina
- A mentor to a number of law students and young lawyers who served as interns under him, one of which was Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.), one of the original Sit-In leaders
- Always made himself available to Civil Rights leaders who had worthy and even controversial causes, even though they seldom were able to pay him for his services
- A Charter Member of the American Federal Savings and Loan Association, as well as a member of the team of Lawyers that did the research leading to the founding of American Federal Savings and Loan Association, the first African-American Savings and Loan Association in the City of Greensboro
- Among the more interesting cases successfully litigated by Mr. High, was a case against the renown singer Ray Charles when Mr. High had the proceeds of Ray Charles' purse from a concert held in Greensboro seized
- A principal organizer of the former law firm of Lee, High, Taylor and Dansby
- A member of the Legal Team of Soul City
- Held membership in the first State-wide Lawyers Association, a lawyer's association composed of African-American Lawyers who practiced in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia
- Participated in the litigation of many Civil Rights cases
- When active in the Shrine, served as Potentate of Khalif Temple #144
- Past Master of Climax Lodge #832
- When active as a member of the Shrine, rose to the position of Imperial Legal Advisor to The Imperial Council of the AEAONMS
- Organized the H&M Stamp Company

Submitted by David M. Dansby, Jr.