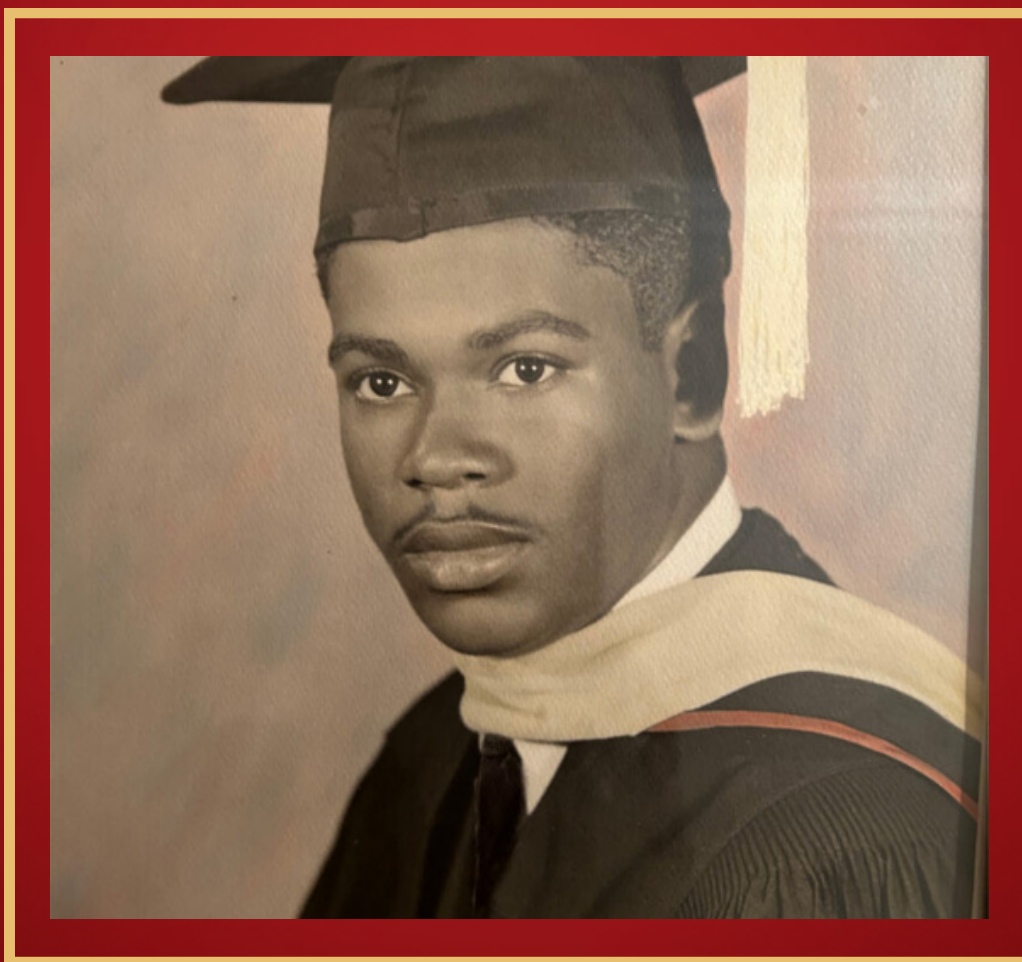




Celebrating The Life Of
RUFUS BOWLING JR.



March 17th, 1939 – May 9th, 2024

FAITHFUL SERVANT, DEVOTED FATHER, INSPIRING MENTOR

The Homegoing Celebration of Mr. Rufus Bowling, Jr.

I'M FREE

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

I'LL BE SEEING YOU

I am at rest, so don't cry,
It'll be easier as time goes by
As my body lies here, it's only a shell,
God has called me home, so I say farewell.
Now I'm happy and very content,
For the things I've done wrong, I repent.
You know and I know that it's hard on earth,
So you should not cry at death, but birth.
To all my friends as you pass by,
As you are now, so once was I,
As I am now, so you must be;
Prepare yourselves to follow me.
I have no worries, pains or fears,
For I'm with God so please dry your tears.
I love you all and this is what I want you to do,

Put God first in your life and,
I'll be seeing you.
And the world passeth away.....
But he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

1 John 2:17

Order Of Service

Prelude "Medley of Hymns" | Musicians

Processional "In the Garden" | Musicians

Call to Worship | *Rev. Ramon Stripling, Pastor Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church*

Hymn "Amazing Grace" | Choir

Affirmation of Faith

Prayer | *Rev. Ramon Stripling, Pastor Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church*

Scriptures

Old Testament – Psalms 100:1-5 | Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Rev. William D. Smart, President of Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)

New Testament – 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 | John 14: 1-6

Rev. Oliver Buie, Pastor | Bel-Vue Community Presbyterian Church

Solo "One Day at a Time" | Clydene Jackson

Expressions

The Bowling Family | Rufus (Rudy) Bowling, III

Selection "Last Mile of the Way" | Choir

Acknowledgements | Wendi (Bowling) Green

Solo "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" | Danette Armstead

Words of Comfort | *Rev. Emma J. Burrus, Pastor | Grace Community C.M.E. Church*



Order Of Service

Selection "May the Work I've Done Speak for Me" | Choir

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Hymn | Kappas Standing

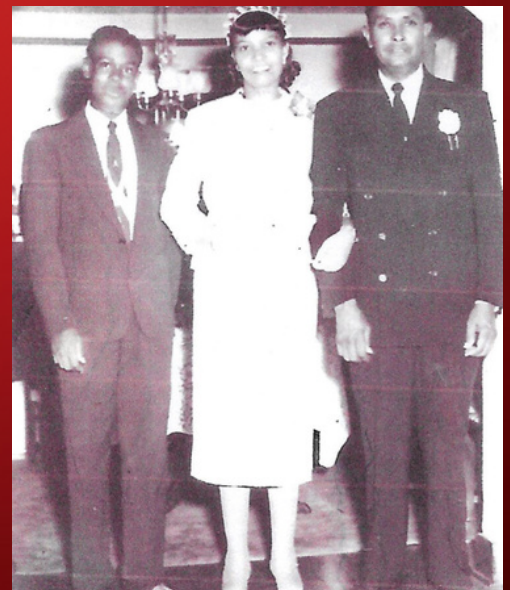
Eulogy | *Rev. John DeRon Johnson, Pastor | Calvary Christian Center of Pasadena*

Benediction | *Rev. Ramon Stripling, Pastor | Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church*

Recessional "Sweet Bye and Bye" | Musicians | **Audience Standing*

Immediately following the service, the family invites all guests to join the vehicle procession for the Graveside Service, Committal Ceremony and Final Disposition.

Repast, Phillips Temple C.M.E. Church immediately following Interment.



Obituary

Rufus Bowling, Jr., a man of immense faith, academic achievement, and professional success, was born on March 17, 1939, in Memphis, Tennessee, to the union of Rufus Bowling, Sr. and Ruby Stone Bowling. He had a brother, Julius L. Bolden, and a sister, Mary Fleming.

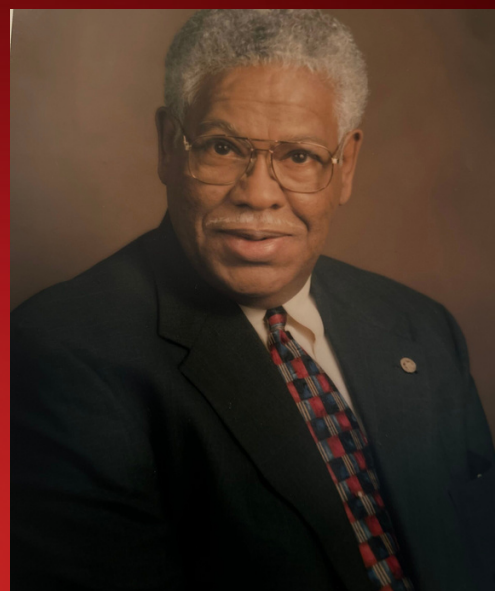
Rufus' spiritual journey began at an early age when he received Christ and was baptized at Mt. Pisgah CME Church in Memphis. Attending church became a lifelong Sunday ritual for Rufus. After moving to California, he worshiped at Phillips Temple CME Church in Los Angeles for many years, and more recently at Calvary CME Church in Pasadena.

Rufus attended Melrose High School in Memphis, but his academic excellence was recognized early when he scored exceptionally high on a citywide test given by the Ford Foundation. This achievement earned him an Early Admission Scholarship to Morehouse State University in Atlanta, Georgia, after completing the 10th grade.

During his time at Morehouse, Rufus became a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, where he formed lifelong friendships. He graduated in 1959 with a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and continued his education at Atlanta University, earning a Master's degree in Mathematics in August 1960.

Rufus' professional journey began in Los Cruces, New Mexico, where he started his career in the Aerospace Industry as a Mathematician at White Sands Missile Range. Shortly after, he married Barbara Bailey, and they had two daughters, Traci and Wendi. Although their marriage ended in divorce, Rufus continued to be a devoted father.

Rufus' career spanned several high-tech companies, including IBM, Mauchly Wood Corp., Aerojet Corp., Hughes Aircraft Ground Systems, Rockwell International Corp., and TRW Space and Defense. His roles ranged from computer programming to software and systems development. Notably, Rufus was never unemployed a single day until his retirement in 2002, reflecting his dedication and expertise in his field.



Obituary

In 1974, Rufus married Yvonne M. Gardner, and they had three children: Rufus III, also known as "Rudy", Randle "Randy" and Erika "Rikki". This marriage also ended in divorce in 1999, but Rufus remained deeply involved in his children's lives.

Rufus' professional achievements were remarkable. At White Sands Missile Range, he was part of a pioneering team that developed the first Real-Time Missile Monitoring System, which allowed data to be collected during missile flights and adjustments to be made in real-time, saving significant costs. His work in real-time systems programming and software development continued at IBM, where he converted second-generation datasets to the more advanced IBM 360 systems, enhancing computer sales and performance.

At Mauchly Wood Corp., Rufus made critical modifications to the Real-Time Executive for the Mariner 69 Space Mission to Mars, ensuring its success. His expertise was further recognized at Hughes Aircraft, where he developed a Real-Time Executive for an Air Defense System, and at Rockwell International, where he contributed to the Space Shuttle project.

Rufus' final professional role was at TRW Space and Defense in Redondo Beach, California, where he worked on projects of national importance, including the Site Defense Project and the Space Telescope Project. He retired after 28 years with TRW, leaving behind a legacy of innovation and dedication.

Beyond his professional life, Rufus was committed to giving back to his community. Growing up in Orange Mound, he joined Mt. Pisgah CME Church's Youth Choir and Boy Scouts. In Los Angeles, he joined the Men of Tomorrow, an organization of Black businessmen and professionals dedicated to supporting the less fortunate and Black charities. As Program Chairman and later a Board Director, Rufus' contributions were significant.



Obituary

He also served on the Board of Directors for the Skills Training and Employment Program (STEP), a youth employment and training program in Los Angeles. Rufus' leadership and dedication were recognized when he was elected Chairman of the Board in 1973.

At Phillips Temple CME Church, Rufus founded the Phillips Temple Youth Club (PTYC) for boys in 1979. The PTYC provided boys with opportunities for growth through monthly meetings, quarterly field trips, attendance at sports events, and public speaking programs. Rufus' efforts ensured the boys received comprehensive support and development, reflecting his commitment to nurturing the next generation.

Rufus was also active in various organizations, including the Morehouse Alumni Association, the NAACP, and the Melrose High School Alumni Association in Los Angeles. His roles included Chairman of the Board for STEP, Program Chairman and Board Director for Men of Tomorrow, and Trustee Board member for Phillips Temple and Calvary CME Churches.

Rufus leaves behind a legacy of love, dedication, and achievement. He is survived by his two sons, Rudy and Randy (and his wife Aleé Torkas Bowling); three daughters, Wendi Bowling Green (and her husband Steve Green), Erika Bowling-Washington (and her husband Greg Washington) and Traci Bowling Sharpe; his "adopted" daughter, Brandi Barnes Intemann (and her husband Fergus Intemann); seven granddaughters: Cayley Roberts, Alexis Bowling Holliday, Siena Sharpe, Nailah Green, Gabriella Bowling, Niara Green and Rayen Bowling; two grandsons, Jerry "Caylen" Roberts & Michael Jerome Carter; one great-grandson, Felix Vasquez, IV; his brother, Julius L. Bolden (and his wife Schnelle Bolden); his sister, Mary Fleming (and her husband James Fleming); and many cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and fraternity brothers.

Rufus Bowling, Jr.'s life was a testament to his faith, his dedication to his family and community, and his professional achievements. He was loved and admired by many and will be deeply missed.



Acknowledgements

The family of Mr. Rufus Bowling, Jr. wishes to extend our sincere gratitude for your many expressions of love and sympathy during this most difficult time.

Your words have comforted us, Your support has strengthened us, And your love has sustained us.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair
Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so we saw it there
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day
Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much,
whatever the part - We pray that God will continue to bestow upon you his richest blessings.

Active Pallbearers

Gerald Brown | Johnnie Smith | Louis Robins | Guy Williamson |
Gene Brown | Clarence Ferguson

Honorary Pallbearers

Morehouse Kappas of The 50's

Arthur Bolden | Gene Chandler | Sterlin Adams | William Townsend |
Hugh Robinson

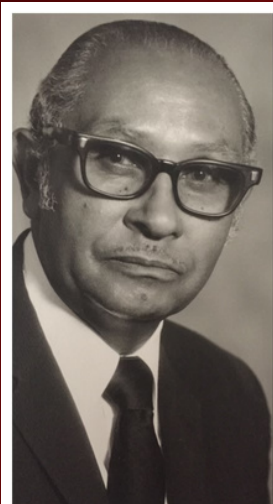
Interment

2:00 p.m. | Inglewood Park Cemetery
720 East Florence Ave.
Inglewood, CA 90312-6042

Repast

Immediately following the Interment
Phillips Temple CME Church, Rooms 103 & 104
973 E. 43rd St.
Los Angeles, CA 90011





Arrangements & Professional Services

Harrison-Ross Mortuary
4601 South Crenshaw Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90043