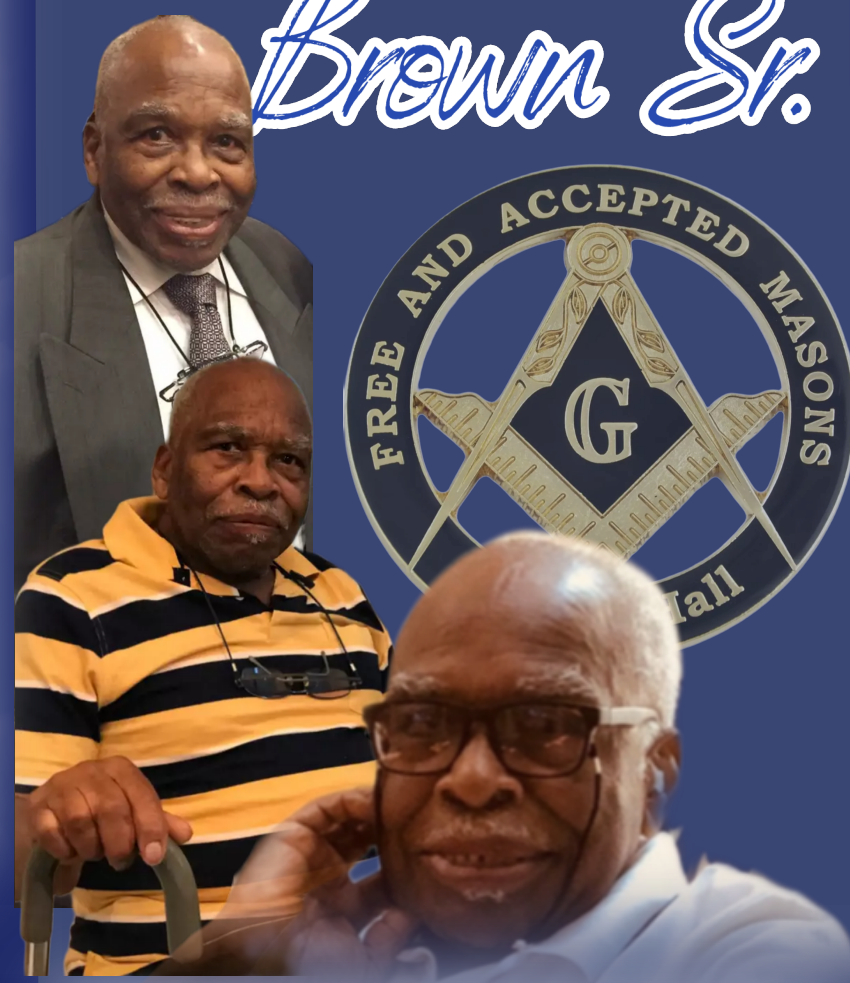


CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR

MATTHEW Brown Sr.



Don't Cry For Me

Don't cry for me. I will be okay.
 Heaven is my home now, and this is
 where I'll stay.
 Don't cry for me. I'm where I belong.
 I want you to be happy and try to
 stay strong.
 Don't cry for me. It was just my time,
 but I will see you someday on the
 other side.
 Don't cry for me. I am not alone.
 The angels are with me to welcome
 me home.
 Don't cry for me, for I have no fear.
 All my pain is gone, and Jesus took
 my tears.
 Don't cry for me. This is not the end.
 I'll be waiting here for you when we
 meet again. 222

Acknowledgment

The family of Matthew Brown Sr. wishes
 to express their sincere gratitude for all
 the calls, texts, prayers, support, and
 kindness shown to them during their time
 of bereavement.
 May God bless each and every one of you.

Arrangements Entrusted to:

BENTA'S
 Funeral Home, Inc.
 630 St. Nicholas Ave
 New York, NY 10030

Mount Hope Cemetery
 50 Jackson Ave.
 Saw Mill River Rd,
 Hastings-On-Hudson,
 NY 10706

A Destiny

Where is a Destiny that makes of
 brothers ; none goes his way alone;
 all that we send into the lives of
 others come back to our own.

I care not what his temple or creeds,
 one thing hold firm and fast- that
 into his fateful heap of days and
 deeds the soul of a man is cast.



Order of Service

Masonic Memorial Service

Opening Hymn*..... How Great Thou Art

Prayer of Comfort..... Rev. Derrick McQueen

Scripture Readings

Old Testament:..... Psalm 46

New Testament..... Matthew 11:28-30

Solo* It Is Well With My Soul

Acknowledgments.... Bethany Baptist Members

Reading of the Obituary..... Sharay Brown

Reflections..... Family & Friends

Solo* Precious Lord

Eulogy..... Rev. Derrick McQueen

Benediction..... Rev. Derrick McQueen

Recessional* I Won't Complain

Sunrise
11/28/34

Sunset
12/31/23

FUNERAL SERVICE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024

Viewing: 11am-1pm
 Masonic Memorial Service: 1pm
 Church Service: 2pm

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 409 WEST 141st. STREET
 NEW YORK, NY 10031

Reverend Derrick McQueen, Officiating

*Soloist: Lawerence Craig

*Pianist: Linda Twine

Obituary

Beloved Husband, Father, and Devoted Mason, Matthew Brown Sr. was called from labor and laid down his working tools on Sunday, December 31, 2023, surrounded by his loving family.

Matthew was born on November 28, 1934, in Camden, South Carolina, to the late Laura Taylor-Brown and Jimmie Brown. He was preceded in death by 6 of his siblings. He is survived by his brother, Issac Brown (Mary Ann), Georgia, sisters: Laura Kornegay, Martha Halley of South Carolina and Virginia Mitchell of Georgia.

Matthew attended and graduated from Jackson High School in Camden, South Carolina, where he played football and was a member of the high school band. He played the trumpet, trombone, and other instruments of the brass family. While Matthew played football, his sweetheart Alma Ponds was a cheerleader. The two were married on December 31, 1957.

Matthew moved to New York City in the late 1950's and right away found a church home at Bethany Baptist in Harlem, New York, where he enjoyed singing in the choir. Later in his life he attended St. James Presbyterian Church. Even when he couldn't attend church service in person, he joined via zoom and would listen to the sermon and nod to the songs.

In 1955 he joined the Masonic Order King Solomon. In the early 1970's Matthew transitioned to Prince Hall where he devoted every Thursday since then to the craft. He became a Life member in 2018 at Abercorn Lodge #86.

In the early 1980's he started his own business, "Brown's Contracting Company" where he partnered with New York State as a contract painter for the New York City Housing Authority.

Matthew hired young men in the community to assist in the development of affordable housing within the five boroughs until he retired.

Matthew enjoyed spending quality time with his family. He loved his family, and he could be found at any family event on the dance floor. He was the life of the party. Mr. Brown, Bo, Pops, Matthew, Mr. B, no matter what you called him it all was about the 3 F's: Family, Food and Fun. If you came to any Brown function that's what you would get.

Matthew was a fighter. He had the strength and will power to keep striving. He loved watching his grands play sports but always said "Oh your team cheated." That's because usually they won by a lot. He was their biggest supporter. In his spare time, he liked to fish. He was a member of the Top Hook Fishing Club, along with some of his Mason brothers.

Matthew was a cherished Husband, Dad, Granddaddy, Great- Granddaddy, Brother, Uncle, Cousin and Friend, but foremost he was Christian -- a praying man that loved God. He is survived by his wife, Alma P. Brown; his children: Herbert Brown Sr., South Carolina; Ricky Jones, New Jersey; Matthew Brown II (Karen) Pennsylvania; Kenneth Brown, Pennsylvania; Avis L. Brown-Jiles (Kenneth) New York; Darrius Brown Sr., New York; Andre Johnson, New York; Tonya Linson-Brown, New York and Bernadette Linson-Brown, Connecticut; Grandchildren: Sharay Brown, Matthew Brown III, Chante' Francis-Brown, Herbert Brown II, Lance Brown, Chase Brown, Danielle Brown, Dominique Brown-Jiles, Darrius Brown Jr., Lamar Jones, Blessyn Brown, Bryson Brown, Randy K. Salley, Royal Salley, Hudson Brown and Thien-nga Tran; Goddaughters: Brenda Moore and Tracey Edmonds-Frieson; Extended Family: Tamara Brown, David Murphy and George Graham; 14 Great Grandchildren, a soon to be Great-Great Grandchild and a host of Nieces, Nephews, Cousins and Friends

