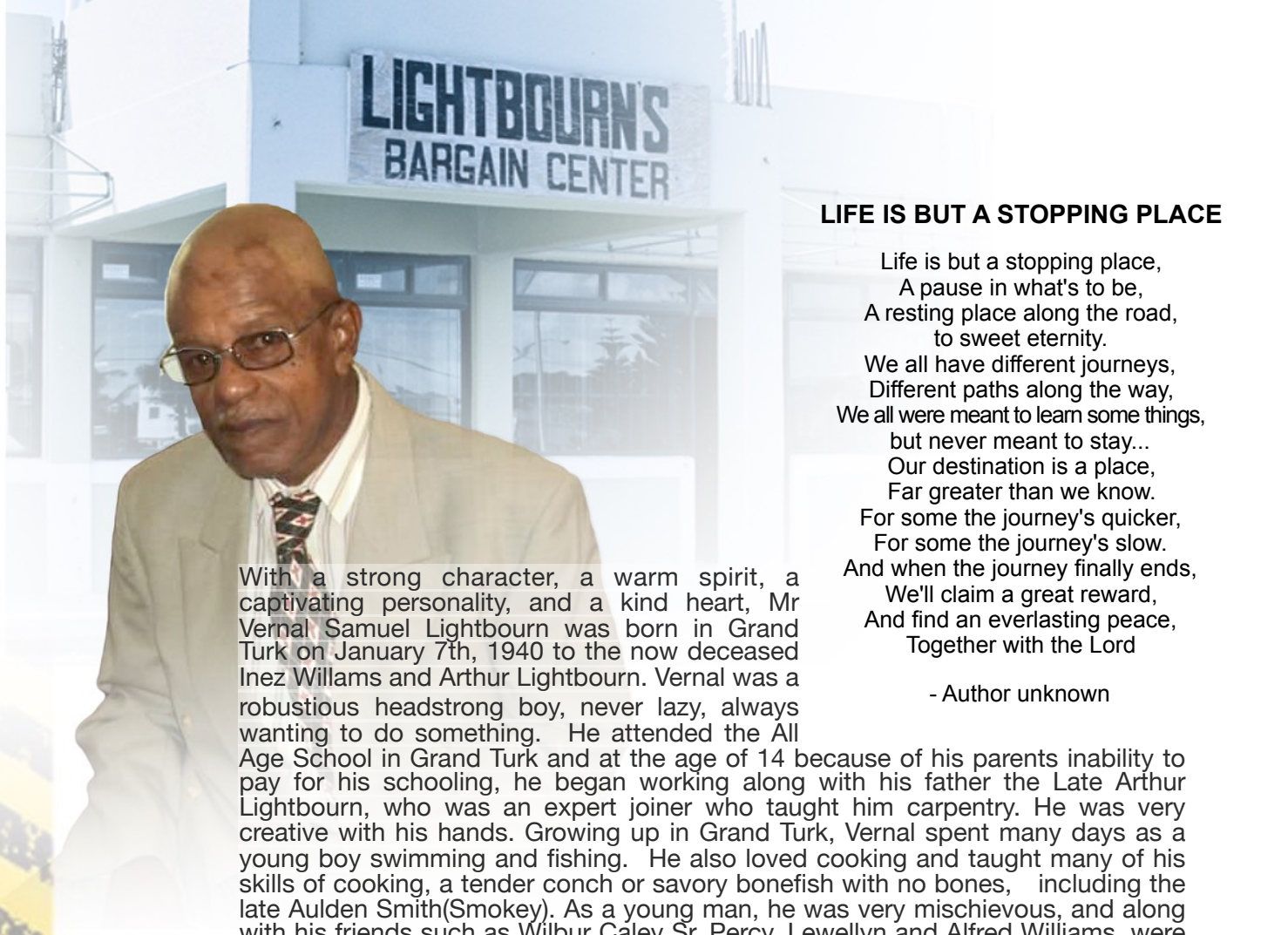


LIFE IS BUT A STOPPING PLACE

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road,
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord

- Author unknown

OBITUARY

With a strong character, a warm spirit, a captivating personality, and a kind heart, Mr Vernal Samuel Lightbourn was born in Grand Turk on January 7th, 1940 to the now deceased Inez Willams and Arthur Lightbourn. Vernal was a robustious headstrong boy, never lazy, always wanting to do something. He attended the All Age School in Grand Turk and at the age of 14 because of his parents inability to pay for his schooling, he began working along with his father the Late Arthur Lightbourn, who was an expert joiner who taught him carpentry. He was very creative with his hands. Growing up in Grand Turk, Vernal spent many days as a young boy swimming and fishing. He also loved cooking and taught many of his skills of cooking, a tender conch or savory bonefish with no bones, including the late Aulden Smith(Smokey). As a young man, he was very mischievous, and along with his friends such as Wilbur Caley Sr, Percy, Lewellyn and Alfred Williams, were the practical jokers of their day. They were involved in many mischievous acts including riding bikes wearing dresses with no underwear blowing in the wind.

Vernal met and fell in love with the calm and beautiful Lucille Dickenson and on September 30th, 1959 they were joined in marriage. This union produced eight children,Carmen, Edmond (Deceased). Roy, Samuel, Mary, Sandra, Denise and David. He also fathered six other children Samadia, Feddia, Vernal (Sammy), Samantha, Samaria, and Samson. In order to improve the standard of living and provide a better future for his family Vernal moved to the Bahamas, his family later joined him there. In the Bahamas, he did construction work during the day and was manager of the restaurant chain Burger Castle at night. In 1971, Lucille and the children returned to Grand Turk and Vernal soon followed.

He returned to the construction field and built office compounds, schools, homes for Government and the private sector. He moved all over the Turks and Caicos Islands building and teaching his skills to others. Vernal would take anyone with an interest in working in the field of construction and turn them into the best carpenter, mason, foreman or contractor. He could take their skill level and he

would mould it and refine it until they were exceptional.
He trained the old and the young and made their best, better. Perfectionist is an understatement for the man, his eye was as accurate like that of an eagle, he would let you know something was off by an 1/8 of an inch or a 1/16 of an inch, and when you pull your tape or put your level or square, it was on point

with his prediction. He would pull a completed roof off because it was slightly uneven. He would say "Anything that is not well done, takes away from the whole building."

Vernal had something about him which caused people to be drawn to him. He always had a pleasant and encouraging word for everyone. His love for others and always wanting to make a difference, lead him to be one of the founding members of the PDM movement. He remained out of the spotlight but he was always very involved with the Movement. He was also a founding member of the formation Native Men Fellowship with an objective of bringing men back to the forefront of the country's leadership in Government and in the Church, and also to prepare and mould the next generation of men to step into the shoes as the generation to step in the shoes of their elders.

The Native Men Fellowship visited Vernal on numerous occasions bringing the Services to him, which brought a smile on his face, joy in his heart and singing praises to his lips.

Vernal was one of the pioneers in construction in Providenciales. He was an integral part of the team of men who started the development of Chalk Sound, with underground utilities including power,and water. The Hubert James Primary School in Kew, North Caicos, Hotel Kittina now Osprey in Grand Turk, the extension to Oseta Jolly Primary School, in Providenciales, Richmond Hills housing scheme including Richmond Hill Preparatory School, Island Princess Hotel, Tropicana Plaza, Plantation Hills, Leeward Marina Development and the first phase of Buiding Materials are just some in the long list of buildings that he built throughout the length and breadth of the Turks and Caicos Islands. He was very instrumental in the development of Providenciales and, he protected and tried to be involved with everything that happened here. He was a member of many of the Government Boards. He was also a member of Rotary Club and the recipient of the Queen's Commendation and Badge of Honor for Ourstanding Service to the community of Providenciales and The Turks and Caicos Islands He knew everyone and everyone knew him. Vernal was very opinionated and never hesitated to express his thoughts. He was a national builder at heart and was always in the forefront.

He touched lives and was determined to LIVE, LOVE and LAUGH. He was a very jovial and happy man, always saying something that would put a smile on your face. In his latter years, he took many trips to the Dominican Republic, Haiti, the Bahamas and many

1940 - 2019

other places with his friends Lewis Astwood, and Kenneth Prosper. Their motto for those trips was “What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.”

When Vernal celebrated his 70th birthday, he said he wanted a funeral party. He wanted to be rolled in, lying in his casket and to then sit up in the casket throughout the party, so that he would be at his funeral whilst still alive, but no one wanted to be a part of that party, but his family did give him a great celebration this year, and in spite of his alzhemiers he seemed to be quite happy and please at this memorable occasion.

About six years ago Vernal was diagnosed with glaucoma. He spent a year going to Fort Myers receiving treatments in his eyes, but his eye-sight continued to fail. In the meantime, he also started showing signs of Alzheimer’s disease. Quite often he ended up in places disoriented and not knowing where he was, but because of being well known, he was always taken home safely. In February of 2018 Vernal became ill and was hospitalized. He developed pulmonary embolism his prognosis was not good, but he recovered fully.

On July 24th, 2019, after a quiet day, he suddenly started having trouble breathing and was rushed to the hospital, where he later died unexpectedly, and peacefully.

Today, we celebrate the life and legacy of a remarkable man who gave of himself, his resources and his time to so many. He left lasting memories in the hearts and minds of those he came in contact with, our lives and world are a better place because of Samuel Vernal Lightbourn who will live forever in our hearts. Vernal, Kadiggy, Dada, Pops, Sam take your rest and may your Soul Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

LEFT TO MOURN

WIFE: LUCILLE LIGHTBOURN

SISTERS: ELAINE ROBY, SYLVIA LIGHTBOURN, SHIRLEY HENTULER AND NINA LIGHTBOURN (DECEASED)

BROTHER: STANLEY LIGHTBOURN, AND ARTHUR, WILLIAM, CLINTON, DUDLEY LIGHTBOURN, ALBERT TUCKER, AND ROBERT HUMBURG ALL DECEASED

DAUGHTERS: CARMEN PRATT, MARY KEMP, SANDRA, DENISE, SAMADIA, SAMANTHA AND SAMARA LIGHTBOURN, FEDDIA DEAN AND ADOPTED DAUGHTERS VERNAY ROBINSON, AND JOHANNY YORIK

SONS: ROY, SAMUEL, DAVID, VERNAL (SAMMY) AND SAMSON, EDMUND (DECEASED) AND ADOPTED SON ERIC YORIK

DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW: DAWNETT AND BRENDALEE LIGHTBOURN

SONS-IN-LAW: DION PRATT, SHANE KEMP AND THOMAS DEAN

GRANDCHILDREN: SERNOWDLA, TERRELL, DIANNA, TIANNA, DION JR, RANEKIA AND RICKANNO, AMANDA, ANDREW, RHASHID, RHAKEEM, SAMIA AND SAMISHA, SHANE (TONY), DARLENE, DAVIDSON, DAVID, TRACEY, ARNELLE AARON, TAVELL, BRIANA, ALISHA, SAVANNA, LUVONIQUE, TREVELLE, GABRIEL, XEN, RORI, SAMIAH, WRYLAN, SAMOURI, KEYANNA, JANIA AND SKYLAR

GREATGRANDS: SHADROY, DIONNE, BRYCE, XION, ZOLANI, ISAIAH, ANGELINA, TERREL JR, NEVEAH, JEREMIAH, ANAYA, KAADEN, ANIYAH, CARTIYE, TAVELL JR, DESTINY AND DEMOND JR

BROTHER-IN-LAW: ALEXANDER DICKENSON

SISTERS-IN-LAW: LUCY AND CECELIA LIGHTBOURN

NIECES: STACY, MILLICENT, PAUL, NEVA, MARK (DECEASED)
AND NEPHEWS ANNA ROSA, BRENDA-LEE, CYNTHIA AND NAKIA, JULINE, CELESTE, SHERRAD, KAREEM, ARDRIKO, DEVON, KYLE, ANDRELL, STANICKA, DUDLEY JR, PANDEL, AND PANTHEA.

UNCLE: ALBERT AND AUNT-IN-LAW LOUISE WILLIAMS

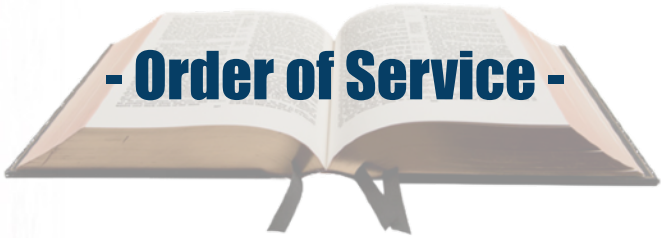
UNCLE-IN-LAW: HOLTON DICKENSON

GOD-SON: WILBUR CALEY

CARETAKERS: PAULINE JOSEPH, MARIE MEUS AND GHISLAINE FRANCOIS

SPECIAL FRIENDS: MEMBERS OF THE NATIVE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP, LEWIS ASTWOOD, HILLY EWING, JOSEPHINE AND JOE CONNOLY, KENNETH AND EVELYN ADAMS, FORMER UNITED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, HUGH O'NEILL, DENNIS WILLAMS THE WEEDS FAMILIES, THE PROSPER FAMILIES, SHARON AND RODNEY THOMPSON AND A HOST OF RELATIVES AND FRIENDS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION.

- MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE -



PRELUDE:.....Abundant Life Ministries Intl. Praise Team

PROCESSIONAL OF FAMILY

OPENING SENTENCES

OPENING PRAYER: .....Father Alvardo Adderley
of St. Monica's Anglican Church

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: ....."How Great Thou Art"

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Chorus
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

And when I think of God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And then proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

OLD TESTAMENT READING:.....Lamentations 3:17-26……..……..Tianna Pratt
(Granddaughter)

NEW TESTAMENT READING: .....I Corinthians 15:50-58……Davidson Kemp
(Grandson)

SELECTION: ....."I Must Tell Jesus"……Sammy Lightbourn (Son)
(FAVORITE OF DECEASED)

AS I KNEW HIM: ..... Native Men's Fellowship

REMARKS: .....Premier, Honorable Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson
Leader of The People's Democratic Movement

Honorable Washington Missick,
Leader of the Opposition

TRIBUTE:.....Ranekia Lightbourn (Granddaughter)

OBITUARY: .....Samuel Lightbourn Jr. (Son)

SELECTION:.....Firm Foundation Praise Team

THE WORD: .....Apostle Clayton Harris

PRAYER FOR FAMILY: .....Apostle Clayton Harris

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: .....A&S Funeral Home

RECESSIONAL HYMN:....."It's Alright Now"

There was a time I traveled
A lonely sinful road
Beneath a heavy burden bending low
But now all things are different
For Jesus took my load
It's alright now I'm His I know

A-down a lonely pathway
Without a friend to guide
I walked in sin and sorrow all alone
'Til Jesus came and found me
And drew me to His side
It's alright now for I'm His own

Chorus:
It's alright now
For I am in my Savior's care
It's alright now
My Savior hears and answers prayer
He'll walk beside me
'Til I climb the heav'nly stair
And ev'rything is alright now

No more in sin I wander
No more in darkness roam
The Lord has placed
My feet on higher ground
Each day new heights
I'm gaining my soul is nearing home
It's alright now I'm heaven bound

- Committal Service -

COMMITTAL: .....Apostle Clayton Harris

"IT IS FINISHED"

There's a line that is drawn through the ages
On that line stands an old rugged cross
On that cross, a battle is raging
To gain a man's soul or it's loss

Chorus
It is finished, the battle is over
It is finished, there'll be no more war
It is finished, the end of the conflict
It is finished and Jesus is Lord

On one side, march the forces of evil
All the demons, all the devils of hell
On the other, the angels of glory
And they meet on Golgotha's hill

The earth shakes with the force of the conflict
And the sun refuses to shine
For there hangs God's son, in the balance
And then through the darkness He cries

Yet in my heart, the battle was still raging
Not all prisoners of war had come home
These were battlefields of my own making
I didn't know that the war had been won

Oh, but then I heard the King of the ages
Had fought all the battles for me
And that victory was mine for the claiming
And now praise His name, I am free.

"I WILL MEET YOU IN MORNING"

I'll meet you in the morning by the bright riverside
When all sorrow has drifted away
I'll be standing at the portals when the gates open wide
At the close of life's long dreary day.

Chorus
I'll meet you in the morning with a how do you do
And we'll sit down by the river and with rapture old acquaintance renew
You'll know me in the morning by the smile that I wear
When I meet you in the morning in the city that's built four square.

I will meet you in the morning at the end of the way
On the streets of that city of gold
Where we all can be together and be happy always
While the years and the ages shall roll.

I'll meet you in the morning with a how do you do
And we'll sit down by the river and with rapture old acquaintance renew
You'll know me in the morning by the smile that I wear
When I meet you in the morning in the city that's built four square…

“IT IS WELL, WITH MY SOUL”

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:
It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, ’tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul

“IT’S ALRIGHT NOW”

There was a time I traveled
A lonely sinful road
Beneath a heavy burden bending low
But now all things are different
For Jesus took my load
It’s alright now I’m His I know

A-down a lonely pathway
Without a friend to guide
I walked in sin and sorrow all alone
‘Til Jesus came and found me
And drew me to His side
It’s alright now for I’m His own

Chorus:
It’s alright now
For I am in my Savior’s care
It’s alright now
My Savior hears and answers prayer
He’ll walk beside me
‘Til I climb the heav’nly stair
And ev’rything is alright now

No more in sin I wander
No more in darkness roam
The Lord has placed
My feet on higher ground
Each day new heights
I’m gaining my soul is nearing home
It’s alright now I’m heaven bound

MISSING YOU, MY HUSBAND

YOU NEVER SAID YOU WERE LEAVING,
YOU NEVER SAID GOOD BYE.

YOU WERE GONE BEFORE I KNEW IT,
AND ONLY GOD KNOWS WHY.

A MILLION TIMES
I'VE NEEDED YOU
A MILLION TIMES, I'VE CRIED,
IF LOVE ALONE COULD HAVE SAVED YOU,
YOU NEVER WOULD HAVE DIED.

IN LIFE I LOVED YOU DEARLY,
IN DEATH I LOVE YOU STILL.
IN MY HEART YOU HOLD A PLACE,
NO ONE ELSE CAN FILL.

IT BROKE MY HEART TO LOSE YOU,
BUT YOU DIDN'T GO ALONE,
PART OF ME WENT WITH YOU
THE DAY GOD TOOK YOU HOME.

LOVE
YOUR WIFE LUCILLE

TRIBUTE TO OUR DADDY

Dada, you kept a garden
A garden of the heart
You planted all good things
That gave our lives a start
You turned us to the sunshine
And encouraged us to dream
The seeds of what we'll be
We are our father's garden
We are his legacy!!

DADA WE WILL FOREVER LOVE AND MISS YOU!!!

DADA GOD SAW YOU WERE TIRED

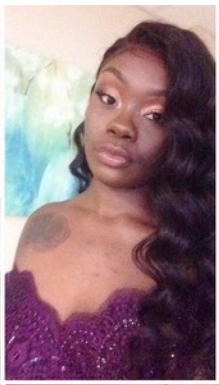
Dada, God saw you getting tired
so He put His arms around you
and whispered,
"Come to Me"
With tearful eyes we watched you
and saw you pass away
and although we love you dearly
we could not make you stay.
A Golden heart stopped beating
hard working hands took a rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.
We know you now watch over and protect us.
Although we cannot hear your voice or see your smiling face,
We know deep down in our hearts that you have not left us.
Instead every day you surround us with the singing of the birds,
the rising of the sun and the falling of night.
So many broken hearts are left behind,
But in our deepest despair our greatest comfort lies knowing
that you are now at peace with the angels and God.
So as time passes our tears will dry,
our hearts will mend,
But our love for you will never end.

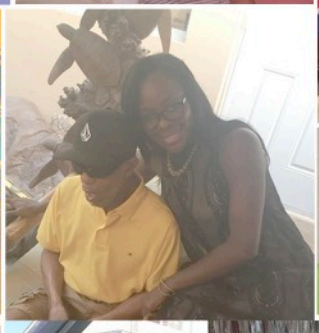
WITH LOVE
FROM YOUR
GRANDS AND GREAT-GRANDS

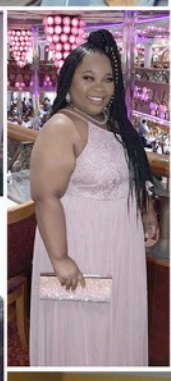
Not How Did He Die, But How Did He Live?

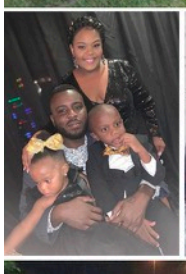
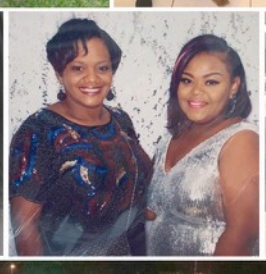
Unknown Author

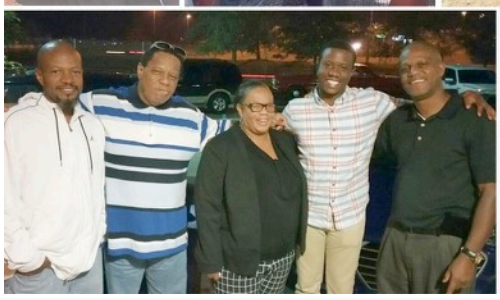
Not how did he die, but how did he live?
Not what did he gain, but what did he give?
These are the units to measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.
Not, what was his church, nor what was his creed?
But had he befriended those really in need?
Was he ever ready, with word of good cheer,
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?
Not what did the sketch in the newspaper say,
But how many were sorry when he passed away.

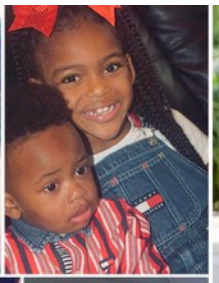


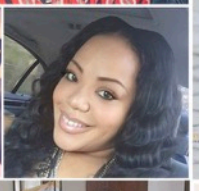


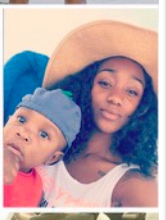
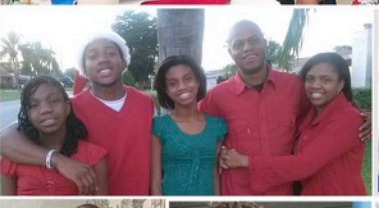


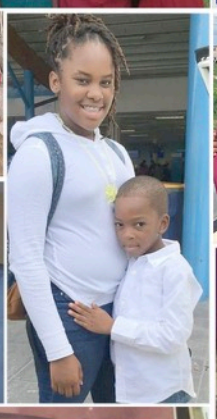



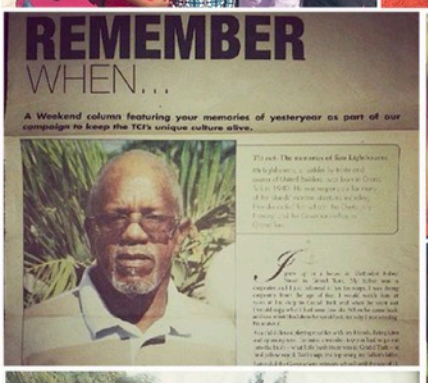


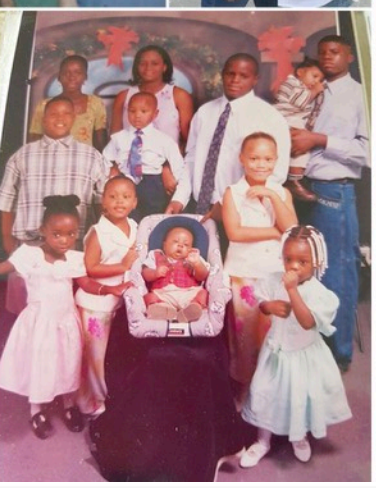
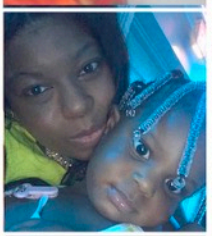


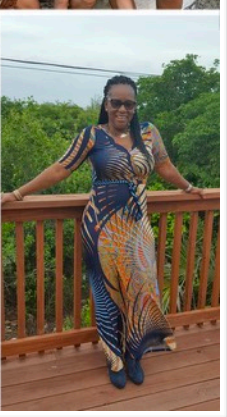


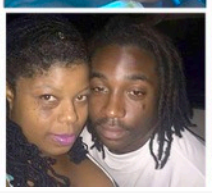






REMEMBER
WHEN...
A Weekend column featuring your memories of yesteryear as part of our campaign to keep the TCI's unique culture alive.





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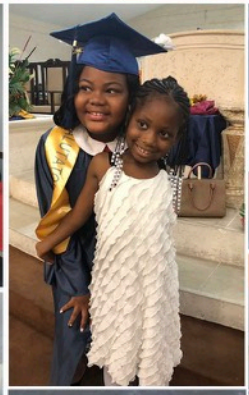

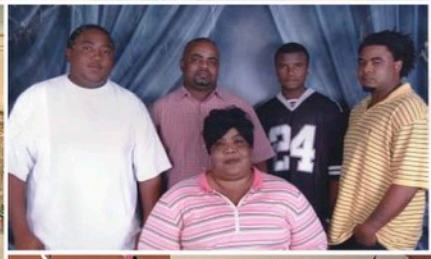

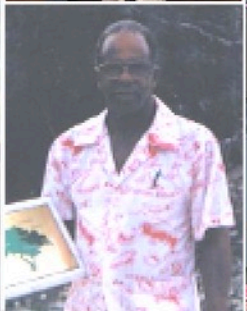

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
BORN TO