



CAPTAIN

Clifford

Oscar

Gardiner

17TH AUGUST, 1949 - 21ST JUNE, 2020

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- PRIVATE -

Graveside Service

will be held at

Gardiner's Cemetery

Major Hill, North Caicos

Saturday

July 4th, 2020 at 10am

Officiating

Pastor Howard Gardiner

- OBITUARY -

Clifford was born on 9th August 1949 in Bottle Creek, North Caicos to Joseph and Susan Gardiner (now deceased). Joseph and Susan became the proud parents of their second child, who was to be named Clifford Oscar Gardiner. As a young, boisterous and ambitious boy he nurtured the ambition of becoming a pilot, but was told, "People like you can't become pilots". Nevertheless, after completing Primary School and spending a few years fishing, diving and selling his catch, he saved up and made the bold move to Freeport. There he started flight school at the Freeport Flight Club where he took his solo flight in 1970 and later attended flight school in Opa-locka, Miami to gain his commercial pilot's licence. Clifford overcame the odds and through hard work and determination became the first Turks & Caicos born commercial pilot. Under the operating name "Island Flyers" Clifford operated passenger and charter flights between the islands of the TCI as well as between the Caribbean and the USA from 1972 to 1997. In 1999 he received a community service award from HRH Queen Elizabeth for numerous medevac flights, many of them at night, involving the transportation of patients to the Hospital on Grand Turk for emergency treatment. In January 2018 Clifford was also awarded the TCI Government's Meritorious Service Medal "for his sacrificial and meritorious services in a field that is inherently challenging and for performing brave and humane acts."

Clifford was always a go-getter. Having mastered aviation, the next item on his agenda was to find and marry a beautiful young lady; Susan or Susie, as she is affectionately known, entered the picture. To impress her Clifford would show off his newly acquired piloting skills by doing a fly-by past her house, demonstrating his aerobatic skills. He

was known for flying by and "tipping his hat" past her house to make his affections known. Clifford and Susie married on August 19th 1972. They raised four children: three daughters and a son (Donna, Angela, Samantha and Kenro).



Clifford also had a passion for entertaining, so his next ambitious project was to build a hotel and become one of TCI's first native hoteliers. Once again defying those who questioned his ability to achieve his goal, he and his wife Susie opened Pelican Beach Hotel on 1st September 1984, becoming two of the earliest Turks & Caicos Islanders to own and run

their own Hotel. Clifford became known for his story-telling, singing old country songs and entertaining his guests with a guitar. His favourite songs were "I care, I do, there's no one like you" and "Old dogs and children and watermelon wine". In 2011 he received a Caribbean Tourism Organisation Special Recognition award for his contribution to TCI business over three decades. He later received the TCI Tourist Board Osprey Award for his contribution to tourism within the TCI.

His overriding joy was to impart wisdom to the youth of the TCI, except for those who liked to annoy him by trying to knock down one of his prized coconuts from the trees at Pelican Beach Hotel. Offenders would earn the nick-name "that Rat-Ass boy or children". Otherwise he would sit the young person down and school them in how to "make something of yourself". He always had a list of ambitious ideas for business ventures and always encouraged and entertained those he met.

On Sunday 21st June, 2020, Clifford Gardiner, husband, father of five and grandfather to one passed away at the age of 70.

Left to Cherish his Memory

Wife: Susan (Susie) Gardiner

Children: Donna, Angela, Kenro, Samantha and Tanua

Grandchild: Jeffrey

Sisters: Delia, Susan and Ilinda

Brother: Joseph

Brothers-in-law: Willard, Darrel, Garnett, Earl, Allen ray, Gilbert, Malcolm, Lew, Stanley, Chester, Mario, Bruce and Martin-aka Snake

Sisters-in-law: Blonnie, Nina, Stephanie, Shirlene, Carrie, Sandy, Jennifer, Bonnie, Barbara, Mary, Angela, Kesha and Velma

Aunts: Rose, Nell and Iva

Uncle: Cornelius - aka Hue

Aunts-in-Law: Mytis and Matred

Uncles in Law: Vincent and Mervin

Foster Grandchild: Redjino

Sons-in-Law: Bill, Erolld and Andy

Nieces and Nephews: Dwight, Adli, Rodney, Jadel, Jameka, Sheena, Sean, Corderall, Mitch, Drew, Mario Jr., Eddie, Jerome, Veronica, Tavardo, Cyprianna, and others too numerous to name.

Relatives & Friends: In TCI, Bahamas and World Wide too numerous to mention.

- ORDER OF SERVICE -

WELCOME, OPENING REMARKS AND PRAYER

HYMN “Blessed Assurance”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Chorus:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

READING 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (Brethren’s Assembly)

PRAYER Member of Brethren’s Assembly

EULOGY Pastor Howard Gardiner

HYMN “Heaven’s Jubilee”

Some glad morning, we shall see, Jesus in the air
Coming after you and me, Joy is ours to share
What rejoicing there will be, when the saints shall rise
Headed for that jubilee, yonder in the skies.

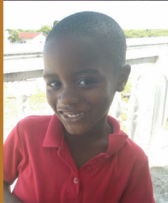
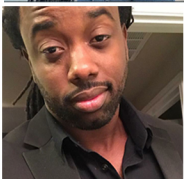
Chorus:

Oh what singing, Oh what shouting
On that happy morning when we all shall rise;
Oh what glory, Hallelujah!
When we meet our blessed Savior in the skies.
Seems that now I almost see
All the sainted dead, rising for that jubilee,
That is just ahead; In the twinkling of an eye,
Changed with them to be, All the living saints to fly to that jubilee

When with all that heav’nly host we begin to sing;
Singing in the Holy Ghost, How the heav’ns will ring.
Millions there will join the song, with them we shall be
Praising Christ thru ages long, heaven’s jubilee.

OBITUARY (Please read in silence)

COMMITTAL





- Honorary Pall-Bearers -

Kenro Gardiner Stanley Bassett
Mario Trana Joseph Gardiner
Delano Gardiner

- Pall-Bearers -

Dwight Gardiner Sean Bassett
Kendrick Forbes Wilancier St Eloy
Jean-Renaud St Louis Frank Cox

Acknowledgement

Clifford's family would like to thank the Doctors and Nurses at Cheshire Hall Medical Centre. Special thanks to Eleanor Hall and the nurses in the Dialysis Department; The Ambulance Team; the TCI Ferry Crew and A&S Funeral Services as well as to the many families and friends whose prayers, kind words and gestures have been greatly appreciated.

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SERVICE RENDERED BY:



A&S FUNERAL SERVICES

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