

A CELEBRATION OF *Life*



Kenneth Roosevelt
RICKS

SUNRISE: JUNE 11, 1947

SUNSET: SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

VISITATION — 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

LIFE CELEBRATION — 11:00 AM

SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY EARTH WHEELS AND FIRE & GARBO

ROCKVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

301 ADCLARE ROAD · ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

OFFICIANT

REVEREND LAWRENCE W. BRYANT, PASTOR

PLEASANT GROVE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

11225 MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD · DAMASCUS, MD 20872

OBITUARY

KENNETH ROOSEVELT RICKS

Kenny Roosevelt Ricks (Kenny) was born on June 11, 1947, to Vincent M. Ricks, Sr., and the late Bernetta Ricks. He crossed over peacefully into glory at the age of 74. Kenny grew up in a loving family in Montgomery County, Maryland.

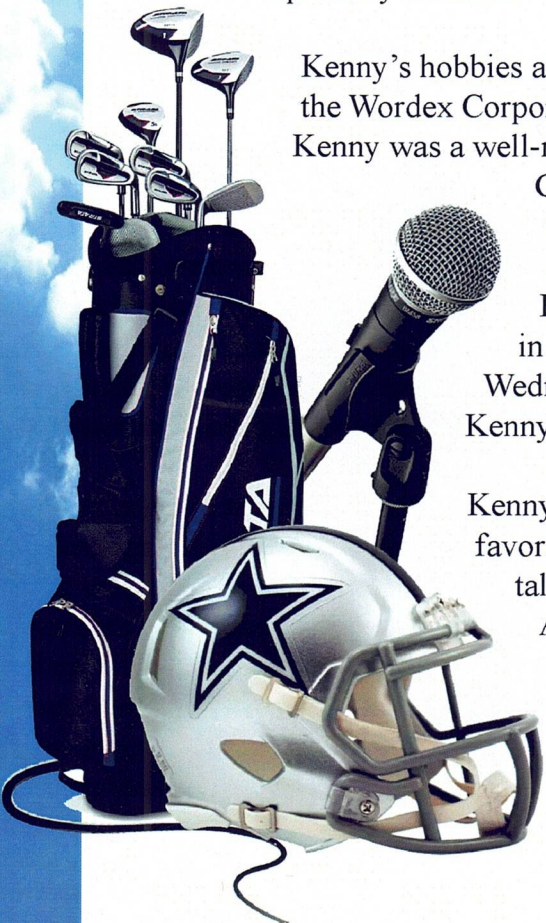
Kenny attended Gaithersburg High School, graduating in 1966. He played several sports, including basketball and football. He was inducted into the Lincoln Park Hall of Fame for his prowess in football and Track & Field. Kenny was drafted into the United States Army, February 1968, and served his country faithfully until February 1970.

Kenny was baptized at an early age and became a member of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Rockville, MD where his great grandfather, the Rev. Ernest Palmer was the pastor. In his later years, he became a member of Pleasant Grove Christian Community Church in Damascus, MD, where the Rev. Lawrence W. Bryant currently serves as the pastor. Kenny served the Lord with enthusiasm alongside his wife, Wanda.

Kenny was employed at International Business Machines (IBM) in Gaithersburg, MD and retired with 30 years of service. After becoming bored, in 1997 he sought employment as a bus driver in the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) system. He was affectionately called "Mr. Kenny" by the students. Kenny was a trusted friend to his students. As Kenny transported the students, which sometimes included his grandson and some of the youth from Pleasant Grove CCC, he always took time to encourage them by imparting words of wisdom inspired by the Lord. Kenny retired from MCPS on September 1, 2019.

Kenny's hobbies and interests included playing sports. He played basketball for the Wordex Corporation and formed a bowling team in the River Road League. Kenny was a well-respected softball player in Montgomery County. He played for GARBO, Skill Hill, Vipers, and the Wordex Corporation. As first baseman and Captain, he led the Wordex Corporation to 11 championships. He was a slugger who was a homerun threat. Kenny was also well known around the horseshoe pits, excelling in the church horseshoe tournaments. Being a member in the Wednesday Mixed Fives bowling league for approximately 20 years, Kenny received honors when he bowled a 300, a perfect game.

Kenny was a motorcycle enthusiast and an avid golfer, his two favorite pastimes. Kenny's other hobbies included being a gifted and talented hand-dancer. He also enjoyed singing in gospel groups. As a teen, Kenny, his brother, and his cousins formed a gospel group called the Golden Harmonizers. In 2007, Kenny joined the gospel quartet, The Chosen Vessels. He was blessed to be part of the production of several CDs with the Vessels. And let it not be forgotten that Kenny was a Dallas Cowboy fan.



ORDER OF SERVICE

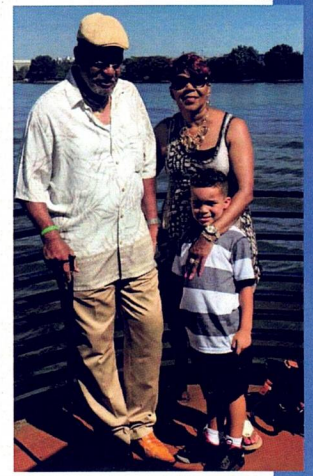
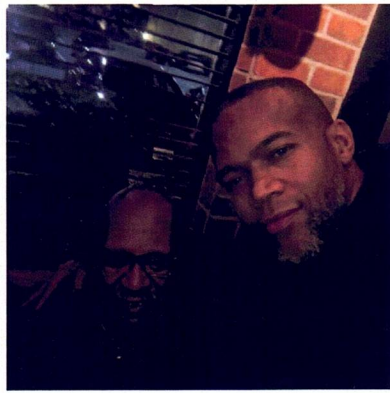
Officiating — Pastor Lawrence W. Bryant



Musical Selection	The Renewed Spirits
Old Testament: Psalm 95:1-7	Rev. Joseph Trammel, Pastor
New Testament: John 14:1-6	Church of Christ Boys, MD
Prayer of Comfort	Bishop-Designate Antoine O. McClurkin The Hill, Jessup, MD
Musical Selection	The Chosen Vessels
Words of Comfort	Visiting Clergy
Musical Selection	The Chosen Vessels
Reflections	Family and Friends
Acknowledgments/Obituary Reading	Donna Lou Gibson Kingdom Fellowship AME
Musical Selection	The Chosen Vessels
Eulogy	Pastor Lawrence W. Bryant
Musical Selection(s)	The Chosen Vessels

Benediction

Recessional



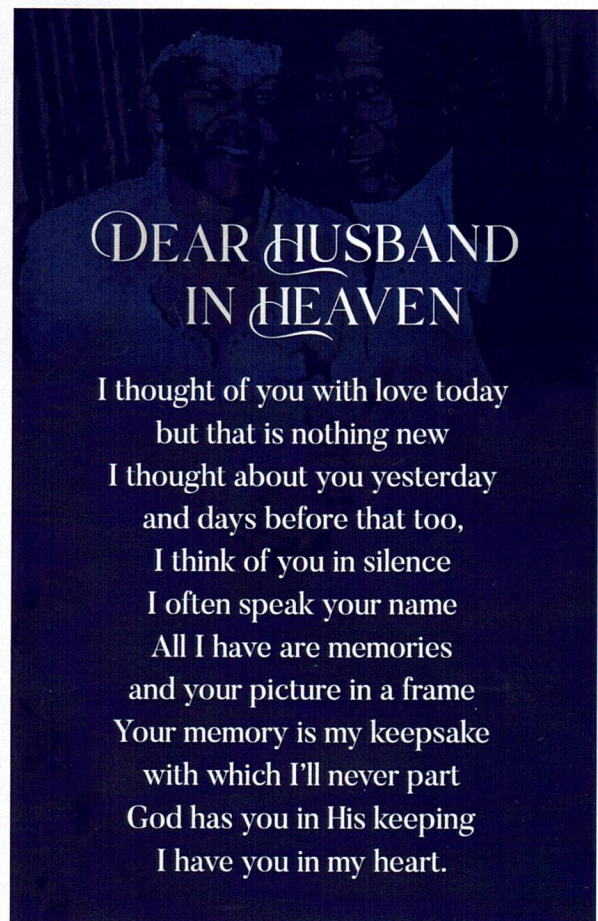
In 2002, Kenny married his love, Wanda Duffin. Their marriage was a role model of two people who truly loved each other. They served side-by-side at Pleasant Grove in the choir, and on the Building Fund Committee. Kenny's other acts of service to the Lord included singing in the Male Chorus, serving as a trustee to help beautify the church grounds, ushering on special occasions, he was a member of the Brother-to-Brother organization, and because of his ability to make people feel welcome, he served as the official greeter to the congregation on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

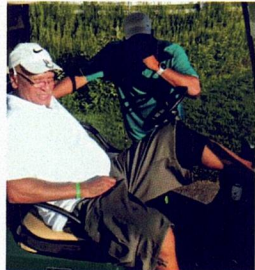
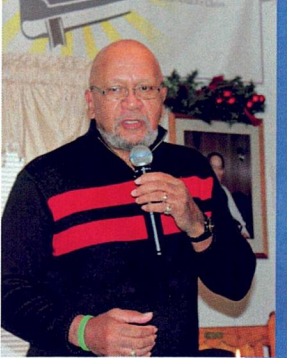
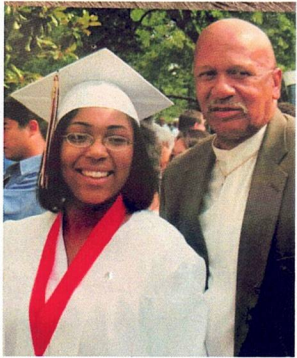
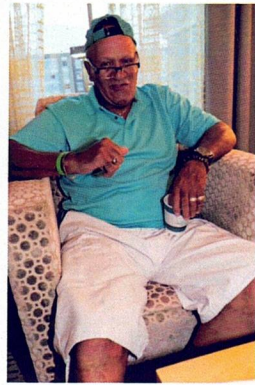
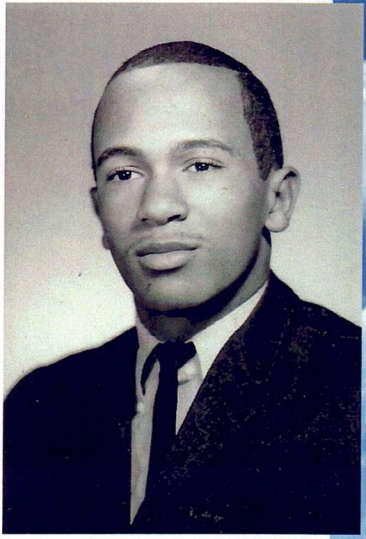
Kenny was active in community service. He is the founding member of Earth Wheels and Fire, a motorcycle organization known for its various contributions to the community which includes providing meals to the homeless. Kenny designed the patch worn proudly on the members' jackets. Kenny was an active member of the Great and Respectable Black Organization (G.A.R.B.O.) for over 30 years. He held the positions of President, Vice President, and Sergeant-at-Arms. He organized the GARBO choir which he directed for 17 years. Kenny helped to sponsor GARBO activities to raise money for scholarships for students.

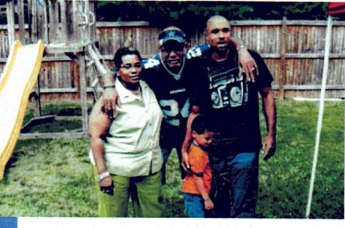
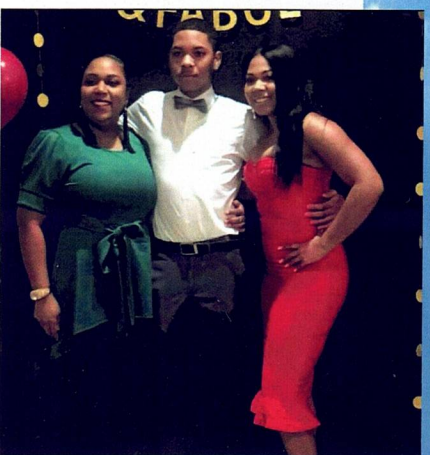
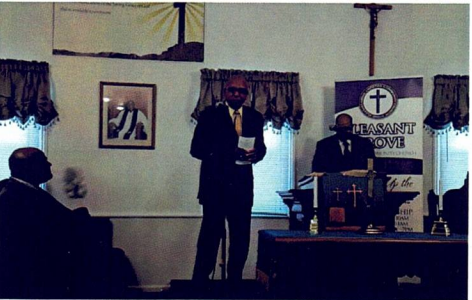
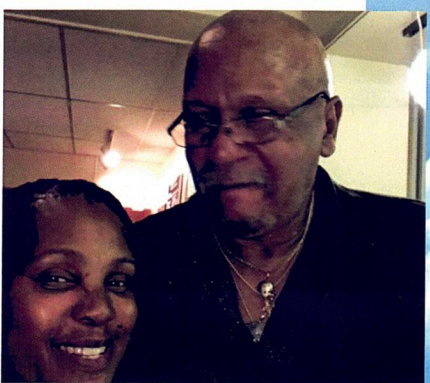
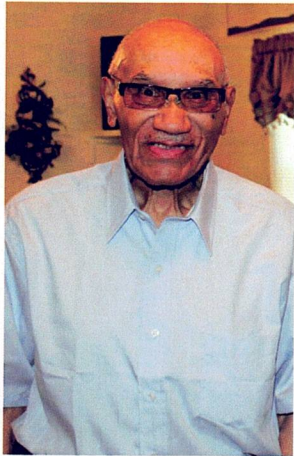
Kenny leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife Wanda; children Tonia Naylor, Caroline Ricks Dement, Kent and David Ricks, Erik (EJ) Smith, and Aaron Duffin; grandchildren Nikki Tricksey (Darryl), Tyler K. Dement, Cara Dement, Khamal Barrett-Ricks, Diego Ricks-Navarro, Kayla Ricks-Navarro, Gabriela Ricks, Ashley, Amari, and Cameron Smith, Tanesha Duffin, James (YJ) McCallister, and Aaron Duffin, Jr.; great grandchildren James Cameron Duffin-Barber, Kayden Wright, and Christian Smith; his father Vincent Ricks Sr.; brother Vincent Ricks, Jr. (Susie); brother-in-law Jerry Lyles (Joyce); sister-in-law Sharon Ellison (Charles); Aunts Mary B. Lyons (James) and Margaret Simons (James); Great Aunt Madeline Jackson (Theodore); Uncle Kermit Roosevelt, Jr.; nephews Michael Curtis (Kerry), Eric Ricks, and Vincent Ricks, III; nieces Christina Ricks (John), and Ursula Ricks; cousins Lawrence "Chucky" Dyson and John Ernest Palmer; and his long-time special friends Monte and Robin Hill, Doris Copeland, Al Green, Kelly Smith and Helen (Muggie) Hall; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Kenny was preceded in death by his mother Bernetta Hawkins Ricks, sister Angela Curtis, brother-in-law Philip Lyles, in-laws George and Margaret Lyles, maternal grandparents Kermit and Virginia Hawkins, and paternal grandparents Kenneth and Alicia Ricks.

Kenny will always be remembered for his kindness to others, his ability to make strangers feel like life-long friends, his generosity towards everyone, his love of life and his Lord and Savior, and many more wonderful attributes too numerous to list.







PAILBEARERS

THOMAS COULTER

MICHAEL CURTIS

TYLER DEMENT

ELLIOTT JOPPY

JAMES MCCALLISTER

VINCENT RICKS, III

HONORARY PAILBEARERS

EARTH WHEELS AND FIRE, GARBO, KENNY'S GOLF BROTHERS, THE CHOSEN VESSELS, CHARLES ELLISON, UNCLE KERMIT HAWKINS, JOE HOLLAND, JERRY LYLES, JOHNATHAN LYLES, HARRY MATHIS, MICHAEL PLUMMER, VINCENT RICKS, JR., ELDER CALVIN THOMAS, AND GLENESTER THOMAS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WE, THE FAMILY OF KENNETH (KENNY) RICKS, EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION AND THANKS FOR YOUR PRAYERS, KIND WORDS, COMFORT, AND SUPPORT DURING OUR TIME OF BEREAVEMENT. YOUR EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE AND PRAYERS HAVE SUSTAINED AND STRENGTHENED US DURING THIS TIME OF SORROW.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AND KEEP EACH ONE OF YOU.

The Family

INTERMENT

RESTHAVEN MEMORIAL GARDENS
9501 CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN HWY
FREDERICK, MD 21701

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO

SNOWDEN FUNERAL HOME

246 N. WASHINGTON STREET · ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850