

### IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

The family of the late **Willem de Ronde** wishes to express deep and heartfelt appreciation for your loving thoughtfulness and concern, including cards, flowers, phone calls, emails, texts, Facebook tributes, visits, your presence here this morning -- whether by Zoom or in person -- and especially the comfort of your continuing prayers. We also appreciate those who sent their love from near and far to encourage us during this time. May God bless and keep each of you in His loving embrace and care.

### When I Must Leave You

by Helen Steiner Rice

When I must leave you for a little while  
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow to you through the years.  
But start out bravely with a gallant smile;  
And for my sake and in my name  
Live on and do all things the same.  
Feed not your loneliness on empty days,  
But fill each waking hour in useful ways,  
Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer  
And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near;  
And never, never be afraid to die,  
For I am waiting for you in the sky!

*Professional Services Entrusted To:*



*Frank R. Bell*  
*Funeral Home, Inc.*

536 Frank & Doris Bell Way  
(formerly Sterling Place, corner of Classon Avenue)

Brooklyn, New York 11238  
(718) 399-2500 ~ Fax: 399-2565

[www.frankrbellfh.com](http://www.frankrbellfh.com)

Frank R. Bell, Founder ~ Doris D. Bell, Co-Founder

*Executive Directors:*

Frances Bell Henry ~ Eric D. Garnes ~ Robert L. Henry

## *Celebrating The Life And Spirit Of*



# *Willem Antony C. de Ronde*

*Sunrise*

February 14, 1930

*Sunset*

December 24, 2020

Friday ~ January 8, 2021 ~ 11:00 a.m..

at

FRANK R. BELL FUNERAL HOME, INC.

536 Frank & Doris Bell Way

(formerly Sterling Place, corner of Classon Avenue)

Brooklyn, New York 11238

*"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you  
and give you peace." ~ Numbers 6:24-26*

## OBITUARY

**Willem Antony Cornelus de Ronde** (“Wim”), was born on February 14, 1930 to *(the late)* Abraham Cornelis de Ronde and Margaretha Wilhelmina Vierdag in Roermond, The Netherlands. He was the youngest of six, with four sisters and one brother. **Wim** spent the first thirty years of his life in The Netherlands where he received his education up to the college level. He graduated from the Horticultural College in 1954, then continued his education attending the Netherlands College of Landscape-Architecture. After graduating with his second degree in 1958, he worked for the Department of Parks, City of Amsterdam for two years before migrating to the United States under an Exchange program as a Landscape Architect trainee in 1960.

**Wim** worked for several companies performing his love of landscape architecture before he found his final job home in 1978 with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. There, he spent the last more than thirty years of his working career, and retired as a Construction Project Manager. He contributed to the design of many well-known public spaces across the City, including City Hall Park, Brooklyn Borough Hall, and Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. He was also one of the designers of his neighborhood park, Underwood Park. He mentored many young landscape designers. **Wim** received multiple awards and recognitions for his outstanding work with the NYC Parks & Recreation. In 2008, he was honored by Mayor Bloomberg with the Isaac Liberman Public Service Award.

**Wim** was a kind-hearted, fun, loving, generous person. He was a huge supporter of the LGBTQ community. He had a great love for flowers and enjoyed spending time gardening. He also enjoyed going to the beach, fitness classes at the YMCA, attending church, watching Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, visiting his family in The Netherlands, and having dinners with family and friends. He was big on eating healthy and liked cooking healthy meals and making smoothies.

On Christmas eve, Thursday, December 24, 2020, Willem Antony Cornelus de Ronde departed this life at the age of 90. He was preceded in death by his brother Abraham de Ronde, and sisters: Johanna, Anthonia, Grietje and Alida de Ronde. He leaves to cherish his memories, his son Escane Jean whom he mentored as a child then later adopted; three grandchildren: Ethan, Evan and Eli Jean; twenty-one nieces and nephews: Reinko, Marieke, Berend and Bram Abels, Janton, Karin, and Mienke Waanders, Barbara, Edward, Dirk, Henk, Peggy, Irene and Carolyn Koning, Marijin, Bram, Marco and Tabitha de Ronde, Claire, Onno, and Wessel Zweers; friends who became family: Frank Rodriguez, Vincent Villafane, Emmanuel Thingue, and Eddie Rodriguez; and a host of other relatives and friends.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

[As you enter this chapel, please reverence the family  
by silencing all electronic devices.]

### OFFICIATING MINISTER:

The Reverend Asim L. F. Shannon, *Pastor & Founder*  
*Ade Insights Ministries ~ Brooklyn, New York*



Musical Prelude . . . . . Min. David E. Sayles

Processional // Final Viewing (*Friends of family, please stand.*)

Selection . . . . . Min. David E. Sayles

Scripture Readings . . . . . Rev. Asim L.F. Shannon

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort . . . . . Rev. Asim L.F. Shannon

Obituary . . . . . Mr. Eddie Rodriguez

### Brief Reflections:

Mr. Vincent Villafane

Mr. Emmanuel Thingue

Recorded Selection (from The Netherlands) . . . . . Irene and Arjo de Vries

Eulogy . . . . . Mr. Frank Rodriguez

Benediction . . . . . Rev. Asim L.F. Shannon

Recessional (*Friends, please remain standing as the family leaves the chapel.*)

### INTERMENT:

The Green-Wood Cemetery

Fifth Avenue at 25<sup>th</sup> Street

Brooklyn, New York



Though restrictions are being modified, we are still closely monitoring the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic. With that in mind and the safety of all concerned, we are still recommending adherence to the recommended guidelines of the NYC Health Department and the CDC. Thus, all who enter this establishment must be wearing a mask; and although it is unnatural and difficult, especially during this time when the family needs you most, physical contact with family, and with one another as well as the body is not suggested. Social distancing (keeping 6 feet apart) is still required. Also, the complete service must be contained within **one hour** for the sake of limited exposure. Your cooperation is most appreciated during this temporary disruption of life as we know it.