

# ROBERT J. WRIGHT, SR.

*Celebrating the life of*



*To Everything there is a Season.*

Entered Life  
**MAY 9, 1937**

Entered Eternity  
**MAY 6, 2024**

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**SATURDAY - MAY 18, 2024**  
**11:00 A.M.**

**Allen Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church**  
**Tampa, Florida**

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**The Reverend Gregory V. Gay - Eulogist**  
**The Reverend Dr. Glenn B. Dames, Jr. - Pastor**





In 2005, the Mt. Olive  
AME Church local Lay  
Organization was renamed  
**Favors-Wright Lay  
Organization** after Benny  
Favors and Robert Wright



## THE LIFE

### Robert James Wright, Sr.

*To Everything There is a Season.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1

#### *A Time to Be Born*

**R**obert James Wright was born on Mother's day, May 9, 1937. He was a twin; his brother died in childbirth. Their parents were William G. Wright, Sr and Edna Mae Wright.

#### *A Time to Plant*

Robert was educated in the Hillsborough County school system, having attended Dunbar Elementary Carver Junior High, and graduated from Middleton Senior High - Class of 1957. He worked at Booker and Company for many years. He began working there at a low entry level position and worked his way to the top as a Materials and Sales Manager before retiring. That speaks of his dedication and determination.

#### *A Time to Build up*

He was a life member of Mt. Olive AME Church, Tampa, and was proud to be one of the oldest and longest members there. At Mt. Olive AME Church he served in various positions, including class leader, Trustee, and Steward. He was a Sunday School teacher of the young adults and adult classes for over fifty years and served as Sunday School superintendent for 27 and a half years. He worked on the building committee for the new church.

He chaired the Lay Organization's Hymn-O-Rama at Mt. Olive for close to thirty years. In 2005, Rev. James Givens named the local Lay Organization the Favors-Wright Lay Organization. Always at the forefront of engagement, Mr. Wright was elected president of the city-wide male chorus which had over 50 men in the choir. He served as president of the Tampa District Lay Organization of the AME Church for a total of 23 years and remained a strong lay person until his death. He was the first to have a district convention. Mr. Wright served as chairman of the Eleventh Episcopal District Lay Organization Legislative Committee and as a member of the Connectional Lay Organization's Legislative Committee. He was elected as a conference trustee for many years, and sat on the Enterprise Board of the Eleventh Episcopal District. In addition, he was elected a delegate to the General Conference of the AME Church. Mr. Wright received many awards from churches near and far.

Robert Wright was well known and revered in the AME Church at all levels. Bishops knew his name and held him in high regard, yet he never lost the common touch. He remained faithful to God and loved his church to the end of his life.

#### *A Time to Cast Away Stones and A Time to Gather Stones Again*

Mr. Wright took his civic responsibility seriously. He found time to serve on jury duty for Hillsborough County four times. He served as jury foreman three times.



## THE LEGACY

### *A Time to Embrace*

Mr. Wright's mom already had a son called 'Billy,' and she called her second living son 'Bobby.' Mr. Wright's grandmother, upon seeing her new born grandchild remarked, "You are one white rat!" And the rest is history, as that stuck as a nickname.

Mr. Wright was married to his 'Doll' Archia Wright for 57 years, and they were the parents of 3 sons: Algernon, Robert Jr. and Keith.

He leaves to cherish his memory:

Two sons: Robert Wright, Jr.

Keith Wright (Tonya Wright, who he affectionately referred to as his daughter in love)

Grandchildren: Desmond Barrows, Zaron Wright, Lavondrea Wright Brown,  
Jaylen Brinkley, Dorian Brinkley and Serenity Brinkley

Two brothers-in-law and four sisters-in-law

Close friends who were like sisters include: Sharon Haywood, Cynthia Jacobs and Mildred Carley.

Special friends: Agnes Judge, Angela Judge and family.

A host of sorrowing nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, his Mt. Olive AME Church family and his beloved Middleton High School Class of 1957.

Of special note, from Mr. Wright's Adult Sunday School class over the years, 10 of the students were called in to the ministry: John Miller, Deborah Nelson, Laura Harris, Joyce Wiggs, Ed Johnson, Lenwood Cliatt, Paul Wiggins, Fred Thomas and John Kennedy.

Mr. Wright was preceded to become a member in God's garden by his Mother and father, Edna Mae and William Wright, Sr.; his son Algernon; Brothers: Rev. William Wright, Jr., Charles Wright, Larry Wright and Conley Johnson. Grandparents: Alona McGuire, James Wright, Viceola Wright, Ophelia Wright, Dudley Williams and many other relatives and friends.

### *A Time to Die*

Late in the afternoon of Monday, May 6, just three days shy of his 87th birthday, as family and loved gathered around his bedside, Mr. Wright answered the call to rest from his labor. Mr. Wright entered into the land of *No More* on May 6, 2024.



*He hath made every thing beautiful in his time:  
also he hath set the world in their heart,  
so that no man can find out the work that God  
maketh from the beginning to the end.  
I know that there is no good in them,  
but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life.  
Ecclesiastes 3: 11-12*



# Order of Divine Celebration

The Reverend Gregory V. Gay - Presiding

Processional/ Parting Glance

Selection.....Choir  
"They Got The Word"

Invocation.....The Reverend Bryant A. Fayson  
Gr. Mt. Carmel AMEC -Tampa  
"Though the Clouds May Hover Over Us #507"

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 .....The Reverend Percival Brown

New Testament.....John 3:1-6.....The Reverend Sharon Smith

The Epistle.....I Corinthians 13: 8-13.....The Reverend Jean Davis

Selection..... "Walk Around Heaven"

Reflections (Please limit remarks to three minutes)

Presiding Elder Jimmy J. Thompson (via Video)

The Reverend Kirk Bogen

The Reverend Louis Jones

EEDLO President Patricia Wright

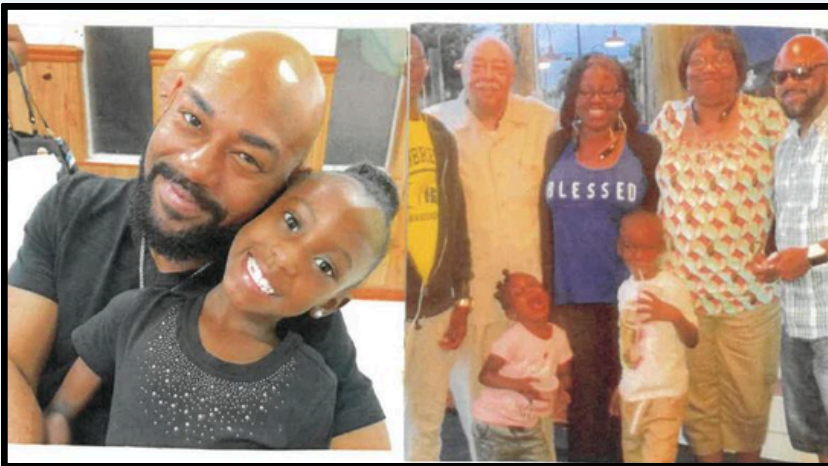
Resolutions & Acknowledgements .....Church Representative

Selection....."Safe in His Arms" .....Amber Smith

Words of Comfort.....The Reverend Gregory Gay - Pastor

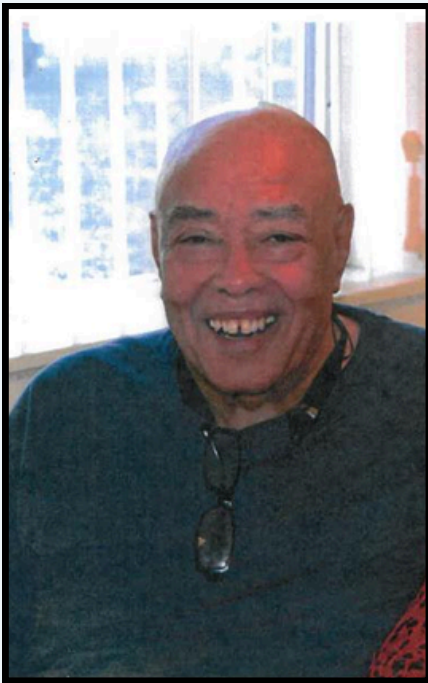
Recessional....."I'm Free"





**Husband  
Father  
Grand father  
Friend**





Steward  
Trustee  
Lay Man





## ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Michael Myers  
Dexter Brock  
William Porter

Ricky Myers  
Gary Presley  
Frederick Porter

## HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Herbert Myers, Jr.

David Porter

## FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Mt. Olive AME Church Family  
Tampa District Lay Organization

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent a floral spray. If so, we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.  
Perhaps you were not there at all,  
Just thought of us that day.  
Whatever you did to console our hearts,  
We thank you so much, whatever the part.

## INTERMENT

REST HAVEN MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY  
4615 E. Hanna Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33610

## REPAST

Mt. Olive AME Church  
1902 W La Salle St, Tampa, FL 33607

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Service Entrusted To:

**RAY WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME**

301 N. Howard Ave  
Tampa, Florida 33606  
(813) 253-3419

PROGRAM DESIGN

*Wrighttype*

