# Service of Thanksgiving for the life of



Gailya Charmaine Hall
08 June 1940 – 20 December, 2020
Savannah Seventh Day Adventist Church
Shamrock Road, Savannah, Grand Cayman
Tuesday, 29 December 2020
Service at 12 noon

Interment at the Spotts Cemetery

Officiating Ministers

Pastor Ob<mark>ed Ba</mark>bb Pastor Kevin Danvers Dr. Ivor Harry Pastor Vaughan Henry

# **Order of Service**

Opening Hymn - "Old Rugged Cross"	Pastor Kevin Danvers
Frist Scripture Reading <i>Psalm 23</i>	Mr. Dale Crighton
Solo "Blessed Assurance" (Gailya's favorite song)	Liran & Lee-El
Tribute from Husband, Ken C. Hall	Mrs. Stacy Thompson
Tribute from Sister, Corallie	Mrs. Corallie Humphrey
Tribute from Step-Son & In-Law	Kenneth & Waynette Hall
Song - "You Raise Me Up"	Tanique Dunbar
Second Scripture Reading 1 Cor. 15: 15-58	Mr. Jeremy Hurst
Tributes from Niece	
Tributes from Nephew	Mrs. David Humphrey
Tributes from Best Friend	
Obituary	
Solo	Mrs. Nardia Henry
Sermon	Pastor Obed Babb
Prayer for the Family	Pastor Vaughn Henry
Closing Hymn - "Until Then"	Pastor Ivor Harry

Kenneth Hall Jr. Dale Crighton Peter Wight

# **Pallbearers**

Paul Thompson Walton Gooding Marlon Bodden Josh Merren Yeudi Prado Cheiko Moore

**Guest Book Attendants** 

Gayl Wheeler

Danya Carter

Jeneva Cooper

Ushers

Yesenia Prado Victoria Pierre **Doris Ennis** 

Eleisha Graham Lesia Rochester

# **Honourary Pallbearers**

Dr. Hon. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP David Wight, MP Everette Humphrey Hon. Roy McTaggart OBE, JP Christopher Wight David Humphrey Truman Bodden OBE, JP Gregory Merren Grant Bigler Norman Bodden OBE, JP Dervan Scott Aaron Bigler Adrian Briggs Shane Long Todd Bigler

## **Service Hymns**

## **The Old Rugged Cross**

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame; And I love that old cross where the dearest and best, for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

O, the old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above, to bear it to dark Calvary.

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear; Then He'll call me some day to my home far away, when His glory forever I'll share.

#### **Until Then**

My heart can sing when I pause to remember A heartache here is but a stepping stone Along a trail that's winding always upward, This troubled world is not my final home.

# Chorus

But until then my heart will go on singing, Until then with joy I'll carry on, Until the day my eyes behold the city, Until the day God calls me home.

The things of earth will dim and lose their value
If we recall they're borrowed for awhile;
And things of earth that cause the heart to tremble,
Remembered there will only bring a smile.

This weary world with all its toil and struggle May take its toll of misery and strife; The soul of man is like a waiting falcon; When it's released, it's destined for the skies.

# **OBITUARY of GAILYA CHARMAINE HALL (nee COE)**

Gailya Charmaine was born to William and Ena Coe on June 8, 1940 in George Town, she attended Triple C School and graduated in 1958, then went to Anderson College in Indiana and graduated with Bachelor Degree with honors in Education in 1962.

Gailya went on to teach Science and physical Education at Westwood Heights High school in Flint Michigan for two years, she did not like the cold hence her moving to Florida, taught there for a year before returning home.

On arriving home Gailya taught at her Almamater Triple C School, where she also became the Principal. Recognizing the challenges of her parents with Comart the family business she decided to assist, and it was not long after that she gave up teaching to operate the business fulltime.

Ken married Gailya Bimini, surrounded by her friends and family, in the middle of the ocean where she loves to be. Having no children of her own she took on the task of helping Ken to raise Kenneth and her sister Coralie's children Gail and David, Grandnieces, Grandnephews and even great grandnieces and nephews.

Gailya was also an astute business woman assisting Ken in operating Cayman Distributors, Cayman Business Machine and a host of other businesses, while finding time to be President of the Chamber of Commerce, and sitting on several Boards and was even considering politics but choose to let McKeeva and I be the politician instead.

Gailya health began to decline in the latter part of her life and went to sleep On Sunday, December 20th, surrounded by her family.

Left to mourn her passing are her loving husband Ken, Sister Coralie and her husband Everette, Stepson Kenneth and his wife Waynette, Niece Gail and her husband Grant Nephew David and his wife Debbie, Grandnieces Rachel and Kelsey and her husband Shane, Grandnephews Aaron and his wife Ashley, Todd and his wife Stephanie, great grandnephew Eddie and great grandniece Helen and a host of cousins and friends.

# KEN HALL - HUSBAND

My Gailya was not only a wonderful wife and mother to my son, but she was a meticulous homemaker and an astute businesswoman. I remembered our wedding ceremony, in Bimini like it was yesterday when we vanished for three days and left friends like Suzie nervous. I know many men will say their wives were the most beautiful bride that they have ever seen, but if you saw my Gailya on that day, you would have a change of heart. She was a quiet and a gentle soul. I have fond memories of us attending Christmas parties at our friends' homes and playing host which, she mastered as she has a welcoming spirit and was an excellent cook. I spent sleepless nights researching her illness because I wanted to ensure that I was knowledgeable so I could do all in my power to save my lovely wife. I spent days soothing and holding her as I knew the love we shared would encourage her to fight the illness so we would have more time together.

She was faithful, efficient, loyal, and true. She inspired me in ways I cannot explain. I have lost a worthy helpmate and soulmate, but I have nothing but happy memories of our forty years plus of life together. It was some of the most painful moments in my life as I watched the woman I loved with every iota of my being fading away.

I wanted her to live, but God in His infinite wisdom had other plans as He did not want her to suffer and neither did I so I held her hand until her flame of light went out. Rest well my love until we meet again.





# CORALIE HUMPHREY – GAILYA'S SISTER

Gailya was my baby sister. I remember the day she was born. I was visiting and playing with a friend down the street a short distance away. When they took me home there she was laying on the bed with my mom. Since we were four years apart, I was in school for most of the day and have few memories of her younger years. She was younger, but she was full of spunk and ready to defend me if she thought someone was teasing or annoying me, "the kids would often call her Mr. Wills only son.

As I graduated from high school in and left for Anderson College in Anderson Indiana, she was in junior high, thus, I missed out most of her life during that time. She and mom came to Everette and my wedding in 1956 and she was my maid –of- honor. She had grown into a beautiful young lady.

Gailya graduated from Triple C School and came to Anderson College. Everette and I were still in Anderson, so she lived with us until we left for teaching jobs in Flint Michigan. We were glad to have her and enjoyed her time with us. Gailya got a teaching degree and when she graduated she took a job with Westwood Heights School in Flint where she taught science and physical education for two years before she decided she didn't like the cold weather and move to Florida and taught for a year.

She was principal at Triple C School for a short time decided she was going into business with my parents, Will and Ena Coe who owned Comart. She managed the business until it was sold.

Since Gailya had no children, our children David and Gail, were like her own and so were their families. Gailya was a wonderful sister and I don't remember us ever being angry with each other. When I left in the fall of last year, she was seated in the truck. I reached in and gave her a hug and a kiss and told her that I loved her, I wondered then if I would see her again before she passed to her reward. God rest her soul.

# GAIL BIGLER - Gailya's Niece.

Gailya, or Gay Gay as I called her, was always my favorite relative. Don't tell the others; that will be our secret. She was part friend, part big sister, protector, and role model. And for those that knew us both, Gay Gay was the person that people said I was most like. I was always proud of that comparison. She was unapologetically independent and a force to be reckoned with. She was also confident, generous, very smart, and she loved being happy. Her smile was contagious and she had a way of setting life's issues aside in order to put others at ease and kick back and relax.

When I was young my aunt always made time for me. She answered every question I asked honestly and sometimes included a, "Why do you ask so many questions?" Even still, she answered and made me feel valued. I would follow her around Comart and help her do whatever she was doing; stocking shelves, pricing, moving things out of aisles, cleaning up messes. She was never above doing any task that it took to run the shop, but most obvious to me was her business sense and ability to deal with people. She helped my Grandparents run their store with success for many years.

As I grew and had my own family, Gay always made it known that we were very important to her. I never doubted it. Not once. She was always inviting us to visit whenever we could, letting us know she enjoyed our visits. She would ensure we were making the most of our time on the island, and would join in with us when she could. My kids thought Gay Gay was the best. I am so glad all of them made a trip to see her in 2018 along with their spouses and my grandson, Eddie. Aaron even made it a point to book a cruise that included Cayman for his honeymoon just so that he could bring his new wife to see Gay Gay and Ken since they couldn't make it to their wedding. How many of you have a nephew who wants to come visit you on their honeymoon? Not the island that you live on, but YOU? That love truly runs deep.

The last time Gay ventured to Michigan was for Aaron and Todd's graduation in 2008. It was an example of her love for us and desire to be with us at important times. (Those that know her will know of her great dislike for anywhere there could possibly be snow, and Michigan topped her list.) As the years progressed and her ability to travel waned, she felt the events she was missing in our lives - Kelsey's graduation, all three of my children's weddings, and Eddie and Helen's births. The last time we visited was November of last year and and the tears flowed from her eyes as she looked through a photo album we gave to her and Ken sharing important moments from our year. Her sadness at missing events like Kelsey's recent wedding was heartbreaking.

Looking through some of the old Coe family photos that Gay had given to me a few years ago, I came across some sayings that were carefully cut out of newspapers and put with her photos from her youth. It was evident that she had wanted to put together a scrapbook of her photos with the tiny labels to help tell her story. A number of these caught my attention as they were so descriptive of her... "The best part of beauty is that which no picture can express" – Francis Bacon. "Laughter is the corrective force which prevents us from becoming cranks". "Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness, and its power of endurance – the cheerful man will do more in the same time, will do it better, will persevere in it longer, than the sad or sullen" – Carlyle. And last, but not least, "Let the Good Times Roll". I smiled as I read each of these knowing, "Yep, that is Gay Gay" and I love her so much.

## DAVID HUMPHREY - GAILYA'S NEPHEW

I've been asked to share a little bit about Gailya.

For those of you that don't know me, my name is David Humphrey.

I'm Gailya's nephew ... PLEASE don't hold that against her! LOL

I'd like to share a few of the memories that I have of her:

Growing up, my sister and I knew her as Gay-Gay. She loved us like her own children.

Gailya was a person that was dedicated to helping others. Those of you that are family and friends, know what I'm talking about.

From her teaching Junior High School in the States, to teaching at Triple-C in Cayman, She was dedicated to helping her students learn. She loved seeing them succeed.

She left Triple-C, to take over as Manager of Comart Ltd. I'm sure that being manager of Comart wasn't her life's ambition, but she did it

because Grandma and Grandpa Coe needed help.

When Grandma Coe passed away, Gailya kept the store running, because it was Grandpa Coe's passion. He loved working on his books in the office, and helping others, and I'm sure this is where Gailya acquired this trait. A trait that was evident to her employees at Comart.

I remember a time when Grandpa and an older gentleman were talking, about the "old days in Cayman", they were laughing and enjoying sharing their stories. I looked over at Gailya, and she was watching them, and smiling. You could read, in her expression, "This is why I keep the store open." She loved her family!

There was a time when I wondered if Gailya would ever find someone to love her, as much as she loved her family and friends.

Well, along came Ken, and I could see it in her eyes, and his, there was love. Love that she had waited so long for. Ken, words cannot express my gratitude for the way that you loved and cared for Gailya. You did your best, and that is all anyone could ask. Thank you, for loving Gay-Gay!

## **DONNA CHARRON - COUSIN**

To our special cousin Gay Gay.

You have been such a blessing to our family. No matter how busy you used to be, we knew we could stop by and see you, at work or at home, and you would take the time to make us feel welcomed and loved.

In former years, we would walk across South Church Street and see you faithfully taking such good care of your parents, Uncle Will and Aunt Ena. I still miss going for drives with them, Nana (Mona Coe Merren) and I was nestled in the back seat.

In the summers when Richard and I were dating, Gay Gay would let him stay with her. Through the years we always enjoyed boating together. Even when she was not able to do that, Richard would still think of her and would always plan fishing expeditions because he wanted to catch fish for Gay Gay and Ken. I know she enjoyed his visits because he would always fix 'techy' things around their house.

I was always amazed to see how happy and content she was, though she were going through such a difficult time.

We will miss her sweet smile, love, and generosity.

Love, Donna (Phillips) Charron and family

# MINERVA – FAMILY FRIEND

I am honored and thankful to have been a part of Ms. Gailya's life and her of mine. It was my privilege to help her, her Mom, and her Dad along their journey of life. I will miss her and her spirit. God bless her.

## SUZI SOTO – BEST FRIEND

Family: sometimes we pick each other to be part of our family and Ken and Gaily were certainly a part of our family. The 4 of us had many wonderful times and memories together that I am so thankful for today. One time, the 4 of us were out Ian aluminum boat and Ken insisted on teaching me to fish. We had snorkeling journeys that I thought the 3 of them were going to kill me, up to 4 hours

snorkeling in the N.sound in Little Cayman. Gailya was always the athlete and perfect hostess and we were always eating great fish, conch and walks.

We stayed once with them in the Burgess Meredith's old cottage, there were no inside bedroom doors, and we learned Ken had to have the radio on all night with news from the BBC. We then declined the invite to stay over. We even took a cruise together. How we got the two men on the cruise ship was a miracle, but we had fun. My seagoing husband was allergic to cruise ships and the second day out got ill so Gailya and Ken put up with me! We went through the Panama Canal and Bob finally joined the expeditions.

In the early days of our courtships, we had lots to compare, lots to share. I was fortunate enough to spend time with her parents, who were the sweetest two people I loved very much. We also had a trip with Kenneth to the Keys, remember Kenneth, you and I did a bit of quarreling, but we still had some fun. Kenneth had to sit between me and Gailya in the back seat, which could not have been easy as we were constant advisors.

The wedding: Bob was best man at their amazing, different, wonderful wedding, details would fill a book. The Bride and Groom

disappeared for 3 days, while their friends back on Bimini explored and rode motorbikes, in the sand path, with a few unhealthy spills. We began to wonder if they had just run away, but no they returned for a lovely wedding. There was a moment of nervousness for the photog, (me) as when the minister asked for the ring, Bob started to put it on Gailya's finger, whereas, I quickly suggested he give it to Ken. Bob loved Gailya very much as well, you see. So Ken ended up marrying his soul mate after all.

Some years later Kenneth Jr. met Waynette and they were married. They returned to Cayman and began their life, as an Adventist, Waynette got Kenneth to join her church. Support for the Church became a part of Ken Srs. life as well. The Minister Vaughn Henry and his wife nurse Nardia took care of them often. Minister Obeb Babb's council became important and Gailya gave her life to Christ. Paul Thompson became like a son and as time went on, he took care of Ken and Gailya. Paul brought food, did business for Ken, cooked for them, drove Ken and was always there on the hospital runs. Minerva and Jose, who lived by them, were also very close. Gailya asked Waynette and Kenneth to move over and the care has been incredible. Waynette has become a loving daughter and the work and

organization has been a blessing. Ken has a developed a great fondness for his daughter-in-law.

Ken and Gailya: This is a love story, to be cherished. Ken is a unique soul, he loved Gailya beyond reason. When my sweet friend started with falls and injuring herself, we became concerned and followed up. However, it continued, Ken was always there by her side. He read up on all the medical information and by now is an expert in what she was going through. He did therapy, he teased her to keep her thinking and she would respond, he walked with her, he studied how to prolong her life, he did try and tell the medical field how to do things, which we did clash about sometimes, Gailya was always glad when I was there with her and knew both were trying for the best for her. I am attempting to reveal a love that was so strong and true as to what Ken Hall tried to do for his loving wife. She was very aware, we spoke about it sometimes, but she was happiest with Ken in whatever place it could be, in bed holding hands, whispering and loving each other to the end of this life. My last memory is of Ken standing by her hospital bed patting her and talking to her very lovingly. May God bless Ken and carry him through until they are together again.

## **KENNETH HALL - STEPSON**

Miss Gailya came into my father's life in a timely manner. She took care of us while building a solid family structure. To say we share many

happy moments is an understatement as there was always some activity going on in our home. She was a tower of strength for me when I

decided to wed the kind and genuine Waynette. She even attempted to verbally scold me whenever I did anything to make my wife sad.

She was a no- nonsense parent who did all she could to ensure that I remained focused and responsible. The summers that I worked at Comart or Cayman Distributors with Miss Gailya taught me valuable and lifelong lessons and I am forever grateful to her.

I am elated that I was able to help my wife in attending to her every need while she was ailing. She was brave and strong through the many difficult days and I often watched her with admiration. She loves to sing so when it was worship time I always allow my wife, Paul, nurse Henry and even my Dad who join them in singing as I can't hold a note and she would smile at me knowingly. Love you Ms. Gailya will surely miss your presence.





**WAYNETTE - DAUGHTER-IN-LAW** 

Soft spoken, authoritative, and quick witted were my impressions of Mrs. Hall on our first meeting eight years ago during my interrogative session with Ken who was trying his best to scare me at the time. While indicating to her housekeepers to give her the pitcher with drinks they had prepared for us. As she sat down, she used her feet to stump Ken. It was her way of telling him to stop talking without missing a beat in serving. She asked all the important questions as only a schoolteacher could with the aim of getting the required information. Of course, she was satisfied as here I am today following in her footsteps in Entrepreneurship, Philanthropy, and a wife. A love of family and care for others, singing old hymns, and talking business or being stubborn are just some of the few traits we have in common. "Don't stop trying" and "Don't give up" were always her advice to me when dealing with the two Kens in our lives- and boy was she right. As her Ken would say "Gailya is always right! Kenneth your wife is always right you hear". She is an avid swimmer, a lover of chocolate ice-cream and a fighter who never complained even when you could see the pain in her eyes. It was sad to see her go, but I find comfort with the fact that she made it right with her Lord and Maker and is no longer experiencing excruciating pain. If Miss G were here, I know she would thank Nurses Kerri-Ann, Georgia, Jacqueline, and Nardia Henry for their love and care given to her. In addition, she would be grateful to Paul for his gentle but giant strength, support, love, and care and to her Ken for the medical research, advise and suggestions in how to care for her and most importantly his un-wavering love for her. Rest well Ms. G see you in the first resurrection.

#### GAYL WHEELER'S – FAMILY FRIEND

The passing of this great lady will be forever more a significant loss not only to my life, but to many others who she touched, influenced, loved. In the business fraternity, she was my mentor for many years and then became much more. She invited me to be a part of the family and for over 20 years she has been a very dear and loving friend. I carry her in my heart next to my Mom and Dad. I will miss her in my life and thank her for all she has been to me. No doubt God has another Angel in heaven and may her soul rest in peace. My love to you Gailya.











































#### **Graveside Service**

Floral Tributes		
Hymns led by Bro. Victor Hemans		Congregation
	"It IS Well With My Soul - 530"	
	"Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus - 524"	
	"When We All Get To Heaven - 633"	
Benediction		Pastor Obed Babb

## It Is Well With My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way;
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou has 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 has 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, Oh 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 for 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.

## 'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His word Just to rest upon His Promise, Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

#### Chorus:

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him; How I've proved Him o'er and o'er Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus; Oh for grace to trust Him more.

Oh how sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to trust His cleansing blood Just in simple faith to plunge me, 'neath the healing, cleansing blood.

Yes, 'tis to sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just from sin and self to cease
Just from Jesus, simply taking Life and rest,
and joy and peace.

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee, Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend And I know that Thou Art with me, Wilt be with me to the end.

#### When We All Get To Heaven

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace
In the mansions bright and blessed,
He'll prepare for us a place.

#### Refrain:

When we all get to Heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory!

While we walk the pilgrim pathway, clouds will over-spread the sky
But when traveling days are over,
not a shadow, not a sigh.

Let us then be true and faithful, trusting, serving every day Just one glimpse of Him in glory, will the toils of life repay.

Onward to the prize before us! Soon His beauty we'll behold; Soon the pearly gates will open; We shall tread the streets of gold.

## **Acknowledgements**

The family of the late Gailya Hall wishes to express their gratitude to her caregivers, Nurses Jacqueline, Kerri Ann, Georgia of E Kare Nursing Services, and Nurse Nardia Henry. Thanks to the Health City Nursing team, Dr. Tarun Sheshagirien, Dr. Deepak Varma, Dr, Cavya for the care they provided her. Thank you to the Cayman Island MedEvac and their team.

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