

Service of Praise and Thanksgiving for the life of an amazing man
JOSEPH HARMAAN EBANKS, CMH



7th May, 1924 - 26th March, 2021

“Well done, good and faithful servant” - Matthew 25:23

Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church
182 Boatswain Bay Road
West Bay, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
Saturday, 10th April, 2021
Service: 2:00pm
Viewing and Praise & Worship: 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Officiating Ministers
Rev. Jason Knox
Pastor Garrett Haylock
Pastor Mitzie Bailey

Pianists
Mr. Denton Hydes
Mrs. Leonora Hydes

Interment at the Boatswain Bay Cemetery

Order of Service

Opening Hymn "Just Over in the Glory Land"	Congregation
Opening Remarks	Rev. Jason Knox
Opening Prayer	Pastor Mitzie Bailey
Scripture Reading <i>Psalm 100</i>	Elder Carlon Powery
Tribute in Song	Cayman National Choir and Orchestra
Obituary	Mr. Rolston Anglin, JP
Tribute from the Cayman Islands Seafarers Association	Mr. Denniston Tibbetts President, Cayman Islands Seafarers Association
Tribute and Song "Ship Ahoy"	Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP Patron, Cayman Islands Seafarers Association
Hymn "There Shall Be Showers of Blessings"	Congregation
Musical Tribute from Children "Love Lifted Me"	Son, Mr. Aster Ebanks, and Friends
Tribute from Children	Mr. Samuel Rose, Cert. Hon., JP
Tributes from Sons	Audio
Tributes from Grandchildren and Great-grandchildren	Grandchildren and Great-grandchildren
Tribute from Siblings	Ms. Martina Bodden
Tribute and Song from the Church	Elder Henderson Hunte and Others
Sermon	Rev. Jason Knox
Prayer for the Family	Pastor Garrett Haylock
Closing Hymn "Bring Them In"	Congregation
Recessional	Rev. Jason Knox

Pallbearers

Mr. Martin Bodden Jr.
Mr. Benny Ebanks

Mr. Reuben Ebanks
Mr. James Parsons
Mr. Jerome Bailey

Mr. Kirk Ebanks
Mr. Jerry Ebanks

Honorary Pallbearers

Mr. Aster Ebanks
Mr. Garnal Ebanks
Mr. Duke Ebanks
Mr. Aundre Ezekiel Ebanks
Mr. Rene Timothy
Mr. Leandru Ebanks

Mr. Gleason Ebanks
Mr. Crosby Ebanks
Mr. Frank Ebanks
Dr William Combs
Mr. Rayburn Ebanks
Mr. Joseph Bailey

Elder Rupert Ebanks
Mr. Varion Ebanks
Capt. Eugene Ebanks
Mr. Abel Powery
Mr. Alphonso Ebanks
Mr. Darvin Ebanks

Ushers

Ms. Tasheika Hydes
Mrs. Linda Rankin-Baker
Deacon Mark Hunte

Mrs. Marvia Rankin
Ms. Kristy Watler, Cert. Hon.
Mr. Stephen Best

Guest Book Attendants

Mrs. Judy Powery
Mrs. Koneray Miller
Ms. Jody Weech-Ebanks

Congregational Hymns

Over in the Glory Land

I've a home prepared where the saints abide,
Just over in the glory land;
And I long to be by my Savior's side,
Just over in the glory land.

Refrain:

*Just over (over) in the glory land,
I'll join (yes join) the happy angel band,
Just over in the glory land;
Just over (over) in the glory land,
There with (yes with) the mighty host I'll stand,
Just over in the glory land.*

I am on my way to those mansions fair,
Just over in the glory land;
There to sing God's praise and His glory share,
Just over in the glory land.

What a joyful thought that my Lord I'll see,
Just over in the glory land;
And with kindred saved, there forever be,
Just over in the glory land.

With the blood-washed throng I will shout and sing,
Just over in the glory land;
Glad hosannas to Christ, the Lord and King,
Just over in the glory land.

There Shall Be Showers of Blessings

There shall be showers of blessing:
This is the promise of love;
There shall be seasons refreshing,
Sent from the Savior above.

Refrain:

*Showers of blessing,
Showers of blessing we need;
Mercy-drops round us are falling,
But for the showers we plead.*

There shall be showers of blessing—
Precious reviving again;
Over the hills and the valleys,
Sound of abundance of rain.

There shall be showers of blessing;
Send them upon us, O Lord!
Grant to us now a refreshing;
Come, and now honour Thy Word.

There shall be showers of blessing;
O that today they might fall,
Now as to God we're confessing,
Now as on Jesus we call!

There shall be showers of blessing,
If we but trust and obey;
There shall be seasons refreshing,
If we let God have His way.

Bring Them In

Hark! 'tis the Shepherd's voice I hear,
Out in the desert dark and drear,
Calling the sheep who've gone astray,
Far from the Shepherd's fold away.

Refrain:

*Bring them in, bring them in,
Bring them in from the fields of sin;
Bring them in, bring them in,
Bring the wand'ring ones to Jesus.*

The Life Story of the late Joseph Harmaan Ebanks

Also known as Mr. Joseph, Bro. Joe, Mr. Joe, Daddy, Granddaddy

His Birth:

History reveals that in 1924, the world was experiencing a global drought from Australia to the Americas to our neighbouring islands of Jamaica and Cuba. Later that same year, Cuba experienced their worst hurricane, a category 5. In the Cayman Islands, on Wednesday, 7th May, 1924, on Florence Lane in Boatswain Bay, the sun shone brightly and the Lord blessed Mr. Elvin Crosby Ebanks and his wife, Mrs. Florence Mae Ebanks, with a wonderful fourth child and first son, Joseph Harmaan Ebanks.

As time would prove, Joseph was reliable, dependable, patient, practical, devoted, responsible, stable, loving, kind and uncompromising. He was a Christian man with high standards, many talents, and great foresight.

Schooling:

At the age of six, he began his schooling at the Teacher Al-Al All-Age School. Teacher Al-Al was a disciplined and caring teacher who cared about every aspect of her pupil's lives. All pupils had to attend school properly groomed, wearing clean clothing, and on time each day as well as be attentive and willing to learn. Joseph attended the All-Age School until the age thirteen when he started to work to assist with the rearing of his siblings.

Work Life:

At age 13, Joseph made his first voyage to the Miskito Cays where he worked in the turtling trade until the age of 19. Then for two years, he transported ship captains and crew members from ship to shore in the North Sound via catboat. Once this stint was over, he commenced working with the National Bulk Carriers. Several of Joseph's former shipmates have commented on his work ethic with several expressing that he was "a great man to work with" and "a very quiet man, who did not talk much but was an excellent seaman ... who knew his work." Significantly, one seaman shared that Joseph's quick observance and confident action helped to save a ship and all lives onboard. All told, Joseph spent 28 years out at sea earning a living to provide for his family, building life experience and skills, and learning about himself and the world as he visited ports around the world. After his seafaring career concluded, Joseph became a full-time carpenter. His standards of excellence and attention to detail developed while at sea were channelled into a passion for quality work in the many developments and projects he worked on. Joseph's portfolio included many homes, commercial buildings and hotels, such as the Pan Cayman House, the original Caribbean Club and Galleon Beach Hotel on the Seven Mile Beach, and the Spanish Bay Reef Hotel and Dive Resort and Ristorante Pappagallo in West Bay. Many West Bay homeowners can point out some construction or renovation that Joseph performed on their homes. He built his own home in 1949 and he was also one of the lead builders on his house of worship, the Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church sanctuary.

Joseph never drove a car; however, that didn't impede his ability to move around. Throughout the district of West Bay, he could be seen riding to and from work on his bicycle daily, with his tools in two five-gallon pails and his lunch safely stowed in his bag made of plaited silver thatch.

Marriage:

December 28, 1950 was a dream come true for the young, beautiful Ima Louise Dilbert and the talented Joseph HarmaanEbanks as they were united in marriage in the presence of God by Reverend John Gray at the John Gray Memorial United Church West Bay. The happy couple were supported by Matron of Honour, Ms. Aldine Anglin and Best Man, Mr. George Ebanks.

Joseph and Ima's commitment to their vows and their love for each other lasted throughout their nearly 54 years of marriage until Ima's passing on July 1, 2004. Seven children were born to their union: Aster, Brenda, Garnal, Eziethamae, Duke, Mitzie and Durney.

Farming:

Joseph always believed in eating fresh fruits, vegetables, fresh fish and other local foods. His backyard farming produced, almonds, bananas, custard apples, grapefruits, guineps, mangoes, naseberries, plums, sweet sops, ackees, green peas, cassava, cocoas, sweet potatoes and yams. Joseph shared his love for the land with his children, teaching them about farming as they assisted him with the growing, reaping, and distribution of these fruits and vegetables.

Joseph sold the crops from his harvest in the wayside store he co-owned with Ima, to individuals by prior engagement, to local supermarkets, and at the original Farmers Market in George Town. Like most farmers in the Cayman Islands, Joseph also participated in the annual Agricultural Shows and he often walked away a prize winner for many of his crops. While Joseph and Ima earned income from their agricultural venture, visiting tourists with curiosity about Cayman's bounty and the neighbours, especially those in need, were beneficiaries of their produce without charge to them.

Community Service:

Throughout his life, Joseph served his community through setting a Godly example to all by showing love, kindness and compassion; helping to feed children in Boatswain Bay and neighbouring areas of West Bay; providing needy children with breakfast and giving them lunch money to get meals while at school; volunteering labour to repair homes when people could not afford to pay; and building and providing coffins at no cost to needy families.

Beyond his service through food and carpentry, Joseph used his voice to bring joy and delight to others. For 25 years, he was an active, performing member of the Cayman National Choir belting out folk songs, classical greats, and contemporary melodies across Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac, and in the United States.

Hobbies:

Joseph enjoyed spending his spare time in a range of ways. His carpentry and seafaring skills were useful in catboat building and catboat sailing in the annual National Regattas. His lifelong love for the sea was evident by the frequent fishing trips where he would teach his sons to fish. As part of his recreation, Joseph liked to play domino games with his friends including Messers Leonard Bodden, Alphonso Ebanks and Darvin Ebanks and the late Messers Nayon Anglin, Isaac Powery, Joseph Powery, Burnis Ebanks and Gressman Ebanks.

Audiences who heard the Cayman National Choir were not the only ones who enjoyed Joseph's singing. He was an active member of the Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church Choir until he could no longer participate. Although he was not mobile in recent years, Joseph continued to enjoy family gatherings where there would be singing, playing of instruments, and lots of fun and laughter. He also enjoyed whenever the church brethren visited for cottage meetings and held services with him.

Joseph delighted in watching many sports with boxing being one of his favourites. He took in matches on television and attended live fights at the local boxing arena. Joseph often expressed gratitude to Mr. Dalmain Ebanks for his work with young Caymanian men including his own son, Durney, who also loved boxing and participated in several informal matches too. Joseph's favourite boxers were Muhammad Ali, "Smokin" Joe Frazier, and, was nicknamed after the great Caribbean Boxer, Joe Walcott of Barbados. Locally, Joseph also admired the skills of Caymanian Boxers, Mr. Doney Anglin and Mr. Charles "Killa" Whittaker.

Christian Journey:

The impetus for all of the aforementioned good works was Joseph's Lord and Saviour who reigned in his heart.

As a young boy, Joseph was a founding member of the Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church which started in November 1930 under the sea grape tree near the community's seaside. He grew to love the Lord and to do His work. Joseph fully surrendered his life to God and became a faithful servant. He served as a Deacon of the Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church for many years. Joseph used the opportunities and avenues available to him to share the word and love of God with those he came in contact with on a daily basis. Church attendance and sharing the love of God were way marks of his Christian journey.

Earthly Awards and Recognitions:

Throughout his life, Joseph was recognised for his contributions to community and country. Awards and recognitions of note and interest include:

1993 - Cayman National Choir Certificate of Recognition for ten or more years of dedicated service as a performing member.

2003 - Honoured as one of the 500 recipients of the Nation Builders Award at the inaugural National Heroes Day ceremony. His name is etched in the Wall of Honour in Heroes Square.

2005 - The Lions Club of Tropical Gardens Senior Sweetheart Competition - Male Overall Winner - Grand Cayman

2006 - Certificate from the West Bay Heritage Committee for long-standing contributions to the celebration of culture at annual West Bay District Heritage Days

2012- Order of the Cayman Islands Commander

2014 - National Heroes Day Awards - Cultural Heritage - Pioneer

2016 - National Heroes Day Awards - Agriculture - Pioneer

2021 - National Heroes Day Awards - Seafaring Heritage - Early Pioneer

Joseph's Passing:

Joseph Harmaan Ebanks lived a blessed, love-filled, and fulfilling life for nearly 97 years. He passed away peacefully at the George Town Hospital at 5:05am on Friday, 26th March, 2021.

Joseph was preceded in death by his parents, Elvin and Florence, wife, Ima, son, Durney and sisters, Linette Rivers, Erna Ebanks and Indy Foster.

Left to mourn his passing and to give thanks for his life are his **daughters** - Brenda Timothy, Eziethamae Bodden, and Mitzie Bailey and sons - Aster, Garnal, and Duke Ebanks **sons**, Aster, Garnal, and Duke Ebanks.

He will forever be loved and remembered by his 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 3 brothers, and relatives-in-law. These include:

five granddaughters - Shena Anglin, Marzeta Bodden, Teresita DaSilva, Martina Bodden, and Antanika Ebanks;

five grandsons - Aundre Ezekiel Ebanks, Rene Timothy, Reuben Ebanks, Leandru Ebanks, and Jerome Bailey;

nine great-granddaughters - Sherol, Sherena, and Sherese Anglin, Rhea, Ruth, and Gianna Timothy, Alara DaSilva, Elaina and Leilani Ebanks;

two great-grandsons - Aiden Bailey and Ronin DaSilva;

brothers - Gleason, Crosby and Frank Ebanks;

daughter-in-law - Crystal Ebanks and son-in-law - Joseph Bailey;

granddaughters-in-law - Eve Ebanks, Blanca Timothy, and Marshanni Bailey;

grandson-in-law - Ishmael DaSilva;

sisters-in-law - Kate Ebanks, Vera Combs, Clearstain Ebanks, and Lillis Harvey;

and, **brothers-in-law** - Rayburn Ebanks and Dr. William Combs.

Also left to mourn Joseph's passing are his nieces, nephews, cousins, many friends, his caregivers, Suzan Haynes and Antonio Gutierrez-Lino, and his Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church family.

May his soul rest in peace and God's perpetual shine upon him. His family and friends look forward to seeing him again in the first resurrection.

Tributes to Joseph Harmaan Ebanks, CMH

Tribute for our Daddy from his loving children, Aster, Brenda, Garnal, Eziethamae, Duke, and Mitzie

Daddy, the most precious person in the world to us.

Words simply cannot express the magnitude of loss we feel at the passing of our stalwart, our friend, our leader, our champion, our guide, our Daddy!

Our Daddy was honest in all his dealings, kind to everyone, dedicated to God then family, always hardworking and very disciplined in his words and deeds. He was our friend and confidant and a man of great foresight and wisdom.

In the words of his Children:

Brenda:

Daddy, there is nothing that I can say today that everyone who really knows you, would not already know, but today I would say that as your daughter I was immensely blessed to have had you as my dad.

You loved me, guided me and set an example for me for my entire life. You always had complete faith in God, love for others, and were always helpful to everyone. You taught me to be hardworking, hardworking, and kind. Daddy, I am also forever grateful to you for instilling discipline in me – a trait that served us both well. Today I say farewell, I will miss you and look forward to seeing you again.

Mitzie:

Daddy was born from a place of love, with a heart of gold, with a purpose that was written in the warmth of his bright smile, the goodness of his ways, the gentleness of his being, the kindness that radiated in his beautiful brown eyes. The beauty of his kind, loving spirit touched everyone and everything in which he was a part. He started life in humble beginnings and remained humble throughout his life. I am still amazed at Daddy's ability to take the little that he had and do so much to help others around him. He was true to his word and honest in all his dealings.

My daddy was so very proud of his children and grandchildren and all of their accomplishments. As long as he was able, he wanted to attend every graduation, baby blessing, parents teacher's meeting, sports day, school awards night, National Children Festival of the Arts, wedding, family gathering, or other special occasion. He continued to attend these events until he was no longer mobile.

Many of his neighbours and relatives were beneficiaries of his kindness and words of wisdom. My family and I are grateful to daddy for being such a wonderful man, for the sharing with us of his words of wisdom, insight, foresight, talent and time. We could not ask for a better teacher, friend, and confidant. We miss him and will forever cherish our memories of him.

We are confident that Daddy is now asleep waiting for the first resurrection. In his words, "by the help of the good Lord" we will meet again.

Eziethamae:

For as long as I can remember, Daddy took great care and interest in his children's growth and development. He told me that he was able to spot signs that I would be eager and always on the go like him from as early as six months old because of the speed at which I climbed from my seat on the bed to walk, for the very first time, towards him when he came into the room and said,

"Come to Daddy!"

Regardless of the demands of being an entrepreneur, Daddy attended our PTA meetings to ensure he kept up to date on our educational advancement. When I was in high school, he rode the bus to central George Town and walked from there to the high school on Walkers Road, always arriving promptly. Daddy worked hard to provide for us and was always willing to support as much as he could. When my Spanish class had planned a trip to Costa Rica and Panama and I asked him if I could go and he said "Yes, anything to help with your education." Upon my graduation in 1977, he was so happy and proud that I completed my formal education that he made arrangements to hire a big taxi van to take our entire family, including my grandparents, to my graduation. When it came to helping his children reach their potential, there was nothing Daddy wouldn't do.

Every week for 25 years, we attended choir practice with the Cayman National Choir. He looked forward to rehearsals and choir concerts. Together, we travelled to the United States and Cayman Brac with the choir to share our love for music. When Daddy retired from the choir in 2003 because of mama's declining health, he did his best to still attend choir concerts. He would ride with me on the way up often speaking about how much he missed performing and was looking forward to the choir and then, on the way back down to West Bay, we would perform some of the evening's tunes, as well as our favourites, together.

On several occasions, we travelled to the United States to purchase items for the wayside store - a small shop that became a source of livelihood and community connection for him and all of us. He was so proud that his grandson, Rene, took over "Joe and Ima's Wayside Store" and has continued to serve the residents nearby.

Daddy travelled extensively while he spent many years at sea; however, he still always wanted to be home with his family. In 2004, after Mama passed away, Daddy travelled to Florida to be with his sister-in-law, Aunt Vera and Uncle Bill, for a one month visit. During this time, he became ill and I travelled to Florida with my daughter, Martina, to get him and bring him home. When we arrived, he lit up and said "I missed you all!"

Daddy was a wonderful parent and went above and beyond showing his love and kindness. It was always a pleasure to have conversations with Daddy and I learnt so much from him.

Daddy loved the Lord and lived a wonderful Christian life. I am so blessed to have been raised by Christian parents who lived by Godly example. I know Daddy loved me and Daddy knew I loved him.

Daddy, I miss you and hold you close in my heart. Sleep well until we meet again.

Tribute to an amazing grandfather from your loving granddaughter, Shena Anglin

Granddaddy, you were such a loving man. Thank you for being a great example of what it means to be strong, courageous, responsible, loving, kind, caring of your own family and your community. You loved your God and were willing to serve Him in whatever way you could. You gave your very best and I thank you for everything you have done, the example you have set, and the legacy you are leaving behind for your family and community.

You showed your love in so many ways. I remember when I was expecting my first child and you learned that I craved naseberries and yogurt. When your naseberry tree was bearing, you made sure I had my weekly supply of fresh naseberries from your yard.

Thank you for your great advice and the wisdom you imparted during your time with us on this side of eternity. You will be missed immensely, but rest in peace, Granddaddy, until we meet again.

Tribute to my grandfather, from grandson, Aundre Ebanks

My grandfather was a **great** man. Great in his love for the Lord and his family. He was a man who came from very humble beginnings.

As the oldest grandson, I grew up living in my grandparents' house and got to see first-hand the love Grandfather had for God, his wife, and his family. He was a carpenter and a Christian who always helped those who were less fortunate. He always told stories in the shop to his customers and friends who'd stop by in such a way that I could actually "see" what he was saying. He was also firm but fair and always taught us many lessons with some of the most important being that manners comes before money both in spelling and in life; to love God above all; and, be kind to everyone but don't make anyone ever make you feel as if you cannot achieve whatever you set your mind to achieve.

I will miss you Grandfather; however, I am happy knowing that you're now reunited with Grandma, Ima. Thanks for everything, "Grandfaddah.

Great-granddaughters Rhea and Ruth Timothy

Our Great-granddaddy was a great and Godly man. He loved us unconditionally and was always very happy to see us especially on Sundays when Nana took us to visit him. Sometimes it would be five of us playing, running around and climbing up on the upstairs balcony of Aunt Mitzie's house and he would always be telling us to stop running around and climbing before we got hurt because he was fearful of that. We love you Granddaddy and will miss you forever.

Tribute from grandson, Rene Timothy

Grandfather,

What an honourable man! Godly, dependable, dedicated, honest and upright.

He was an admirable man who provided love, support, and wisdom to his young princes. His role was king in our lives and rightfully deserved from all of us who knew him. He taught us to be accountable for one another.

He spent a lot of time teaching us to work hard, not to steal, and to stay away from drugs. Grandfather knew that we would have setbacks but he always said, when you fall, get back up and brush yourself off. He taught us with serious words and with backyard fun. Grandfather sometimes played boxing with us and oh boy, wasn't he swift on his left upper cut!

Grandfather was a visionary who saw the future long before it became a reality. He was perfect in our eyesight, a spectacular role model. He guided us through with plenty of love and wisdom. Grandfather always made time for us. He was our hero who always provided a home big enough to hold us all.

Larger than life was our grandfather. His radiant smile and his very kind heart was ever evident in our lives. Grandfather, we will love you forever and thank you for everything you did for us. You will always be our king, our hero. We will love and miss you forever. Goodnight, Grandfather.

For our Granddaddy

We wrote this for you, Granddaddy, with hearts full of sadness, gratitude, and grace,
A part of us passed on with you, a part we simply can't replace.
They called us to your bedside, we knew it was time for you to take your wings,
But how do you fit special memories and thanks for a life into a short tribute or a song to sing?

Although you drifted away into God's arms for an eternal sleep,
Death cannot take the memories we have of you, they're ours to cherish and keep.
We can still remember your stories and lessons, many times they've been replayed,
And wherever life's road may take each of us, we promise to not let them fade.

We miss you so much, Granddaddy, more than words can ever tell,
Now you're reunited with Grandmother, you're together with the Lord and all is well.
We will remember you and make sure that our children will always be told,
Of their beloved Granddaddy who lived a beautiful, inspiring life until he was nearly 97 years old.

Yes, we're sad you're gone now, but here is the other side:
You were a man of many talents, extensive knowledge, love for others, and full of pride.
Your early working years were in turtling and seafaring – a true Caymanian man, of course,
Which meant you bravely went to sea to support your family first and foremost.

You met our dear grandmother, Ima, and she soon became your wife,
Seven children were created from your union – a partnership that was for life.
It was clear to see that family was important to you and you considered them in every choice you made,
You and Grandmother created a wonderful life for us all, and for our well-being and protection you always prayed.

You loved to spend time with your children and grandchildren who you truly adored,
Whether working out in the yard, baking heavy cakes, going fishing, or just laughing and singing ... none of us ever got bored.
You taught us to be patient, thoughtful, tolerant, and understanding of all that we see,
To appreciate the little things like a good piece of heavy cake after a "pretty plate" of turtle meat.

From carpentry and farming to community service and singing with the National Choir and Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church,
You always gave your very best while putting other people first.
You were a shining example of God's love and we are grateful for so many years with you,
The precious memories will stay with us until we meet again and sing your beloved Hallelujah Chorus in God's full view.

We know that your spirit will always be within us and hope to see you and Grandmother someday,
Until then we will fondly remember your smile, your voice, your influence on us, no matter if you feel far away.
For now, we have to say farewell as you journey towards the heavenly sunbeam,
We will always love and miss you, Granddaddy - goodnight, God bless, sweet dreams.

Love,
Reuben, Marzeta, Teresita, Martina, Leandru, Antanika, Alara, and Ronin

From grandson, Jerome Bailey, and great-grandson, Aiden Josiah Bailey

I was almost eight years old when my grandmother passed away and Granddaddy came to live with us shortly after. Granddaddy was a man I trusted fully. He was caring, loving, and full of wisdom. He helped me along the path of life.

He had many strengths and shared his life experiences with us. He was knowledgeable and had a great appreciation for music and singing. He never missed the opportunity to accompany us to my school awards functions and concerts and always expressed how proud he was of my accomplishments and musical talents. He was a great man and someone I loved and appreciated very much.

My son Aiden is blessed to have met and spent some time with his great-granddaddy. On our recent visits to my parents' home, he would say to my mommy, "Nana, where is my great-granddaddy?" I am happy that my granddaddy was able to meet and know his first great-grandson and that already Granddaddy had an impact on Aiden. Even at his young age, Aiden excitedly tells his maternal grandparents of his meetings with his great-granddaddy.

Our granddaddy was very special and unique and we are blessed to have shared parts of our lives with him.
Granddaddy is sleeping now but we are sure that he will wake up singing!

Great-granddaughters Sherol, Sherena, and Sherese Anglin

He was a wonderful great-granddaddy. He was a very kind, loving and thoughtful gentleman who loved us beyond measure; so the words of our poem justly sum up our thoughts of our great granddaddy:

*We had a wonderful granddaddy
One who never really grew old;
His smile was made of sunshine
and his heart was solid gold;
His eyes were bright as shining stars,
and in his cheeks fair roses you see,
We had a wonderful granddaddy,
and that's the way it would always be.
But take heed, because he's still keeping an eye on all of us,
so we'll make sure that he likes what he sees.*

We know that your birthday will be especially hard for us because we are going to really miss the fun times we had as we celebrated with you. We will forever love and miss you and keep you in our hearts and always remember the life lessons that you thought us.

Tribute from brothers, Crosby, Gleason, and Frank Ebanks (as told by Crosby)

Joseph was our oldest brother. I have been thinking so much since he passed away. He was hardworking, honest, very ambitious, and so very kind. He gave us good advice and always looked out for us, his younger brothers.

We are really sorry that our dear brother, Joseph, had to leave us, because we feel at a loss now that our brother is gone. We realise that we all have to take this journey but it hurts so much since Joseph passed away.

As our older brother, Joe continued to instill the good values that our parents taught us and we appreciated it very much. We hope that everyone appreciates all the good that Joe has done in the community because he did so much. We know that many good things have been said and will be said and they are all true because our brother really was a good, Christian man. We will miss all the get-togethers for family events but especially for your birthday celebrations.

We miss you and hope to be together with you again someday.

A Tribute from the Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church, to our late Brother Joe, a long serving Deacon of this church and faithful member of this congregation.

From very early on in the life of this congregation, Brother Joe was one of the children under the Sea Grape Tree and, therefore, the story of his life is forever intertwined with the story of this church.

When the Sunday School moved from the Sea Grape Tree to the Old School House, Brother Joe continued to faithfully attend. His unflinching love and faithful commitment to God and this congregation never wavered. He was deeply involved in the construction of the first church when it was built in the 1950s. This building now serves as our church hall. When this current sanctuary was being constructed there was not a day that passed that he did not volunteer his time to ensure that it was built. He was one of the lead builders on this sanctuary.

He helped build the Manse, always having an eye towards how his gifts could serve and contribute. He was known for getting things done and being a pleasant person to be around.

He worked hard with his hands, giving his time and skills in service of the church. Every Sunday he would rise early to be the first to open the church doors and prepare the sanctuary for everyone else to come. He gave deeply from his heart, contributing to the worship of God and his ministry to this community. Active in the choirs, his love of music was used of God to unite the church and make a joyful noise. Full of church pride, he always played in the volleyball tournaments and all other aspects of the church life. As a Deacon, he helped keep the church in working order and was vital in this church's ministries of mercy to the community.

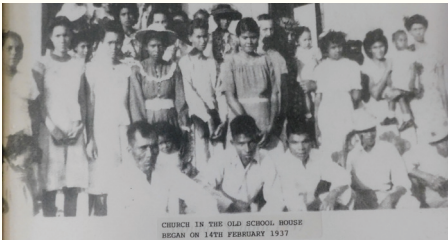
For many decades he served as a faithful advocate in the weekly prayer meeting. He consistently stood in the gap between God and his people continually in prayer for the church. Reliably, for many years, he would make the same two petitions: that God would strengthen his church so that "we would not grow weary in doing good" and also telling God that he "wants to see his children come to know the Lord." His love for his family and his church embodies the truth that when we give ourselves over to something larger than ourselves then our lives will out-live ourselves.

Boatswain Bay Presbyterian Church is what it is today, in part, because of the faithful service of our Deacon, Brother Joe. We remain deeply grateful, that he gave of himself, sacrificially and helpfully to God's house and his people for so long. Brother Joe is resting from his labours. We are comforted to know that God has received his "well done, good and faithful servant."

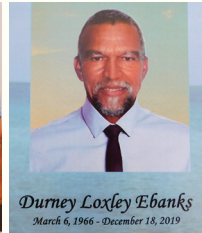
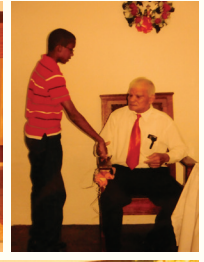
We miss his company and presence among us. We miss our Brother Joe and long to see him again in the Resurrection.



Premier the Hon. Maurice Bush presents the Order of the Cayman Islands, Commander, to Mr. Joseph H. Ebanks, for his service to the church, community and the construction industry.



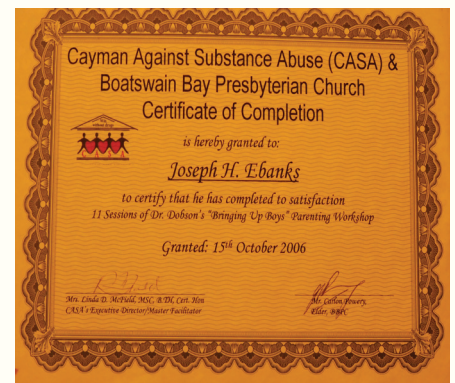
CHURCH IN THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE
BEGAN ON 14TH FEBRUARY 1937



Durney Loxsley Ebanks
March 6, 1966 - December 18, 2019



Caymanian Seamen
at
Boatswain Bay Church
16th December 2012





Above: Members of the Cayman Island Choir performed at the elegant Members' Christmas Party. The evening included refreshments, entertainment, and *live* music.



Celebration of Life



Service at the Boatswain Bay Cemetery

Opening Remarks Rev. Jason Knox

Prayer Pastor Garrett Haylock

Tribute in Song Mr. Danny Ebanks

Family Floral Tributes

Ringing of the Seaman’s Bell Cayman Islands Seafarers Association

Act of Committal Rev. Jason Knox

Pastor Mitzie Bailey

Choruses Congregation

Special Thanks from the Family Rev. Jason Knox

Benediction



Family Acknowledgement

The family of the late, Joseph Harmaan Ebanks, CMH extend their heartfelt thanks to all who visited, called, offered prayers, and shared in our grief. Our heartfelt thanks to the caregivers, Suzan Haynes and Antonio Gutierrez-Lino, doctors, nurses, other medical professionals and support staff of the Health Services Authority for their care and assistance.

*May the Lord continue to bless each of you with health and strength.
Thank you to each one for your participation in this service of thanksgiving.
God bless you all.*