

Service of the Thanksgiving for the Life of



Tracey Austin Boddin

23rd July 1941 - 7th February 2022
Seventh Day Adventist Church West
Bay, Grand Cayman


Sunday 20th February 2022
2:00pm

Officiating Minister
Pastor Campbell

Pianist/Organist
Diana Lyon

Interment at the West Bay Cemetery

Order of Service



Opening Remarks/Prayer	Pastor Andrew Campbell
Hymn "What a day that will be"	Congregation
Scripture Reading	Elder Melbourne Williams
Tribute from Daughter Cindy Owens.....	Ms Tara Rivers
Tribute from Siblings	Ms Tara Rivers
Tribute from Sabina, Nandi and Jahri	Mennen Hydes
The Seafaring Community	Mr. Denniston Tibbetts
Special Song from the Church	Abigail Parchment
Eulogy.....	Dean Barnett
Hymn "The Old Rugged Cross".....	Congregation
Sermon.....	Pastor Andrew Campbell
Prayer for the Family	Elder William (Billy) Ebanks
Closing Hymn "When the Roll is called up Yonder".....	Congregation
Benediction	Pastor Andrew Campbell

Pallbearers

Mr. Leith Bodden
Mr. Mervin Smith
Mr. Erimando Ebanks

Mr. Israel Hydes
Mr. Ron Carter
Mr. Gilles Welcome

Honourary Pallbearers

Mr. Leonard Bodden
Mr. Tex Bodden
Mr. Alister Carter

Mr. Donovan Percy
Mr. Dwight Hewitt
Mr. Dominique Bodden

Mr. Troy Bodden

Ushers

Valerie King
Joanna Sterling
Miriam Larax
Joan Alexander

Guest Book Attendants

Ms. Jatena Bodden
Ms. Lisa Brightly

EULOGY
TRACEY AUSTIN BODDEN
July 23, 1941 - February 7, 2022

Tracey Austin Bodden was born in Cayman Brac at the home of Gammy Kathy Powery on 23rd July 1941, the second child of Austin Augustus and Audrey Rosevilla Bodden of White Bay, Cayman Brac, He passed away on 7 February 2022 at the home of Sabina Hydes in Boatswain Bay, West Bay at the age of 80 years and 7 months. Proceeded him in death his wife Bernell Bodden, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Austin Bodden, Brothers Goldburn and James Bodden, sisters Ellerie Ebanks and Judy Miller.

Tracey was raised in a strong Christian home, both parents being committed Christians and active members of the Church of God, Full Gospel Hall, West Bay. As a small child his parents faithfully took him to Sunday School and Church and he grew his belief in Jesus Christ was evident.

He has been a cancer survivor for many years and sadly in 2019 he was diagnosed with Parkinsons. This condition got worse over a short time until his death.

Tracey began his education at the tender age of 5 years at the West End Primary School in Cayman Brac. After the family migrated to Grand Cayman he attended Sis Ridley Powery School in West Bay where he graduated.

In the late 50's he went to sea and joined the National Bulk Carrier like many other young Caymanians to earn a living and to support his mother to raise his younger siblings. While at sea he sailed to many different countries, like Japan and the Persian Gulf before returning home after many years.

After returning home from sea he started work at the Holiday Inn hotel where he worked as the maintenance guy then on to the Westin Hotel where he also worked as a grounds man for many, many years.

In 1982 he was united in marriage to the late Bernell Bodden and they lived in their home on Birch Tree Hill Road, West Bay. She passed away in 2006 and he continued to live in their family home until his death.

Left to mourn his passing are : His daughter Cindy Owens and her family, sisters, Brendell Rivers, Audrey Bodden, Grace Percy and Glorine Carter, Brothers, Leonard Bodden and Tex Bodden, brothers-in-laws, Alister Carter and Donovan Percy, great granddaughter Nandi Ebanks and great great grandson Jahri Ebanks.

Many nieces and nephews and a host of other relatives and friends both in Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac.

May his soul rest in Peace and may Light Perpetual shine upon him.

Tribute to my loving Daddy

Daddy you are gone from our sight, but never our memories, gone from our touch but never our hearts.

Daddy, you will always be missed by all of us. Thanking God for giving me a daddy like you. Thank you for showing me kindness, respect and always showing love and to love the lord.

We will meet again for I know you loved and made Jesus your lord and savior.

Love you daddy from my heart. You will always be here living through me.

Rest now daddy you have earned your wings

Your one and only daughter

Cindy

TRIBUTE TO OUR BIG BROTHER TRACEY BODDEN
FROM YOUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS

As we reminisce on our childhood days though we were poor, we were raised in a loving Christian family. Although your passing has left us broken hearted, today we think of the many pleasant memories you left with us. We remember you as one of Cayman's great seamen. We remember your letters to Mama telling her how proud you were to assist in providing for us, your younger brothers and sisters. Though it was many, many years ago it seems like yesterday as we excitedly listened for the sound of the car horn tooting from a distance transporting our big brother home from the airport. Your face just lit up each time as you presented each of us with the lovely gifts you purchased from all the far away countries you visited.

We especially remember Mama praying every day that God would bring you home safely, she was so proud of you. You being the second eldest child and our big brother we each looked up to you, and on many occasions you were our protector. On special occasions Brendell remembers our school days and that you did not want to go to school most of the time and Mama would chastise you and it always left me very sad to see you cry.

Leonard can remember growing up playing dominos, marbels and guitar together, also cooking some good ole conch soup, Whilst Tex remembers days when you would take care of him and make sure he was fed and put him to bed, playing games taking him fishing, playing guitar and sang songs. Betty and Moonie also can remember you bringing home the lovely toys including the pretty dolls also and when you decided to become a Christian going to church with us made Mama and Daddy so happy. What stands out that Glorine will never forget was when one of her co-workers gave you a ride home one day from Town, she said you talked from Town straight to West Bay and when she told you who she was for, and that she worked with one of your sisters, you asked which one, when she said Glorine, your reply was, she is one of my smartest sisters you know.

For the past year or so we knew your health was failing but never thought you would be gone so soon. However this must have been God's plan to take you now in which we must be submissive.

We love you and will miss you.

Rest in peace Big Brother. Your Sisters and Brothers: Brendell, Leonard, Tex, Audrey, Grace and Glorine

I met Mr. Tracey in 1989 when I was living at his and Ms Bernell's home on Birch Tree Hill. I was pregnant at the time with my eldest child Nandi Ebanks who is their great-granddaughter.

I spent my entire pregnancy there and also gave birth during my stay at their home. I can honestly say I have never met a more gentle and humble human being.

I have known Mr Tracey for 33 years and our relationship has remained the same as when we first met. I don't have a memory of him raising his voice and his demeanor was that of love, patience and godliness.

I have a lot of fond memories of Mr. Tracey, too many to name but one thing is for sure, he has earned the respect and admiration of my entire family so much so that we all address him as Papa. I thank God for the honour and privilege of knowing this wonderful man and that we were able to care for him in his last days.

You are truly beloved by all and will be greatly missed.

Rest in Peace Mr. Tracey (Papa).

Love Sabina and family

I would like to say a few words about my dear papa Tracey. When I was younger, my mom and I moved to Germany when I was four. I don't have much memory of my time in Cayman before I left, but I remember being around papa. He was always sweet and kind to me. He would come to look for us often and always brought me toys or candies whenever he would visit. I remember he always had a smile on his face. After moving away, we would talk on the phone.

After a few years, we moved back to Cayman, and papa was so happy to see us again. He was one of the first people to welcome us back. I remember going to west bay primary, and papa spontaneously came over to our surprise because he wanted to drop me to school. He would ask if I'd eaten anything, and even though I said yes, he would still stop at the side store or gas station to buy something. In the evening, walking home from school, papa would be outside waiting for me because he wanted to drop me home. He was caring and devoted to the people he loved. It made me feel so special that even though my home was a short walk away, papa wanted to be there for me and with me any chance he could.

We had many beautiful moments with papa. He and my mom were so close. I love being with them and watching them tell jokes with one another sing together in his car or at his house. They would talk a lot about God and discuss Bible verses, and they would tell me stories of my mom's childhood and about my mama Burnell who had passed before I was born.

Later, as papa got older and wasn't able to drive anymore, I started high school, and I would sometimes take the school bus to birch tree hill so that I could visit him in the evenings. I wanted to make sure papa was ok, and I enjoyed seeing him. Papa told me so many stories about his past. I learnt that he was born in Cayman Brac, that he was friends with my mama Sulies brothers growing up, that he could play the guitar, and worked on the ship. He told me he had been to Germany and Africa working on the ships, and it was amazing to hear the stories.

My mom and I moved back to Germany a little over a year ago, and we would talk to papa on video calls. He was always interested in what I was doing, my activities, school life and the friends I've made here. We would make plans about what we would do once we visited. He even spoke about wanting to visit us here.

I am so shocked and sad to hear of papas passing. Papa, I love you so much, and I miss you so much. I am glad that we got to spend time together. You are an amazing man, and I know you are always watching over me.

Love Jahri

Thank you all for being with us today.

We wish to celebrate a man whose life has been dedicated to his family and God, a devoted husband, a wonderful father, a loving grandfather, great grandfather, great great grandfather and a respected and loved man by the community. What a truly extraordinary life filled with love Mr. Tracey Austin Bodden led. Today, I wish to share some words about the man who has been an integral part of my life.

To say that I am lucky to be one of his great grandchildren is an understatement. It is a blessing and an honour that I am truly grateful for and will be for the rest of my life. The relationship was that of a father and a daughter. It is a challenge to write today, to put into words the many things that I would like to say about him.

When I was growing up, Papa would tell me stories of his past being born on Cayman Brac, growing up with loving parents and siblings. I remember he was a man who dedicated his life to his wife and family. He was a devoted great grandfather throughout my whole life and the first example to me for what a good man was. The love and closeness we shared has been incomparable to anything else I've ever experienced.

He was there with love and adoration through all of my life's major milestones. From school times to hard times during the loss of my Mama Burnell, driving around Cayman singing gospel songs in his car together, to the birth of my child, to walking me down the aisle and giving me away at my wedding – an honour that was rightfully his as the one true father-figure of my life. Out of all the memories I share with him, my favourites are always simply sitting with him and talking about everything and nothing at the same time.

The greatest blessing, especially after losing Mama at an early age, was the fact that you were able to be there to witness me become a mother. I would never forget when Jahri was born and I was laying in the hospital. I looked to the left of me and there you were standing with a smile on his face, bouquet in one hand and a blue teddy-bear in the other. You came over and hugged me and looked at Jahri, letting me know how proud you were of me and that know Mama could see my son from where she rests. Just as you have been a major role and caregiver in my life, you have shown my son tremendous love.

After marriage, it was with a heavy heart parting with you as I moved away for a while. Though we kept great contact, it was always hard to not have you there with me at all times. Upon my return, it was evident that you were sickly and your body had grown weaker, but that your spirit remained strong. Our reunion as we saw each other again and embraced one another was as though no time had passed between us. I can remember it so vividly as you hugged me, calling me your baby.

Over the last few years, I started to assist Papa with his life and needs. The strong man that I leaned on now leaned on me. It is truly an honour of mine to have been with him and be able to care for him over the years.

I would like to extend a thank you to my mother and siblings for how you have assisted my Papa as I have had to move away again. I've spent the past few months speaking to Papa frequently over video-calls and he always expressed how amazing he felt being with you all, my family whom he loved as his own and who loved him in return.

Papa, I love and miss you dearly. I can't even explain the pain and the feelings surging through me. Getting that call that you had passed was the hardest thing ever. You are and will always be a major part of my life. I will take you in my heart always, and I am happy to know that you are now in a better place, watching over my family and I, reunited with Mama. You were always a beautiful, kind and humble God-fearing man. I take comfort in knowing that you have passed the last test given to man and you are with your Father in Heaven. As scripture says,

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24, KJV

RIP, my sweet, sweet Papa. Love Nandi





Graveside Service

Prayer Pastor Andrew Campbell
Hymn "Shall we gather at the River"
Committal Pastor Andrew Campbell
Hymns Congregation

"What a Friend we have in Jesus"
"How great Thou Art"
"I come to the garden alone"

Benediction Pastor Andrew Campbell

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder,
consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars; I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joys shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

I Come To The Garden Alone

I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses

Refrain: And He walks with me and He talks with me
And He tells me I am His own
And the Joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever know

He speaks and the sound of His voice,
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing

I'd stay in the garden with Him,
though the night around me be falling,
But He bids me go, through the voice of woe,
His voice to me is calling.

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there.

Shall We Gather At The River

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain: Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

On the bosom of the river,
Where the Saviour King we own
We shall meet and sorrow never
'Neath the glory of the throne

Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown.

Soon we'll reach the silver river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

Acknowledgement

The family of the late Tracey Boddan would like to extend our sincere thanks to all who have expressed their love, support and sympathetic kindness during our time of bereavement.

May God richly bless you all.