

Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of



Earl Clifton Ebanks

May 20, 1948 – February 19, 2022

**Wesleyan Holiness Church, North West Point Rd., West Bay,
Grand Cayman**

Date: Saturday, March 5, 2022

Time: 1:00pm

Officiating Ministers:

Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.

Pastor Phil Eckstein

Pastor Kim Evans

Pastor Convey King

Pianist/Organist:

Mrs. Reina Jefferson, Cert. Hon.

Interment at Boatswain Bay Cemetery

Order of Service

Opening Remarks	Pastor Phil Eckstein
Prayer	Pastor Phil Eckstein
Scripture Reading	Wayne Clarke
Hymn "Just A Little Talk with Jesus"	Congregation
Tributes:	
Wife, Step-Children & Family	Michelle Asadon
Son & Family.....	Pre-recorded Song
Siblings	Samuel Rose & Nicholas Johnson
Nieces & Nephews	Stefanie Ebanks
Tribute in Song.....	Pastor Alson Ebanks & Sisters
Rev. John & Betty Case	Garfield Powery
Mrs. Roselyn Ebanks.....	Reina Jefferson, Cert. Hon.
Capt. Owen Farrington, Cert. Hon.	Himself
Tribute in Song.....	WHC Men's Group
Trustees of WHC West Bay	Edgar Gibson
CI Seafarers Association	Denniston Tibbetts
(Ringing of the Seaman's Bell)	
Through The Years.....	Slide Show
Life Story of Earl C. Ebanks	Mario Ebanks
Sermon	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Closing Hymn "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder"	Congregation
Closing Prayer for the Family.....	Pastor Kim Evans
Benediction	Pastor Convey King
(Ringing of the Church Bell)	



Pallbearers

Cliff Ebanks
 Jabari Powery
 Edwardo Quiz

Pructoso Tutor
 Jerome Tutor
 Loyde Zapata

Honorary Pallbearers

Johnson Ebanks
 John Ebanks
 David Ebanks
 Jacob Woodrow Ebanks
 Shervin Ebanks
 Clayton Ebanks
 Cameron Ebanks
 Stephen Ebanks
 Luke Welds
 Otis Myles
 Lester Timothy
 Irvin Rivers
 Henry Sutton
 Carson Ebanks

Denton Hydes
 Denworth McLaughlin
 Omar Ebanks
 Benjamin Ebanks
 Elijah Ebanks
 Cristeto Tiempo
 Eusebio Tiempo
 Zosimo Tiempo
 Tommy Bodden
 Capt. Owen Farrington, Cert. Hon.
 Neil Godfrey
 Ivan Farrington
 Denniston Tibbetts
 Delano Bush
 Shane Ebanks

McTare Ebanks
 Wayne Clarke
 Steve Menzies
 Malachi Wilson
 Vinroy Wilson
 Eugene Hurlston
 Burton Schneider
 Garfield Powery
 Edgar Gibson
 Joe Groves
 Randy Blackman
 Winston Hayle
 John Jefferson Jr.
 Capt. Blodsit (Buddy) Ebanks

Ushers

Delano Bush
 McTare Ebanks
 Steve Menzies
 Malachi Wilson

Guest Book Attendant

Derrylee Hunter

Audio/Slideshow

Sherina Lloyd

Life Story of Earl C. Ebanks

Earl Clifton Ebanks was born in Boatswain Bay, West Bay on May 20, 1948 to Henry Stanley Ebanks and Pearla Adelle Ebanks. A couple years later in 1950 his father married Beulah Francis Ebanks and they had 8 children. His mother also had 4 other children and all grew up in Boatswain Bay, in humble beginnings.

As a toddler, Earl was raised by Mrs. Roselyn Ebanks whom he affectionately called "Aunt Memie". She loved, nurtured and cared for Earl as a son even after she had her firstborn. She also took Earl to have him christened at then Pilgrim Holiness. That same day, some of his cousin's (Aunt Edith's children) were also christened.

Earl attended Teacher Redley's School in Boatswain Bay and he left at a very young age. He spent most of his days at the home of his Uncle Carley Ebanks (Pearla's brother) where he would always receive caring advice, but in particular from his Aunt Veta who was concerned about his welfare and the need for him to attend school and she spent time with him in an effort to help him gain some basic education. Earl also enjoyed his time spent with his cousins, Laten, Lorna, Alson, Claudia, Francia, Marcia, and Neci and their relationship continued throughout their lifetime. Earl accompanied his Uncle Carley on fishing trips and they would sell the fish. He also accompanied his Grandpa Duxie when he went to South Sound to look for mangoes and also to sell fish.

As a young child, Earl enjoyed playing hide & seek, marbles, spinning gigs, flying kites, fishing, swimming in the sea and bathing in the rain. He attended Pilgrim Holiness.

Although he was nearly illiterate, as a young man Earl went to sea in order to make a living. At the age of 16, he made his first trip to Mosquito Cay for 3 months, turtling on Capt. Owen Farrington's sailing vessel named "Jeimson". He was under the care of Mr. Henry Bush. Earl was a Messman assisting the cook. He later returned to Mosquito Cay with Capt. Owen who taught him how to steer the ship, catch and clean turtles. He did this for 4 – 5 years. This was evident that although he didn't have a formal education, he was intelligent and very ambitious.

At the age of 21, he went to sea on the "M.V. Kirk Pride" and travelled to Miami, Tampa, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. He was an AB Deckhand for 10 years. When returning home on his last trip on Kirk Pride, and discharging cargo, a storm came in. The engine broke down and the ship drifted into shallow water which resulted in a hole being formed in the hull. The ship was eventually towed out to deeper water and anchored where it then sank.

Earl also worked for National Bulk Carriers and sailed on the "S.S. Cavala" and another named "M.V. Merco". He also sailed on "St. Lawrence" which was owned by Imperial Oil, a Canadian company and sailed to Canada, New York, Venezuela, and Aruba. He worked as an AB and his duties included steering the ship, painting and maintenance. The last boat he sailed on was owned by Mr. Bob Soto named "Soto Trader" which sailed to Miami and Tampa, Florida. Earl's seaman's career ended at age 39.

Earl returned home where he took up construction and worked for Mr. Tommy Bodden for 22 years building homes, commercial buildings and painting. He ventured out on his own after and did his own residential and commercial painting.

In 1988, Earl married Miria Bardales. They were married for 5 years. To this union was born a son, Cliff Eddingston Ebanks on November 4, 1989.

On September 15, 1995, Earl married Sofia Tiempo. He loved travelling to the Philippines with Sofia and was able to meet her family and experience their culture.

Earl retired at age 60. He was a provider, devoted husband, good father, grandfather, brother and uncle. He was very hardworking and could always be found fixing or building something. He developed an interest in repairing appliances such as stoves, refrigerators and washing machines. On Saturday's he would drive to George Town with Sofia to the Farmer's Market to sell plants and some fruits and vegetables all grown in their own garden.

He had a great love for the ocean and enjoyed fishing with his friends, Gordon, Lassie, Noreen, Buddy and especially his brother-in-law, Shervin Ebanks. They would always have a fishing story to tell and always joked with the other fishermen who wanted to know where their secret fishing spots could be found. Shervin always used to tease him about eating every time they went fishing and especially how Earl would begin eating from the moment they launched the boat. Earl loved to eat bun and cheese on his fishing trips. He would joke and tell Shervin the reason he would eat from early was to help him eat his food later that night. It amazed us (especially Shervin's sons, Clayton and Cameron) on how they knew so much of the ocean, telling the weather, knowing when the moon was just right and if it was a good or a bad time to fish, their sense of direction, changes in the wind, names of fish and on and on. Their adventures continued when the time came to search for sprats. Earl would only tell Shervin where the sprats could be found unless he went along with him to catch them. It was never a dull moment between them.

Earl was an active member of Wesleyan Holiness Church (WHC) and was a Christian. He was a member of the WHC Men's Group and Trustees of WHC West Bay. He was also in charge of ringing the church bell for Sunday services. He assisted with the maintenance of the church and could always be depended on to do any painting, decorating for special seasons or occasions, amongst many other things. A great example of his painting skills is the ceiling inside Wesleyan Holiness Church.

Earl was diagnosed with stage 4, Small Cell Lung Carcinoma in April 2020. He began treatment at Health City Cayman Islands and in October 2020 he travelled to Florida to receive further treatment. He was accompanied by his niece Freda Ebanks. They remained overseas for 2 months. Later on in May 2021, Earl travelled again to Florida to continue treatment and was accompanied by his step-daughter, Genna Powery. They also spent another 2 months overseas. Earl always displayed a positive mind set, strength, bravery and never complained. His doctors were always amazed and pleased with the way he handled his treatments and kept his trust and faith in God.

Earl was baptized in January 2021 by Rev. John Case, in the presence of Bro. Delano Bush, Bro. Garfield Powery, Bro. Ed Gibson, Bro. Shane Ebanks and Bro. Malachi Wilson.

Sadly, in December 2021, Earl's health condition began to decline. He passed peacefully into God's kingdom on February 19, 2022, leaving many relatives and friends to mourn his passing.

Earl was preceeded in death by his Grandparents Charles & Lillian Orrett, Duxie & Maud Ebanks. His parents, Henry Stanley and Pearla Adelle. His brothers, William Stanley ("Stano") and Henry Sidney.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his Wife Sofia; Son, Cliff; Grandchildren, Tyriah, Cliff Earl and Arya; Step-Children, Edwardo, Genna, Pructoso, Nelson, Gilbert, Gerry and Elizabeth; Daughter-In-Law, Taneisha; Step-Grandchildren; Rexford, Jerome, Jabari, Britney and Elly; Step- Great Grandchild; Emma; Sisters, Leone, Lillis, Charlene, Marilyn, Eilene and Oleta; Brothers, Johnson, John, David and Jacob Woodrow; Brothers-In-Law; Irvin, Shervin, Henry, Cristeto, Eusebio and Zosimo; Sisters-In-Law, Leonarda, Gregoria and Felicisima; Nieces, Freda, Leanna, Stefanie, Krista, Denise, Jasmine, Darla, Debbie, Juliette and Jasarah; Nephews, Clayton, Otis, Stephen, Luke, Cameron, Denworth, Omar, Benjamin and Elijah; Grandnieces, Deandra, Allaya, Hayleigh, Amiah, Jadi and Jhene; Grandnephews, Nathan, Dreux and Cameron Jr. ("CJ") and a host of other relatives and close friends.

Until we meet again, may the soul of Earl Clifton Ebanks rest in eternal peace and may God's perpetual light shine upon him.

Graveside Service

Opening Remarks and Prayer	Pastor Phil Eckstein
Scripture Reading	Pastor Phil Eckstein
Family Floral Tributes	
CommittalPastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Hymn	Congregation
	“What A Friend We have in Jesus”
	“When We All Get To Heaven”
	“In The Sweet By and By”
Benediction	Pastor Convey King

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.

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.

In the Sweet By and By

There's a land that is fairer than day,
And by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way
To prepare us a dwelling place there.

Refrain: In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by and by,

We shall meet on that beautiful shore.
We shall sing on that beautiful shore
The melodious songs of the blessed;
And our spirits shall sorrow no more,

Not a sigh for the blessing of rest.
To our bountiful Father above,
We will offer our tribute of praise
For the glorious gift of His love
And the blessings that hallow our days.

Acknowledgement

We the family of the late Earl Clifton Ebanks would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all relatives and friends for your sympathy, love, support, and kindness that has been shared during this difficult time.

Special thanks to Dr. Vineetha Binoy and staff of Health City Cayman Islands, Dr. Eduardo Fernandez and staff of GenesisCare, Plantation, FL and the staff of Jasmine (formerly Cayman HospiceCare) and all who may have visited, called, sent messages and lifted us in prayer.

May God continue to bless you all.