

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

For The Life Of



George F. Manderson Sr. Cert. Hon, BEM

March 21, 1941 – January 18, 2022

CHURCH OF GOD CHAPEL
22 Academy Way Walkers Rd
George Town, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

Saturday, February 5, 2022
Viewing 12:00pm – 12:45pm
Service at 1:00pm

Officiating Minister
Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.

Pianist & Violinist
Mrs. Hycinth Rose & Mr. Samuel Rose

Interment to follow at Prospect Cemetery

Order of Service

Opening Remarks & Words of Comfort	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Opening Prayer	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Hymn "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"	Congregation
Scripture Reading – (Psalms 23)Ms. Diane Montoya
Tribute from Spouse (Blanca Manderson).....	Mr. Arden McLean
Song "They don't have many songs about fathers"	Pre-recorded
Tribute from Children (Dessie, George Jr, Lucie & Franklin Manderson & daughter-in-law Paula R. Manderson)	Mr. Stanley Scott
Tribute from Grandchildren (Onassia, George III, Daron, Ophelia, Halle & Makayla)	Ms. Onassia Miller
Tribute from Siblings (Burke Manderson, Rudolph Manderson, Alan Manderson, Virginia Hydes, & Emily McLaughlin)	Ms. Jean Manderson
Tribute from W. Norman Bodden, OBE	Mr. Franz Manderson, MBE, , Cert. Hon.
Tribute from the Civil Service	Mr. Franz Manderson
Tribute from Seafarers.....	Mr. Denniston Tibbetts
Tribute from Mr. George McCarthy, OBE.....	Mrs. Alliyah McCarthy
Obituary	Mr. Kearney Gomez, MBE
Sermon	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Closing Hymn - "I Surrender All"	Congregation
Closing Prayer & Benediction	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.

Pallbearers

Mr. Ray Hydes
Mr. Roger Manderson
Mr. Elvis Bush

Mr. James Ebanks
Mr. Michael Bodden
Mr. Barry Eden

Honorary Pallbearers

Mr. Patrick Bodden
Mr. Junior Hydes

Mr. Edward Manderson
Mr. William Medina

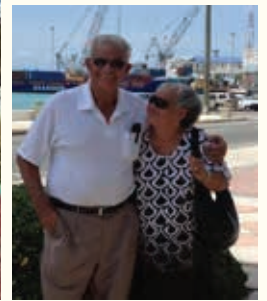
Mr. Denny Hydes
Mr. Tommy Wood

Ushers

Ms. Brittny Nelson
Ms. Kelcey Huggins
Ms. Karen Mclaughlin
Mr. Glen Berry

Guest Book Attendant

Ms. Sharon Hydes
Ms. Shana Manderson



Obituary

Today, we are gathered here to pay our last respect to a beloved man to many. George Franklin Manderson Sr. was born on the 21st March 1941 to Ena Caroline Bodden and Edison Manderson in George Town, Grand Cayman. He was raised in the small community of North Church Street in the area known as White Hall. His childhood days were rewarding, with all the typical fun things that young boys loved to do, but George's greatest desire each day outside of school hours was to go fishing, preferably with his father. Most trips would extend along the western side of Grand Cayman, where he was taught how to locate the best fishing areas using markers on land and the colour of the water. There was no denying it, his love for the ocean emanated from those days. On Sundays, he would accompany his mother to church and Sunday school at the old chapel on the waterfront in George Town. He grew up in Cayman in a time that did not have the luxuries of modern materialism we can boast of today, but it gave him a deeper appreciation and gratitude for a good life that he could enjoy. To many, George was the epitome of a genuinely humble and God-fearing man.

He completed his primary education at the George Town Primary School and went on to work for Lacs Airlines as an airline refueler for two years. Like most young Caymanian men back in the 50s, at the tender age of 17, he left these shores but most of all, his mother, whom he was very close to, to pursue a career in maritime in 1958. George quickly learned to master the skill of time management, problem-solving, and decision-making under both calm and critical conditions. And by the age of 19, he was shouldering the responsibility of supervising as much as 20 other seamen. George sailed on numerous ships (the Petro Sea 1958-1959, the Neptune 1960-1961, the Petro Lean 1962-1963, and the Commonwealth 1964-1968) and excelled in various posts and was able to visit multiple ports of call around the world, allowing him to learn about other countries and their culture. Yet, during his days at sea, George mainly treasured the many friendships he formed along the way.

In 1960, while on vacation from sea, George met and fell in love with Blanca Yolanda Conde Connolly, who had recently arrived in Cayman to spend time with her Grandmother in South Sound. They would eventually elope in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1963 and move to Puerto Rico, where George was employed. While residing there, they welcomed their first two children, Dessie and George Jr. Then, in February of 1968, he closed that chapter in life as a seafarer and relocated his young family back to Grand Cayman to their new home off Captain Osmond Place, Crewe Road. There, George and Blanca would be blessed with three more children, Lucie, Franklin, and their last, Annie-Mae, who died at four months of age in 1975. He was a kind, loving and caring father who raised his children with rules and structure from his upbringing and maritime experience. One such example was when he traveled from Grand Cayman to Honduras on a cargo ship for a family summer vacation to meet Blanca's family so that their children could sample life at sea. George's fatherly traits also extended to nieces Dorothy Cruz and Eunice Bush after the death of his sister Leonie Godfrey. But if you ask any family member, friend, or co-worker about George, they will all have the same answer; that he was always available to do something to make your day better.

On his return to Cayman from sea, George joined the Public Works Department as a carpenter and rose swiftly to a carpenter foreman responsible for the maintenance unit. Within a few years, he was promoted to supervisor, and by 1981, he became a Senior Superintendent of Building overseeing a team of 70 workers. By the turn of the 1990s, George had become a highly respected figure within government. He occupied the post of Works Manager at PWD, responsible for maintaining government buildings, working in that capacity until his retirement in 1998. Through those 30 years of service with the government, he received a Cayman Islands Certificate and Badge of Honour (Cert. Hon) in 1985 and, in 1992, was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM).

George's dedication to God, which was evident in the way that he lived and the way he interacted with people, began when he was baptized in the mid-70s as he became a member of what we know today as the Agape Family Worship Center (formerly Church on Hospital Rd.). Over the next four decades, his journey in faith provided opportunities to share the word of God through prayer, fellowship, and ministry here on the island and abroad. And for a short but fruitful period, he co-pastored the church with the late Bro. Tommy Adams and Bro. Richard Graham-Taylor. Despite Richard having to return home to Europe, they remained closely connected despite the distance and difference in time zones through fellowship and prayer over the phone. Although George continued to fellowship at Agape, his focus shifted to encouraging prayer at work, and he became instrumental in forming prayer groups within the government workplace in the early 1990s. During that time, he became very close friends with Mr. George McCarthy, the Government financial secretary. Over the years, their relationship grew into a strong, Christian, brotherly bond. The two would meet regularly for lunch, praying together, a tradition that continued until George fell ill. For over 30 years, they remained close friends and prayer partners.

After retirement from the workforce, he continued his march for the Lord through those prayer groups, home worship, and counselling, and portraying daily the characteristics of a true disciple by touching the lives of many. Unfortunately, due to health concerns since the Covid-19 outbreak, George could not attend church but kept loyal to the Lord by worshipping at home with his wife.

Since retiring 24 years ago, George was blessed with the time to do the things he loved most. In addition to his Christian walk, he began to enjoy more time on the ocean, where he often fished with his son Junior. As Junior became busy with his business, George took turns fishing with his brother-in-law Edmund Hydes, his cousin Patrick Bodden and his sons, and nearby friend Sam Banks. George took delight in his hauls of fresh fish and shared it equally with family and friends. Often he would prepare, for his family, delicious rundowns or fry fish & fritter meals with his catch of the day. George filled each day with activities but still found the time for his children, grandchildren and great-grandchild, friends, other family members, and past co-workers, who regularly called or visited him.

Following a brief illness in the hospital, on the 18th January 2022, George, at the age of 80 years old, left this earthly world to join his heavenly father. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ena and Edison, siblings Leonie Godfrey, Gladiston Manderson, Lincoln Manderson & Geraldine Brown, and daughter Annie-Mae. Left to mourn his passing are his wife Blanca, children Dessie, George Jr, Lucie, and Franklin, daughter-in-law Paula, grandchildren Onassia, George III, Daron, Ophelia, Halle, and Makayla, Grandson-in-law Jason Ebanks, great-grandchild Adrian, siblings Burke, Rudolph, Allan, Virginia Hydes, and Emily Mclaughlin, special cousin W. Norman Bodden, and special nieces Dorothy and Eunice and a host of family and friends.

Special thanks to the staff at the George Town Hospital and Health City.

George, you were too well-loved ever to be forgotten.

May your soul rest in peace.

To a very Special Husband, George Manderson Sr. (Papie): -

When God was making husbands as far as I can see, he made a special soul mate for me. A perfect gentleman, compassionate and kind, with more love and affection than I could ever wish to find.

God blessed you, my dear husband, with a heart of solid gold who gave me wonderful memories that my heart shall forever hold. I will miss you dearly as you were someone I could always talk to and laugh with for hours until tears ran down my face. Thank you for your endless love that you showered me with each day.

Your Christian faith was an inspiration to me and I will especially treasure our daily prayer time together. But you're with your heavenly father now and I know that when we meet again, I won't have to cry anymore.

Today, deep in my heart there's a memory kept, a special husband I will never forget.

Your loving wife Blanca

Pa, you were very special to me
It breaks my heart to lose you
You never looked for praises
You were never one to boast
Your wants were very few
You lived quietly and patiently for your family
You were a man of peace honor and dignity
We are so proud of who you were.

As I get older, I realize more and more how blessed I have always been to have an amazing dad like you. I would not trade your love, guidance, understanding and support for anything. Thank you Pa for giving me the kind of love that made all the difference in my life.

Pa, I already miss you.

I miss:

- our telephone messages in the mornings and that unique ringtone that sometimes woke me up before my alarm did.
 - hearing your voice
 - you asking me what's the latest news
 - your weather updates
 - you saying "Wonderful"
"God Bless you"
"MaeO, Listen to Pa"
and "Alright Mae I Love You"

Pa, I still say to you I Love You Pa each day, only now there is no reply.

I am hurt but I know you will not want me to be sad forever as this is a part of life journey.

I am thankful to have had you in my life for so many years.

I will cherish the memories and things you taught me.

Your Love will still be there to guide us each day.

I love you always and I appreciate you.

Your daughter Dessie Mae

Pa, there are no words to express what you meant to me. Already, I miss being in your presence, receiving your hugs, and contributing to our chats over the phone at 7 o'clock each night. Those calls always ended with words of encouragement that prepared me for the next day. But more than anything, I miss hearing you say "love you Junior and tell Paula, Georgie, and Halle that Pa love them too" at the end of each conversation.

Though I struggle with accepting that you have parted and gone to your new home in heaven, I am comforted by knowing that you were ready for this journey and that your memories will live on because you were so loved.

I will continue to cherish the amazing father/son relationship that we shared. You were always a Dad first, but also the best friend, teacher, and fishing partner ever. Ultimately, you helped to shape the man that I am today as I watched you fulfill your many roles with such integrity. I thank God that I had the opportunity to tell you how great of a father you were before you passed. I love you and I am so proud of the special person that you were. Life will never be the same now that you're gone. May your soul rest in perfect peace.

Your son George Jr.

Pape,

I will always remember: -

- the strength in your spirit
- the kindness in your smile
- and the wisdom in your words

Thank you for being a faithful father.

You were devoted to your family and dedicated every day to doing what's best for us.

You cared for us and was committed to showing us about hard work and leadership and about love, God's love that goes deeper than anyone can know.

You were an honorable role model and was loved and appreciated by us.

Psalms 78.72:

So, he shepherded them according to the integrity of this heart and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

I love you always,

Your Daughter Lucie

My Father which I called Pap was a Father
With good parental standards and also like a best friend.
Pap you were loving, helpfull, caring, kind and always
There when I needed guidance, encouragement
And answers to make the right decisions.
You always encouraged me to do what is right and
To believe in God and am proud of you for your Christian
belief and from as a young child you encoraged me to do the same.
Pap, I love u and I miss you and someday I hope to
See you again in heaven.

Your son Franklin

You welcomed me into your family over 30 years ago
Such a wonderful person, whom I was blessed to know
When I heard the news, I couldn't hold back the tears
You were so supportive throughout the years
A true role model to everyone who met you
Life won't be the same, but we'll get through
So many memories you have left behind
To describe how I feel, words I cannot find
May your soul rest in peace.

From your Daughter-in-law, Paula

Tribute from Grandchildren

From Georgie:

I remember the many fishing trips that you and Dad took Daron and I on. To this day, those remain some of my favourite memories as well as the great advice I received from you throughout the years, particularly through scriptures such as John 3:16. Unfortunately, I never had the opportunity to have you as a passenger on one of my flights. Still, I will always treasure the time we spent together and the memories we made.

From Halle:

It can be said that the most important male figures next to a girl's father and brother are her grandfathers. Luckily for me, I got you for one. All my life I have been sure of one thing: besides Dad and Georgie, I could also count on you as a protector. You always seemed to know just what to say and what scripture to quote no matter the situation. I know one day we will be able to share in each other's company again. Until that day, I am content knowing that you are looking out for me from up there and that I have you as one of my guardian angels.

From Daron:

Pa, thank you for being the lighthouse of our family. You were a true symbol of hope and a beacon of direction. You lived a life of faith, compassion and understanding, but most of all, you lived a life of love.

I will always admire the strength that you showed through the toughest of times, whilst still spreading an abundant amount of love to our family with a smile on your face.

During our last conversation, you expressed to me how important it was to live a life of love and empathy, and to enjoy every moment with those who mean most. I promise to live by this message.

I wish I could thank you one more time for being the role model that you were. You've shown me what it is to be a son, father, grandfather and husband, but most of all, you've shown me how to love.

I love you, my sweet Pa. Until we meet again...

To Pa,

You were and will always be a wonderful disciple of God. You've taught me a lot of things over the years but the one thing I will never forget that you always taught me, is to love the lord, to follow him, to obey him, to read his word. You told me "the best thing in this life is to live for the lord, that way I'll never go wrong." You've encouraged me to dig deeper into this Christian journey, to be a better Christian, to have a close relationship with God, like you did. You were a light and your light still shines bright today, more now than ever. We use to read our favorite psalms together, mines.. psalms 23 and yours.. psalms 91, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty"

Just as the scripture states, You were a humble man of God, you relied on God in times of difficulties and dangers, you worshiped him in the good and the bad, you lived a life of constant communication with God, you abided in him and now you've found your resting place in Gods divine care. For this, I will find joy because you're in his protection, waiting on his coming.

-I love you
"Makay"

Pa

I'm often not at a loss for words but there's a first time for everything. Born into the light that was your love and your entire being, I never thought about what a life without you would look like. It's been over two weeks and my world doesn't feel as bright. I often describe my son, as being the light of my life and the day he was born as one filled with pure love and breathtaking. Ironically, your death took my breath away in a different way but also filled with pure love. There are few things that pass the test of time, love being one of them. I am privileged to have had 32 years of my life blessed with your love in the way you spoke to me, spoke about me, hugged me, counseled me, and without judgement and reservation wholeheartedly supported everything I did. I am privileged to be shaped by your value system, beliefs and morals and nothing about who I am today would exist without you.

Pa, the memories are endless, whether it was taking me to go see the lizards (before I myself could walk), boat trips, you learning to text so we could be in touch while I went off to university, our talks when you picked me up from or took me to the airport, or just laying in the hammock to talk about life..... the time we spent will never feel like enough but I will cherish those memories for a lifetime and then some.

It was a privilege to live a few steps from your house for 14 years. It was a privilege to live a carefree life because I knew I was covered by your daily prayers but most of all it was a privilege to be able to share you with my son. We call you Pa but in reality there was no difference to us between grandfather and father. You loved us as your own.

Our last moment together I remember watching the smile on your face as you watched Adrian write his name on one of the index cards you always kept in your top pocket. Watching your sheer amazement and pride whenever the two of you were together were some of the best memories I will have.

Your death has been heartbreaking but even in your death the beauty of who you were as a person continues to shine through. Every comment or memory of you always mentioned one of 2 characteristics, humble or kind.

How do you pay tribute to a man who put everyone and everything before himself? How do you pay tribute to a man who left a piece of his heart with everyone he encountered.... We live as he lived, we smile, we treat each other with respect and most of all we should make this life feel a little more like heaven on earth. In doing this he lives on through each of us and we will continue to make the world a better place just like he did.

This is not good bye. This is a thank you. Thank you for being my grandpa. Thank you for being you. I will love you for a lifetime and then some. Rest In Peace you beautiful soul. We will miss you. - **Onassia and Adrian**

Pa you were everything that I imagined a father figure would be. You never treated me any different than your own kids and I wouldn't have accomplished anything in life without the support you give me and to my mommy. I am forever grateful for all of your values you shared with me and the opportunities given to me and for giving me the best childhood possible. **From Ophi:**

Tribute to Brother George Manderson, Sr.
by
George A. McCarthy

Our Journey of Fellowship, Brotherhood & Friendship

Beginning of Fellowship, Brotherhood, and Friendship:

Our friendship began in May of 1992 when Mr. George Manderson came to my office to meet with me. Mr. Manderson was one of the highly respected managers within the Public Works Department; hence, while I could not have anticipated the reason for his visit, I knew it had to be important. When he entered my office, I found it very curious that he had a Bible in his hand. He inquired as to how I was coping in my newly appointed position as Financial Secretary. The exchange which ensued included much words of encouragement including a prayer. Our meeting was reasonably brief as he was not one of those persons who believed in wasting either his or another person's time. At the end of our meeting, we exchanged numbers. Upon making his exit he paused and mentioned that the LORD had placed on his heart the need for a Prayer Group to be formed within the Government Administration Building. Out of politeness, I endorsed his suggestion. I also indicated that I would be willing to be a part of the Group. This commitment was more out of politeness and respect, rather than a likely total commitment.

Little did I know that Brother George was not a man to utter words especially about God without action! Much to my surprise, the following week I received an invitation to attend a prayer group meeting that would be led by Brother George in the East Conference Room of the Government Administration Building. I attended the meeting and it proved to be one of the most uplifting and inspiring spiritual experiences of my life. After the meeting Brother George followed up with me to establish two things: 1) that the Bible Study would be a weekly event and 2) that he fully intended and expected me to accept the mantle of leadership in guiding the Bible study. Given what we all know about Brother George's determination you can guess that he achieved the intended goal on both fronts! From then on every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. became our time of worship and God gave us both the gift of becoming honest and caring prayer partners. For 30 years we kept a code of conduct that allowed us to go deeper in sharing our lives as a pathway to spiritual growth. The phrase "keep this confidential" was completely unnecessary in our relationship.

Recent Events: -

Tuesday, 14th December 2021, will forever be etched in my mind as the last time Brother George and I would ever meet for lunch and fellowship at our usual venue – the George Town Yacht Club. Borne of many years of lunch meetings our routine was so settled that the servers only asked for our orders out of courtesy. Over our standard fare of grilled snapper, steamed vegetables, fried plantains, along with "little johnny-cakes," we shared matters which the Holy Spirit placed on our hearts to pray about. The prayer-needs were all encompassing, and we trusted each other implicitly. We talked and prayed about family situations, friends, community issues, prospective opportunities to share the Gospel and, importantly, for God to be merciful in granting wisdom to our government in the discharge of their leadership responsibilities. Tuesday, December 14th was no different from any of our other fellowship times and in keeping with the unpredictability of life I had no reason to believe that this day would be the last time I would have the chance to meet with, talk to and pray with my friend.

Therefore, I was shocked when on Monday, 10th January I received a call from Brother George informing me that he had been admitted to Health City as an inpatient. I was able to visit him on Tuesday, 11th January. However, as is the nature of sickness there were days when he felt better than others. Even with the ups and downs that came with his treatment Brother George remained in my mind a pillar of strength and even after receiving a call on Tuesday the following week (18th January), where he told me "Brother George, I am feeling very weak - in fact, not so good," I tried my best to remain calm and to believe that all he needed was more rest.

On Wednesday (19th January) I woke up early with the intention of visiting Brother George in the hospital. Just as I was about to leave home, I checked my telephone for messages. One which I found read, "good morning Mr. McCarthy, just want to let you know, that regrettably, my Dad passed last night." This message was from George Jr. For the rest of that day, it was difficult to function with any normalcy. It was like having a bad dream. The sense of unease was alleviated the following day as, while reflecting on Brother George's unanticipated passing, the thought suddenly emerged in my mind that I need not "...sorrow as others who have no hope," (1st Thessalonians 4:13). Our years of Christian fellowship and brotherhood reminded me of my absolute certainty as Brother George left this world he transitioned into the very presence of God. He went home to be with his Lord and Savior – Christ Jesus. As children of God, we are given the assurance that, "...to be absent from the body [is] to be present with the Lord," (2nd Corinthians 5:8).

The Way Forward: –

The continuing earthly-life-journey of my Friend, Confidant, Prayer-Partner, and Brother-in-Christ has now ended. He is now at his well-earned eternal rest in the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Although he and I have been men of faith and having full knowledge that Eternity with Christ Jesus is the greatest of reality to be experienced, there will always be moments when I will greatly miss his presence. While my earthly life continues, I will console myself with the memory of our deep unbroken friendship which we have shared for the past three decades.

Taking an unspoken cue from Brother George, I will always be mindful not to mourn as those who have no hope. Most importantly, the passing of my Brother will be a reminder to me as to the uncertainty of life and that we should always be prepared for our Eternal calling. Equally, I will also be reminded of the need to continue the work which we have started together. There is still much work to be done in advancing the Kingdom of Christ Jesus. Brother George answered that call in May of 1992, and I know that because of his obedience and commitment to discipleship when he left this world he heard the words, "well done my good and faithful servant."

Finally, while expressing deepest condolences from Alliyah, myself and our family, I would like to give assurance to Sister Blanca and her family that we will always be available to give support to her and her family as they mourn the loss of a Husband, Father, Grand Father, and Great-Grand-Father. This is to ensure that the connections formed by way of the unbroken friendship between our two families will continue unbroken as we continue our journey through this earthly life.

May the perpetual light of Christ Jesus continue to shine upon the memory of my Brother in Christ, and may his soul forever be at rest in the Arms of Christ Jesus, our Lord, Savior, and soon coming King. Rest in peace my brother, until we meet again!!!

It is with a heavy and grief-stricken heart that I write this Tribute to my first-cousin George. George and I were both born and raised on North Church Street in the area known as White Hall.

And in spite of the six-year difference in our ages we were raised as brothers and all through life we preserved and maintained that close connection. In our later years we didn't see each other every day but almost every Saturday morning we would telephone each other to get caught up and discuss our families and how they were doing.

George was an honourable, decent, God-fearing family man who was never reluctant to tell you about his strong Christian faith and offer a sincere prayer in your favour. George lived a simple life. Keeping up with the Joneses was not his priority but living according to the Word of God was his goal and what he practiced. His life was an inspiration to all who knew him. George's passing was a shock to my entire family and me but we are comforted to know that he is with the God whom he loved and served until the very end. His soul rests in peace.

W. Norman Bodden, OBE

"What a loss" was the words that kept coming to my mind upon being informed of the passing of my dear Uncle George, as I lovingly referred to him! What a loss!

My mind then scanned the canvas of the life of the man I knew! What an exemplary life of humility. A man of infinite faith and loyalty to his God! A true prayer warrior and a depth of walking in the light! He knew his time to depart this earth would come one day and often said without a doubt or quiver that he was absolutely ready.

Over the years I grew very close to Uncle George who taught me and my sons, Michael and Jason, everything we know about fishing; one of his great passions! We spent a tremendous amount of time fishing together and the hallmark of every trip was his prayer when leaving the dock. We loved him dearly, admired and respected him highly!

My son Jason uniquely remembers him shaking his hand at his high school graduation and saying; "let me be the first to congratulate you and call you Captain Jason Bodden" as he knew of Jason's aspiring passion to pursue a career in maritime.

I mourn his passing but celebrate his victory as he could certainly claim the words of Paul in the Bible; 2nd Timothy 4:7 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith". What a triumph when we have finished our walk on this earth to have the Master of the Universe, the King of kings say, "well done my good and faithful servant great is your reward"!

He will be truly missed by so many who had the distinct privilege of knowing the man we knew as Uncle George! What a loss for us all, but a victory for him!

May his soul rest in peace in the loving arms of his Savior which he served faithfully.

Patrick Norman Bodden

Tribute from Gordon Smith

To my beloved friend and former boss, Mr. George Manderson Sr., I just want to say how much I appreciated you. Not only were you like a father figure to me, you were also one of my best customers that I delivered fish to often to share with your whole family. I appreciate that you continued to keep in contact with me, always updating me on the weather and praying with me in the moment. During our calls you would also tell me that your family appreciates me, saying "Gordon, thank you very much for the beautiful snappers." I send the Manderson family my deepest condolences. May God continue to bless you all throughout this time of grief.

Some Thoughts from PWD Colleagues

As we journey through life, we meet many people of all types. Some we would prefer not to have met, some are just okay and a very few are absolute gems. George Manderson was an absolute gem in the eyes of many, and none more so than those who had the privilege to interact with him five days a week as we went about serving the public and trying to make a living for our families. Having him as a co-worker was a blessing in itself.

Throughout his long career at the Public Works Department, Mr. Manderson was an iconic personality. His presence and the way he went about his life were an example and an inspiration to us as to how we should live ours. He was humble, caring, dependable, hardworking . . . we could go on and on. And the cover of that volume of good characteristics was the fact that he was clearly a genuine man of God.

Mavis Hennings recalls how "he always gave me hope. He would stop by my desk in the morning and offer a soft, quiet prayer that always lifted me up".

Jemmy McCoy reflects "From the time I first met George many years ago, we became friends, and that bond of friendship has remained until this day. Not only were we co-workers and friends but, but also fishing partners. George, I will always remember you, especially the day we caught the "big wahoo". Farewell my friend. May your soul Rest in Peace".

Jemmy also shared with me that they almost had another big one but just as George was about to gaff him, he got away. Many a fisherman would have had something to say that they wouldn't repeat around others. Not George; he simply turned to Jemmy and said "That one wasn't for us".

Crosby Solomon says "I met Mr. Manderson in 1982 when I joined PWD. In speaking to him, I could hear that he was a believer and loved God. He always walked around the office in the morning when he arrived greeting everyone. If someone was not feeling well, he would always offer a word of prayer. I will always remember one afternoon when I was having a terrible headache and he asked if I was okay. I explained to him that my head was hurting and he said he would like to say a word of prayer for me. He placed his hand on my forehead and started praying. While he was praying, I could just feel the pain going away. I will never forget that day and still share my experience with others. Mr. Manderson was a dedicated and reliable family man. May his soul rest in eternal peace".

"I've known Mr. Manderson for 42 years" says Tommy Wood. "He was a mentor to me and always gave me good advice. He would always ask me how Public Works was doing. He never talked 'politics'; he believed in fairness and loved to see things done right. We can all say that Jesus gave him to us and he took him away. My condolences to the Manderson family".

Max Jones recalls "I have many wonderful, warm memories of George Manderson Snr. Probably my strongest is the time when I was promoted to Director PWD and naturally was feeling quite a bit of pressure with the added responsibility of the new role. I'm sure George sensed this, as he would come into my office early each morning to check on how I was doing. He would always have words of encouragement and of course a prayer to support me in the new job. George was such a caring person and always found time to offer words of encouragement and prayer for so many people. I worked closely with George from when I arrived at PWD in 1982 until his retirement. Throughout that time, George consistently demonstrated that he was quite simply the most reliable, dedicated, honest and conscientious employee possible. Thankyou George for all the support you gave me personally and for all you did for PWD, the Government and the people of the Cayman Islands. Godspeed to your next destination - I think we all know exactly where you're headed!!!"

As for me personally, in addition to the characteristics that have been mentioned, I must say how much I admired his demeanor – he was always calm and confident. No matter the situation that we were dealing with, he was never rattled, anxious or intolerant to others. He was ever ready and willing to marshal whoever and whatever he needed to face the storm. The emotions that he emitted were largely absorbed by those under his command.

And I must add that the way Mr. Manderson lived his life and conducted himself cast a light of integrity and honesty over those around him. We were all in a way like children who didn't want Daddy to see or hear anything wrong about us. And that was because we knew how it would make him feel and we simply didn't want to disappoint him. We could also expect that he would let us know how he felt, not in a loud and abusive way but quietly and piercingly so we would never forget it.

Looking back at our years together, I can really appreciate, perhaps even more than I did as young 30 year old heading up a department of 125 people, that Mr. Manderson was like a huge stabilising keel on Public Works. He kept us upright and resilient in whatever we faced. He was a true and great leader. I was blessed to have had the opportunity to serve with him. I was even more blessed by the respect we shared for each other and prayers that he so generously offered up for my family and I.

On behalf of all of us who had the privilege to share our lives with Mr. Manderson, we offer our deepest condolences to Mrs. Blanca and all of his family. May his legacy live on.

Donnie



CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

**TRIBUTE on Behalf of the Cayman Islands Government
MR GEORGE MANDERSON SR, CERT HON
DEPUTY GOVERNOR FRANZ MANDERSON
SATURDAY, 5th FEBRUARY 2022**

As the Deputy Governor and Head of the Civil Service, I have the honour to convey, on behalf of the Cayman Islands Government, a Tribute to a distinguished and humble gentleman.

GEORGE FRANKLIN MANDERSON, SR joined the Cayman Islands Government on 1st April 1968 as a Carpenter Foreman and Building Maintenance Supervisor with the Public Works Department.

On 11th November 1976, he was promoted to the post of Superintendent of Buildings with the Public Works Department. He was again promoted on 12th May 1981, to the post of Senior Building Superintendent with the Public Works Department.

In 1985, Mr Manderson was awarded the Cayman Islands Certificate and Badge of Honour, which was attributed to his strong commitment and dedication to his role with the Public Works Department.

I convey an extract from a report conveyed on 24th July 1989 by a former Chief Engineer of the Public Works Department about this fine gentleman:

“Mr Manderson epitomises the model employee and public servant. He is honest, hardworking and blessed with an inordinate amount of patience. He has by hard work and eagerness to learn, expanded himself to keep abreast of the growth in scope and sophistication of his responsibilities. I have long considered him to be the Department’s least expendable officer”.

Mr Manderson retired from the Public Works Department of the Cayman Islands Government on 30th September 1998.

He was undoubtedly a career Civil Servant and his entire career with the Cayman Islands Government, which spanned 30+ years, was with the Public Works Department.

We must also recognise Mr Manderson for his wisdom in forming and leading a Prayer Group in the old Government Administration Building, known as the Glass House after his retirement from the public service. The weekly Prayer Meetings and Bible Studies were attended by many, including former Chief Secretaries and Financial Secretaries, who recognised the benefits of such gatherings.

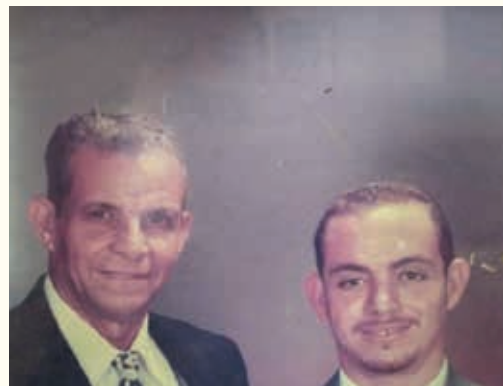
It’s also appropriate for me to acknowledge that Mr Thomas Wood, known as Tommy Wood, who now holds the role previously filled by Mr Manderson, and who was also awarded the Cayman Islands Certificate & Badge of Honour in 2014, credits his success in his role at the Department to Mr Manderson. He acknowledged that Mr Manderson was his mentor for over two decades. Anyone who may be asked to give one short statement about Mr Manderson would acknowledge his humbleness. We therefore recognise that true humility is not in the absence of confidence but in strength restrained.

Mr Manderson was a true Civil Servant who served his country with dignity and it can truly be said that he made lives better.

Death is not to be feared by those who have lived wisely.

May his Soul Rest in Peace.





Graveside Service

Opening Remarks	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Prayer	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Floral Tribute	Family
Hymn "Amazing Grace"	Congregation
Committal	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.
Hymn "How Great Thou Art"	Congregation
Benediction	Pastor Alson Ebanks, Cert. Hon.

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!

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come,
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Thanks & Acknowledgement

The Family and friends of George would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers during this time.

Special mention of – Bro. Richard Graham-Taylor, Bro. George McCarthy, Mr. Sam Banks, Dr. Gyanendra Jha, Dr. Courtney Cummings, Mr. James Ryan, Mr. Kearney Gomez and Mr. Donavon Ebanks.