

Obituary

Burnell Vance Hurlston was born 17 February 1945 in Spott Bay, Cayman Brac. As a boy we are told he loved to go fishing whether on boats or from the shore.

Like so many Caymanians he went to sea for a number years of time working as a cook.

Upon returning he left the Brac and relocated to Grand Cayman where he started Hurlston Janitorial Services in 1973 which still exists to this day. He was proud of his calling and seemed to himself be physically present at each job settling a standard for quality service with a personal touch. When Queen Elizabeth visited in 1994 there was a photo of him personally vacuuming the red carpet at the dock that she was disembark at. In addition to Hurlston Janitorial services over the years he also had a taxi licence and drove a taxi up to the early 2000s, operated a construction company and as well as a freight company shipping items to Jamaica.

He was a member of the George Town New Testament Church of God where he was a tireless worker and sang on the men's choir, served as usher and generally assisted where and when asked.

He loved to farm and would grow various produce that he typically gave away. In some years he would enter certain items in the agriculture show and for one year he won a prize for the best hand of bananas. In addition to growing produce over the years he reared chickens, goats and pigs that he would slaughter them himself and sell the meat.

He loved to cook and made excellent rundown and turtle stew. He would sell at the pirate's weeks festivals where he was very popular because his serving portions would always be guaranteed to be larger than anyone else's.

But for him the goal was not to make a profit but he simply wanted to give people the pleasure of tasting his food.

He was generous sometimes to a fault and would many times put others before himself. If he had it and you asked for something you were likely to get it. Stories were told that bank tellers would love to serve him because when he came to cash a cheque they were guaranteed to get a \$100 bill.

Over the past few years he slowed down due to the natural progression of aging. Additionally, he quietly battled prostate cancer and became increasingly weak and frail. Over the past few months, the cancer spread to other parts of his body and there was a rapid decline in his physical state to where he could no longer speak, walk, feed or generally care for himself. There were various hospitalizations where he had extended stays in the hospital. While there was advice to place him in the Pines throughout it all there was a determination on the part of his wife and family that he should be cared for in his own home and every effort was made to facilitate that. He passed away at his home at about 3:30pm on Friday 21 July, surrounded by family members, less than two weeks after his last hospitalization.

He leaves to mourn his wife Amy, Brother Jeff, sons Garry, Hubbard, Michael and adopted son Julian, daughters Rhonda and Amanda. Steph-children Rhona and Peter and a host of grand children and other family and friends

May his soul rest in peace.