



Mr. Harold J. Clarke

April 10, 1930 - July 30, 2020

Harold Joseph Clarke, known to all as "Bobby", was born on April 10, 1930, in the District of Columbia. He was the eighth of ten children born to his parents, Stewart "Cotton" and Marie (Stevenson) Clarke. He peacefully departed this life on July 30, 2020 at his home in Temple Hills, Maryland.

After graduating from Phelps Vocational High School in Washington, D.C., he began his employment with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a messenger. He was soon promoted to a position in printing and advanced to become the supervisor of the IMF Print Shop. In keeping with his responsibilities for printing sensitive onsite report necessary for the success of IMF meetings, he traveled throughout the world. In addition, he worked part-time in the evenings as a taxi driver for several years. Ambitious and forward-thinking, Bobby also successfully engaged in real estate investment; he purchased and rehabilitated many houses and multi-family residences.

In 1949, at a party, he met his soulmate, Minto Roper. In 1950, they were married and in 1951, they welcomed the first of their three daughters. They purchased their first home in the Michigan Park neighborhood of Northeast, Washington, D.C. In 1971, they moved to their new residence in Temple Hill, Maryland. Bobby enjoyed his home and love to entertain family and friends frequently. Just one day after the celebration of his and Minto's 70th anniversary, Bobby made his transition.

Bobby Relished his favorite hobby, horse racing, often visiting the tracks in the company of his siblings. This family passion was introduced to them by their mother. He became an expert in assessing the particulars of jockeys, race horses, track and calculating the odds. His wife sometimes chuckled that this was his post-retirement job. He delighted in assisting young people to get a good start in life. He was generous with his wisdom, and could be counted on to give a helping hand to friends and family. He maintained numerous long-term friendships, growing old with some of his childhood friends. Bobby valued the friendships established during his long tenure at the IMF. He enjoyed gathering regularly with his former colleagues who called their group the "Lunch Bunch."

Bobby was a proud Washingtonian who often commented that generations of his father's family had lived in Georgetown. His mother's family was from Foggy Bottom. An excellent raconteur, he shared many interesting observations about African-american life style in the District over the course of his lifetime. He recently accepted an invitation to become a member of The City Tavern Club in Georgetown. The invitation followed his discovery that three generations of his ancestors had labored in that history building while enslaved by the woman who was then the tavern owner.

Bobby was predeceased by his parents and his nine siblings. He was a loving father, grandfather and great grandfather. Harold "Bobby" Clarke is survived by his devoted wife of 70 years, Minto; his beloved three daughters, Tayloria Jackson (Stanley), Lynette Clarke, and Minto Williams (Larry); three grandchildren, Consuella Clark-Hall (Kerry), Stanley Jackson and Marqus Jackson; three great grandchildren, Marqus, Kierra and Marlie; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and close friends. Bobby was a father and grandfather figure to many others. He counted Sylvester L. Barnes (Poochie) as his son and Maya Barnes as his granddaughter. Charles Alfred Moore

(Freddie) also regarded his as Daddy Bobby.

Cemetery Details

LINCOLN MEMORIAL CEMETERY

4001 SUITLAND RD
SUITLAND, MD 20746

Previous Events

Public Viewing

AUG 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Pope Funeral Home Forestville Chapel
5538 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Funeral Service

AUG 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pope Funeral Home Forestville Chapel
5538 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Tribute Wall



“ *Pope Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Harold J. Clarke*



Pope Funeral Homes - August 11, 2020 at 11:05 AM



“ *Mr. Harold J. Clarke*

January 28, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Mr. Harold J. Clarke*

January 28, 2023 at 10:26 AM

AB

“ I will always remember Harold Clark as a kind, generous, friendly and humorous man, who dearly loved his family and his many friends. Harold would do anything he could to help a friend, and he had a lot of friends. He was always there to lend a hand or to put a needy person in touch with someone who could help. In Seoul with the IMF, Harold was the ring-leader who kept everyone in line and made sure that we all enjoyed the experience. But Harold was also the one who kept us all safe. He was a real gentleman, and I consider myself blessed to be able to have spent a small part of my life knowing him. I only wish I had known him better, deeper, and longer. Harold Clark lived the kind of life that God wants us all to live. Harold lived and laughed and loved and left. And all the world will never be the same. Rest in peace, Sweet Prince. My sincere condolences to Minto and family. -- Agnes M. Brown

Agnes M. Brown - August 17, 2020 at 05:54 PM



“ Hugs. I deeply wished that I was able to be there for the service yesterday. Sending lots of virtual hugs. And I have been praying for you Aunt Minto and the family. May God continue to bring you comfort and strength through this time of deep loss.

I deeply appreciate the memories I have of Uncle Bobby being very hospitable to me many times that I have come over to the house. Precious memories that I have had hanging there with Connie. I have always admired the relationship that Connie had with Uncle Bobby. So priceless.

Love you all. Keep looking up.

Andrea Sams - August 12, 2020 at 05:48 PM

AC

“ Harold was one of the finest men I have ever known. He taught me everything about old DC and all that I know about gardening. Both of us being native Washingtonians gave us a common interest and bond. He was an expert on the District and its History. He was a great family man and he loved Horse Racing. He was a true friend and we all will miss him dearly. - Anita

Anita Catterton - August 12, 2020 at 02:53 PM

AF

“ G-Pa you rest until we all see each other in that heavenly home. I was glad to celebrate his 90th Birthday. I stated, "WOW! 90 years you have a lot of memories to share". He replied with a chuckle, "Yes I surely do."



Alveria Ford - August 11, 2020 at 07:53 PM

AR

“ We wanted to express my sincere condolences to the entire Clarke family. Uncle Bobby will forever be in my heart. Love to all

Ariane and Michael Lacy

Ariane - August 11, 2020 at 12:49 PM

JA

“ Jim Byers and Moshe Adams purchased the With Sympathy Tazo Tea Basket for the family of Mr. Harold J. Clarke.



Jim Byers and Moshe Adams - August 11, 2020 at 11:56 AM

MB

“ My last memory of Bobby was a few months ago when I walked out of my front door and Bobby was sitting in his garage. He waved and began to say something. I said "Bobby you know I can't hear you". I walked across the street and he said to me "you can't hear and I can't see". I will certainly miss seeing him sitting in his garage.

*Love & Condolences to my friend Minto and Family,
Mattie*

Mattie Brown - August 11, 2020 at 11:48 AM



“ From the first day I met Uncle Bobby and Aunt Minto when I was just 15 years old, I was treated as a niece and I'm forever grateful for all the conversations and advice he would pour into me. He so personified what it means to be a family man and his messages and wisdom will continue to be alive in my heart forever. To all of you who will miss his daily presence on this side - especially Aunt Minto, I'm sending condolences, prayers of comfort and peace from all the Munfords and a few Davenports. We love you.

Michele Munford Davenport - August 11, 2020 at 11:01 AM

TP

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Clarke. He was instrumental in my introduction to the IMF, as young African American Draftsman, in the Graphics Section. I will be forever grateful for his mentor ship, which led to my successful 35 year career at the Fund. Rest in heaven, my friend. Prayers and blessings to the family during this difficult time.

*Ted Peters
IMF retiree
Los Angeles, CA.*

Ted Peters - August 11, 2020 at 02:13 AM

CM

“ I knew Daddy Bobby for all of my Life. Always Like a Father to me. more than any other Man in my Life. I talk to Him about that things that I did not discuss with any one else and listened to advise. He will truly be Missed. He was Loved by his Family and Friends. Love You Daddy Bobby. We will reunite soon.

Freddy and Sandra Moore

Charles Moore - August 10, 2020 at 10:31 PM

CM

“ Charles Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Harold J. Clarke



Charles Moore - August 10, 2020 at 10:18 PM

EA

“ Uncle Bobby, you will be truly missed. I am very thankful for you and cousin Minto opening your home to me and Marty when we made our transition to MD twenty years ago. One of the things I will remember is the first time we met and you made me this fantastic shrimp salad and every time we saw each other you would always say "I have that shrimp you like" and we would laugh. Your generosity was above reproached.

Martin and I will always love you!

Ecaroh Allen - August 10, 2020 at 10:15 PM

LW

“ Harold Bobby Clarke was not just my father inlaw He was and always will be my friend.
Bobby was most loved by me because he gave me his best his baby girl little Minto, I remember the conversation we had in his driveway before Minto and I were married.
He was washing his car and I pulled up and asked him to talk with me. I told him I wanted to marry his daughter. The only way I would do it was with his blessing. He kinda laughed with his eyes as only he could do. He said if you can't sustain or exceed where she is now leave her with me. Other than that he gave me permission to marry his baby girl. Now 32 years later I truly love Harold. I carried the King while he was alive and will carry him in my Heart forever. Long Live the King.
Your Son
Larry Williams

Larry Williams - August 10, 2020 at 02:13 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Program



Pope Funeral Homes - August 10, 2020 at 01:39 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Pope Funeral Homes - August 10, 2020 at 01:39 PM

JE

We love you uncle Bobby coming out to Callie LA this is the West Coast Jones's family We love going to get Dinahs chicken and Hollywood Park And kicking it with uncle Bobby love you Jeffrey and Rhonda

Jeffrey - August 11, 2020 at 12:56 PM

CK

“ *My uncle Bobby was a smart and interesting man. We loved to converse with one another especially about politics and watching MSNBC. I loved him from the first time we met in 2014. Peace and Comfort to his family, and all my cousins*💜🥹

Cousin Carla Kearney - August 10, 2020 at 01:36 PM

LC

“ *My dad lived a long, wonderful, well-travelled life. I am blessed to have had him for 90 years. Your spirit and memories will live on forever.
Rest in the comfort of your God.
Lennie*

Lynette Clarke - August 09, 2020 at 10:11 PM

LC

“ *My father was incredibly generous to all. A great family man.
Ambitious and wonderful provider.
Love always,
Lynette Clarke*

Lynette Clarke - August 09, 2020 at 10:06 PM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss
Jesus Christ Loves Me
We Love You*



Thomas Widgeon - August 08, 2020 at 08:16 AM

TC

“ *Dear Cousin Minto and family. Our sincere condolences to you all.
We loved Uncle Bobby and have of him the fondest memories. I still
recall when I was a young lady, his fly car and talking to him about
the World Bank. He will be missed. May God bless his soul. Hugs
and kisses with tears. Tracey Cosby and family.*

Tracey Cosby - August 08, 2020 at 12:09 AM