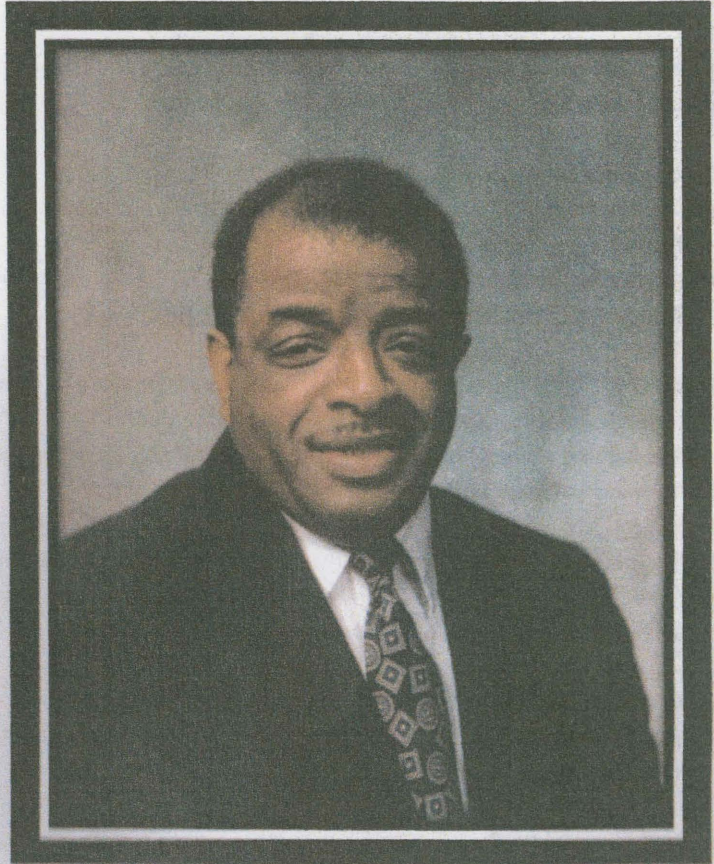


*A Celebration of Life
For
Thomas Odell Banner*



1936 - 2010

*Mt. Carmel Community Baptist Church
608 Stambaugh Avenue
Columbus, Ohio
Pastor Leon E. Rodgers, Sr.*

*Monday, November 8, 2010 * 12:00 PM*

Reflections of a Great Man.....

Thomas Odell Banner was born on February 11, 1936 to Ed and Jessie Mae Staples Banner in Mt. Airy, North Carolina, one of nine children. After 74 wonderful years, he entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, November 2, 2010.

Brother Banner was affectionately known as "Tom" by all of his family and friends and his signature card was the humor and kind jokes that brought joy to every life that he touched.

Tom attended J. J. Jones High School in My. Airy, NC where he excelled in athletics and completed his school years. He was an outstanding football and basketball player. In 2006 he was enrolled into J.J. Jones High School Hall of Fame for his athletic contribution. He was also a member of the marching band where he played the clarinet. After high school he moved to Columbus, OH. There he met his beloved wife and wed on May 23, 1958, they were married for 35 years until her passing.

Tom was a devoted member of Mt. Carmel Community Baptist Church where he served faithfully as a Trustee. He loved his church family and he loved God always putting him first in his life. He never wanted to miss what the Lord was doing at the church. If he had other responsibilities that needed his immediate attention Tom would take care of them and then hightail it straight to church!

Tom was a carpenter by trade and labored for over 40 years at Battelle. There he proudly served with a smile, and was affectionately known as "a great guy" by everyone that knew him. Tom was an avid bowler and fan of the Cleveland Browns and The Ohio State Buckeyes.

Tom never had a harsh word to say about anything or anybody. If he saw that you were troubled, he would put his arm around your shoulder and jokingly make light of the situation. It always worked, because you would walk away with a smile on your face laughing.

Tom was a very reserved, humble, patient and strong willed man. He never backed down in what he believed. All knew of the affection he had for his children and grandchildren. He expressed that love by being the epitome of what a father should be. Tom was the back bone of the entire Banner family and his spirit will forever be with us. He was greatly loved by all and surely will be missed.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Juanita Banner; parents, Ed and Jessie Mae Staples Banner; brothers, Ed Banner Jr., Frank Banner; sisters, Lois Banner Helton, Virginia Banner Bowman, Dorothy Gentry and Rosebud Rector. He leaves to cherish 2 daughters, Kristi Banner and Ashley (Terry) Smith; special friend, Crystal Carmon; brother, Douglas Banner; sister, Emma Canaday; grandchildren Achea Allen and Jada Jackson and a host of relatives, church family and friends.

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Pall Bearers

Family and Friends

"Come To Me"

*God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be,
So he put his arms around you,
And whispered "Come to me",
With tearful eyes we watched you,
and saw you pass away,
Although we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
hard working hands at rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.*



Acknowledgements

Thomas Banner greatly appreciates all expressions of kindness shown during
ment. Your prayers have meant so much. Special Thanks to Pastor Leon
T and members of Mt. Carmel Community Baptist Church. Thank you for
family and the love you have shown toward our father. We pray God's riches
of you.

Gary Memorial Chapel

Funeral Home and Cremation Services

867 S. James Road
Columbus, OH 43227
(614) 235-4279