

Celebration of Life
of
Roger James Scales



Saturday, June 19, 2010

Eleven O'clock in the morning

Central United Methodist Church

1909 North Main Street

Mt. Airy, North Carolina

Obituary

Roger James Scales, of Buford, Georgia affectionately known as "RJ" departed for his eternal home on Saturday, June 12, 2010 at Emory Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia. His family was by his side. Roger was the youngest of thirteen children born to the late Elder Joseph & Emma Scales of Mt. Airy, North Carolina. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers and four sisters. Roger was an active member of First A.M.E. Zion Church, Paterson, New Jersey. He served on the Board of Trustees, Scholarship committee and in various capacities faithfully until relocating to Georgia just four years ago. He loved his church family, missed them dearly and found some comfort in listening to taped sermons and concerts of the choir.

Roger leaves to mourn his memory, his devoted wife of thirty-seven years, Joann Morgan Scales, one son, Joseph M. Scales, one daughter, Ilene (Jack) Yocum of Fleming Island, Florida, three grandsons, Stephen, Andrew and Matthew Pritchett, two great-granddaughters, Ariana and Asiyah Pritchett, one god-daughter, Kelly Rawley Evans, Bear, Delaware. His surviving siblings are three sisters, Joyce Hill, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Maggie Rosser and Evelyn Thompson of Mt. Airy, North Carolina, two brothers, John Scales, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and Bobby (Alice) Scales, of East Orange, New Jersey.

His love also extended to two sister-in-laws, Jeanette (George) Penney of Montgomery, Alabama, Jeraldine Turk-Morgan of Buford, Georgia, three brother-in-laws, William (deceased) (Edna) Morgan, of New Hudson, Michigan, George (Joy) Morgan, of Harker Heights, Texas and David (Gwendolyn) Morgan, of Sugar Hill, Georgia, a host of nieces, nephews and cousins who adored him, a devoted and long-time friend/adopted brother, Barry (Diana) Harmon, of Montclair, New Jersey.

Roger graduated from J.J. Jones High School in Mt. Airy, North Carolina and attended Fayetteville State Teachers College where he received his B.S. degree in Elementary Education. He also attended Indiana University where he earned a Master of Science degree. He did further graduate studies at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, Appalachian State University and New York University, where he completed all requirements for the Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration, except the dissertation. Upon completing college Roger decided he wanted to travel around the world and joined the U.S. Army. Despite all his efforts he remained at Ft. Bragg, South Carolina as a Personnel Specialist. Following his discharge

from the Army, Roger held various teaching and coaching positions (football, baseball and track) at the primary, secondary and college levels in North Carolina, Delaware, and New Jersey. While at Ridgeview High School in Hickory, North Carolina, Roger coached his football team to an (un-scored upon) state championship. Roger also served as Asst. to the Superintendent in Hickory, North Carolina where he directed federal programs and wrote proposals. He was Director of Guidance and Head Football at Dwight Morrow High School in Englewood, New Jersey where several of his students went on to play professional football. Roger returned to Livingstone College in 1972 and met Joann Morgan, the woman that would become his wife and the love of his life. He made Paterson, New Jersey his home while he furthered his educational pursuits and worked as an Educational Administrator with the Montclair Public School system for over twenty years. When he retired from the Montclair School system he was presented an award that read "he provided leadership for the staff, guidance for his fellow administrators and always executed his duties with the optimum of professionalism, dignity and quiet demeanor that generated well deserved respect, loyalty and admiration." After several years of retirement, Roger accepted a call to return to work as principal of Bethany Academy, a private inner city, Christian K-3 school, a position he truly enjoyed because of the leadership and service he could provide as well as his love of children.

Roger was a member of the American Association for Higher Education; American Personnel and Guidance Association; National Education Association; American Football Coaches Association. He was also a Mason and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Other affiliations include Montclair Youth Service Bureau, Paterson Community Economic Development, The NAACP, The Garden State Duffers Golf Club and Fayetteville State Alumni Association. In 1989 he was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Fayetteville State University.

As a young boy Roger caddied at a private, "white only" golf course in Mt. Airy, where he developed a love for the game. Throughout his life he found so much joy in sharing not only the game with others but lessons for living that could be learned from the game. Roger embellished life, and had an appreciation for the many gifts that God had blessed him with and always went the extra mile to help others, student, staff, faculty, family, friend or stranger. He touched so many with his presence, his faith, his wisdom and his gentle manner.

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Invocation..... *Rev. George W. Morgan, Pastor*
Allen AME Church, Rockdale, TX

Selection.....*Blessed Assurance, Evelyn Howie*

Scripture

Old Testament.....*Rev. George W. Morgan, Pastor*
Allen AME Church, Rockdale, TX

New Testament.....*Bobby Scales*

Prayer of Comfort.....*Rev. Dr. Douglas L. Maven*
First AME Zion Church, Paterson, NJ

Selection.....*How Great Thou Art, Elaine Norris*

Memories and Tributes (Limit Remarks to two minutes)

As a co-worker.....*Barry Harmon*

As a friend.....*William Artis*

As family..... *James Hill and Jeanette P. Penney*

As a father.....*Joseph M. Scales*

Selection.....*You are My Hero*

Liturgical Dance.....*Cristin Taylor*

Obituary (read silently)

Selection.....*Grace and Mercy, Elder Carl Morgan, Pastor*
State Line Primitive Baptist Church, Mt. Airy, NC

Eulogy.....*Rev. Dr. Douglas L. Maven, Pastor*
First AME Zion Church, Paterson, NJ

Acknowledgements, Benediction & Recessional

Special Tributes

Thanks Dad! Thank you for being such a wonderful father. You have always been there for me in every aspect of my life. I never had to worry about having your support and encouragement. You would always go out of your way to make me feel truly loved. You were strong, gentle, caring, self-less, kind-hearted, firm (when u needed to be), funny, and loving. You taught me by example ho to be a REAL man. Whether in golf, school, or life, you taught me that success comes through hard work, determination, and preparation; and there are no substitutions or short-cuts. I will always remember the many lessons that you taught me. I can only hope to be half of the father, husband, and hero that you were. You will always be in my heart as I try to build on your great legacy. I love you always and I will miss you terribly. You will forever be a part of my. I am going to make you proud of the man I become. Thanks Pop. I LOVE YOU!

Love always, your son,

Joe

Many years ago our father-daughter chain was broken, because we could not be together, our love for each other was unspoken
Throughout my life I sustained, because your character, integrity and goodness were ingrained.
When we came together, our love continued to grow, because what had been broken was no longer so.
Little did I know when God would call your name, in life I loved you dearly, in death I will do the same.
It breaks my heart for you to leave me, but you did not go alone, for part of me, Joann, Joe and family went with you the day God called you home.
You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide, and though we cannot see you, you will always be at our side.
Again, our chain is broken and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, someday the chain will link again.

Loving you eternally, your daughter

Ilene and family

You eased into my life and captured my heart with your sweet, gentle, patient, persistent, humorous and loving ways. You always shared that our meeting was not by chance, that God had lead you to return back to our place of meeting (Livingstone College, Salisbury, NC) and that he had directed me there (from Michigan) so we could begin a new journey on the road of life together. And though the roads were not always smooth, we never let go, acknowledging God as our pilot and that he was the one in control and that in all things we must allow him to lead and guide us.

Honey, I thank you for a wonderful journey. I will miss so much about the life we have created, so rich and full of the simple joys, and yes, the laughter, when I needed it most.

I feel so blessed to have shared over 38 wonderful years with you and our own families, including our church family, and many friends. You were an incredible husband, father, brother and friend. I love you so much. "I've had the time of my life, and I owe it all to you." Our spiritual bond will never be broken.

Lovingly, your honey

*"Your joy is your sorrow unmasked.
And the selfsame well from which your laughter
rises was often times filled with your tears"*

*"When you are joyous,
look deep into your heart and
you should find it is only
that which has given you sorrow
that is giving you joy.
When you are sorrowful
look again in your heart,
and you should see that
in truth, you are weeping for that
which has been your delight."*

*Love always
Roger*

Flower Ladies

Jacquelyn Pierce

Bernice Wilson

Pamela Chappell

Ramona Sutton

Brenda Scales

Kelly Morgan

Stella Bell

Carolyn Brown

Veronica Brady

Darlene Horne

Stacy Scales

Honorary Flower Ladies

Tanisha Coffey

Pall Bearers

Joseph Scales

Michael Rosser

Carlos Clemons

Rodney Rosser

Vincent Hill

Jerry Horne

June Cobb

Allen Horne

Joseph Cobb

Honorary Pall Bearers

Ronald Scales

Curtis Clemons

Paul Rowley

Interment.....State line Cementary, Mt. Airy, North Carolina

Repast.....State Line Primitive Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Appreciation

We the family of Roger James Scales is greatly touched by your prayers, well wishes, acts of kindness, and fond stories shared with us about Roger. Thank you for your calls of comfort and most of all thank you for being there for us during this time of bereavement. Special thanks to Central United Methodist Church, Mt. Airy, North Carolina, State Line Primitive Baptist Church, Mt. Airy, North Carolina, Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home, Buford, Georgia and Spencer Funeral Home of Mt. Airy, North Carolina.

