A Celebration of The Life
of
Dr. William Louis Griffin, Sr.

Monday, March 10, 1997
11:00 A.M.
Gilbert-Lambuth Memorial Chapel
Paine College
Augusta, Georgia

** **
Reverend Alex R. King, Sr., Officiating
**Obituary**

On a cold February day in St. Louis, Missouri, William Louis Griffin, Sr., the oldest of four children, was born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis T. (Rebecca) Griffin.

He received his elementary and secondary education in the public schools of East St. Louis, Illinois. After a tour of duty in the U.S. Army (World War II), he matriculated at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, where he graduated Cum Laude. Upon graduation, he was accepted at Howard University and graduated from the School of Medicine. He completed his internship and residency at Homer G. Phillips Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

He opened his private practice as a general practitioner in Augusta, July 23, 1953, and provided medical care to thousands of patients in both Georgia and South Carolina. Because of his friendly gesture of waving at those he passed, Dr. Griffin became known as the "waving doctor." A compassionate man, he was also known for his personable manner and willingness to care for his patients by making house calls. He served as an active staff member of University Hospital, St. Joseph Hospital, and Augusta Regional Medical Center. Dr. Griffin retired on June 30, 1992, ending forty years of service, commitment and dedication to this community and his profession. During his forty years of practice, he delivered approximately 2,100 babies, made 1,100 house calls and treated 48,000 patients.

Dr. Griffin served as President of the Stoney Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Society and Georgia State Medical Society. He was a member of the National Medical Association and American Geriatrics Society. In addition, he was a life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, past Sire Archon of Alpha Mu Boule', Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and a member of Bannaker Lodge and American Legion.

Dr. Griffin was a devoted member of Williams Memorial C.M.E. Church. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for many years and held the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman.

He leaves to cherish his memories: a devoted wife, Evelyn B. Griffin; three loving children, Dr. William L. Griffin, Jr., and Kelvin L. Griffin both of Fresno, CA; and Terri L. Savoy, Chester, VA; two beautiful grandchildren, Cara M. Griffin, West Bloomfield, MI; and Justin L. Griffin, Fresno, CA; other caring survivors include a sister, Arlington R. Caldwell, St. Louis, MO; brother, Harold E. Griffin, Chicago, IL; son-in-law, Major Walter S. Savoy, Jr.; three sisters-in-law, Georgette Johnson, Delores Maxwell and Norma Griffin; two brothers-in-law, Fredrick R. Maxwell and Jefferson H. Johnson; four godchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

In his mild, quiet unassuming manner, he gave of himself and found enjoyment and fulfillment in serving mankind. He achieved success because he worked hard, lived well, laughed often, and loved much. He gained the love of his wife and children and the respect of his colleagues. The world is a better place than he found it, because he gave the best he had. Dr. William Louis Griffin, Sr., leaves a rich legacy for his family, colleagues and friends.
Order Of Service

Prelude ............................................................. Ms. Christine Crockett

Procesional .................................................. "Jesus You're The Center Of My Joy"

Hymn .......................................................... "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Prayer .......................................................... Reverend Gene R. Dean
Presiding Elder,
Augusta District
of the C.M.E. Church

Scripture
Old Testament .................................................. Reverend Nathaniel Irvin
Isaiah 40: 25-31
Old Storm Branch Baptist Church

New Testament .................................................... Romans 8: 29-39

Hymn .......................................................... "When We All Get To Heaven"

Reading .......................................................... Reverend Mr. Ephraim J. Williams
"Of Work" by Kahlil Gibran
Church of the Most Holy Trinity

Solo ............................................................. Dr. Hawthorne E. Welcher
Principal, Tubman Middle School

Words of Comfort ............................................ Reverend Alex R. King, Sr., Pastor
Williams Memorial C.M.E. Church

Recessional ................................................... "Sweet Sweet Spirit"

Interment ....................................................... Hillcrest Memorial Park
Participants for The Homegoing Celebration

Pallbearers
Dr. Mac A. Bowman
Dr. Ronald Brown, Sr.
Dr. Edmond M. Franklin
Dr. Eddie P. Johnson
Dr. Benjamin L. Rucker
Dr. Willis J. Walker, Jr.

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Honorary Pallbearers
Williams Memorial C.M.E. Church Trustee Board
Stoney Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical Society
Alpha Mu Boule®, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity
Psi Omega, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
Bannaker Lodge #3

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Flower Bearers
Williams Memorial C.M.E. Church Stewardess & Missionaries

Acknowledgement
Your love, devotion, and friendship shown in countless ways during the illness and passing of our loved one will always be cherished. Thank you for surrounding us, supporting us and lifting us during this transitional period in our lives. May God bless each of you for these blessings.

And Now--A New Dawn
A dawn--Never witnessed before
Radiantly illuminating tranquility
Timelessness and jubilant freedom
From all physical constraints...
A transformation
A renaissance
A new dawn
For our husband, dad, granddaddy,
uncle, cousin, colleague, and friend.

The Family Has Received Personal Care From
The Historic Dent's Undertaking Establishment
930 D'Antignac Street - Augusta, Georgia

"When Only Memories Remain, Let Them Be Beautiful"