



Celebrating the Life of
Kenneth Leroy Farquharson

Sunrise
February 23, 1943

Sunset
February 21, 2025

Saturday, March 22, 2025

Merrell United Methodist Church
3900 N State Rd 7, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319

Viewing 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Funeral Service 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Obituary

“Man that is born of a woman is of a few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down. He fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.”

Kenneth Leroy Farquharson - known professionally as Ken Parker, was born to Wesley and Desdie Farquharson on February 23, 1943, in Westmoreland, Jamaica. In 1960, he moved to Kingston in search of a better life. He informed his dad that he was entering the music industry, to which his dad replied, “it would be better for me to see your grave.” Amidst his dad’s protests, he pursued his passion.

Ken had a talent for reimagining existing songs through the lens of reggae and gospel. In 1967, he started writing and recording music, drawing his inspiration from the stories of slaves, as well as a mix of original compositions and popular track covers. Listening to his songs brought peace and solace, creating a distinctive sound that resonated with audiences.

He relocated to England in 1973 after spending 2 years in New York City. Ken continued to perform occasionally, but did not return to recording until the early 1980’s. Just to name a few of his songs, “Keep Your Eyes on Jesus”, “Jimmy Brown”, and “True True.”

A significant milestone in Ken Parker’s musical career was his involvement in the British Reggae Artist’s Famine Appeal Team (BRAFA) in the mid-1980’s. This group raised thousands of pounds for famine relief by recording the charity song Let’s Make Africa Green Again and organizing a benefit concert. Additionally, in 2021, a monument was unveiled in Hackney, England, to honor a group of reggae artists, including Ken Parker.

On May 28th, 1988, Ken married his best friend, Aldith Rose who he so tenderly referred to as “Babes.” He migrated to Florida in December 1991, where he lived with his wife until his passing.

Ken was a beloved son. He was a caring, loving, affectionate husband, confidant, and best friend for the love of his life Rose. For his children, he was a provider, a counselor, and a friend. To his siblings, he was a voice of reason, the clown of the family, and the best cook ever to grace the lives of the Farquharson family. Who can the family find to prepare the best rice and peas, and the ackee and codfish rundown? Ken. For the healthiest juices and natural tonics, he was our go-to.

To the grandchildren, he was the best granddad you could have ever wished for. To the host of nieces, nephews, grand- and great- nieces and nephews, cousins, friends, and associates, you were such an inspiration and example to all of us.

He leaves to mourn his passing: his loving wife, Rose; his children – Mark (Tonya), Brenton, Camille (Julian), Michelle, Michael, Sophia (Lorenzo), and Gary (Alida); grandchildren-Katrina, Jillian, Caden, Maya, Malachi, Rhianne (Omar) and Reuel; great grandchildren-Anthony, Alana, and Amari, Khan and Love; brothers-Basil (Marcella), Keith (Hazel), and Michael (Marcia); sisters-Norma and Marian (Basil); sister-in-law-Norma and brother-in-law, Clifton, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

We will miss you Ken, and we can’t understand why God chose to snatch you away from us so quickly, but we won’t question and will continue to trust The Lord because He knows best.

Rest In Peace our beloved. Sleep on, and take your rest. We must go on, but we will meet you in the morning.

Lovingly submitted by your family.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude..... Louis Trotman

Hymn #378..... Amazing Grace

Prayer..... Rev. Bancroft Williams

Tributes..... Brother Pierce (Radio Station WAVS)
Michelle Farquharson
Keith Farquharson

Hymn# 474..... Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Ministry in Song..... Merrell UMC Chancel Choir

Obituary.....Mrs. Marian Williams

Offering Rev. Bancroft Williams

Offertory Hymn #377..... It Is Well With My Soul)
(Proceeds donated to Merrell United Methodist Church Building Fund)

Blessing of the Offering..... Rev. Bancroft Williams

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Ecclesiastes 3:1-12 (Jillian and Caden Lacey)

Responsive.....Psalm 23 (Congregation)

New Testament.....Revelation 21:1-6 (Mark Farquharson)

Ministry In Song.....Rev. Dr. Sharon M. Jones

Sermon.....Rev. Bancroft Williams

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Comfort Bishop Jonathan Ramsay

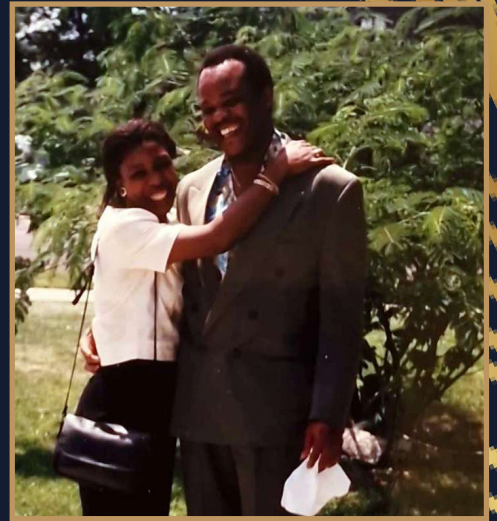
Commendation..... Rev. Bancroft Williams

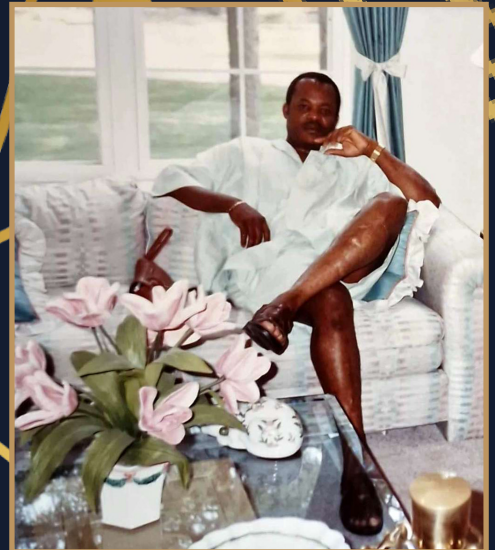
The Lord's Prayer

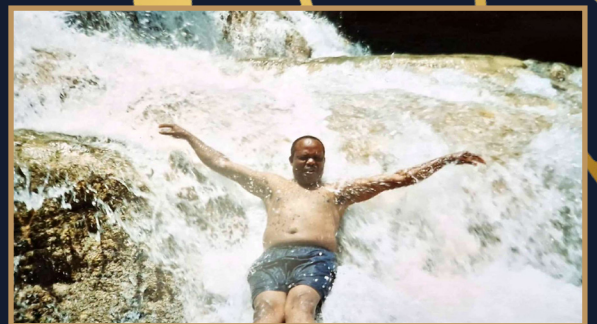
Hymn #701..... When We All Get To Heaven

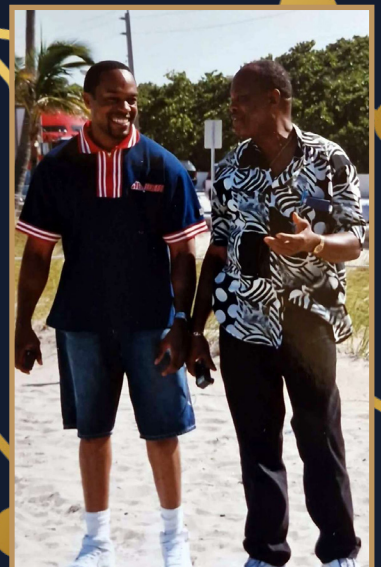
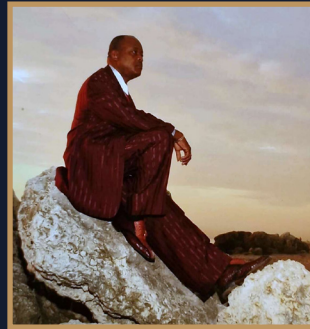
Benediction Rev. Bancroft Williams

Recessional









Active Pallbearers

Chester Brooks
Gilmore Edwards
Gilmore Forbes
Julian Lacey
Gary Morrison
Lorenzo Sterling

Honorary Pallbearers

Keith Farquharson
Basil Farquharson
Michael Farquharson
Basil Williams
Clifton Mothersill

His Smile

Though his smile is forever gone
and his hand I cannot touch
I still have so many memories
Of the one I loved so much
His memory is now my keepsake
With which I'll never part
God has him in his keeping
I have him in my heart.
Sadly missed, but never forgotten

Acknowledgement of Appreciation

*The family of Kenneth Leroy Farquharson gratefully
acknowledges all expressions of condolences and acts of kindness during this time of bereavement.*

*We also extend a very special thank you to Merrill United Methodist Church,
Rev. Bancroft Williams*

*In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Merrill United Methodist Church
Building Fund.*



Scan For Program

Entombment Service Bailey's Memorial

7801 Bailey Rd
North Lauderdale, FL 33068
(Location of Mausoleum - Devotion D)