



Nelson Gayle

March 6, 1912 - November 23, 2012

Service Saturday, December 1st, 2012 - 11:00 AM - Gwinnett Chapel 914 Scenic Hwy. Lawrenceville, GA 30045-On March 6, 1912, the Lord blessed William Gale and Theresa Douglas Gale their first born son, Nelson Thomas Gayle. Born in Quantico, Maryland, Nelson would become one of seven children to William and Theresa. Nelson and his four brothers and two sisters, Martha, Penrose, Benjamin, Russell, Reuben, and Beatrice, enjoyed a humble but fulfilling country life in Maryland. Nelson graduated from Salisbury HS in Maryland, attended Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY and Hampton Institute Hampton, VA. He was an electrician by profession and retired from the New York City Transit in 1979, where he practiced his trade. He served his country during the World War II Era in the United States Navy and received honorable discharge for his service as First Class and Chief Electrician Nelson, met and married his beloved wife, Rodessie, known to all as ??Dess? and began a wonderful life in Brooklyn, NY. Their lives were centered on the church, the community, and raising four beautiful children, Ellen, Bernard, Jerilyn, and Suella. The Church has always been an important part of his life. In 1955, Nelson Gayle co-organized and founded Trinity Lutheran Church of Locus Manor, Queens, NY. He became the first Chairman of the Church Council and organizer/leader of the church's Men's Organization. Nelson organized the Church's Scouts units in 1957 and led the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Explorer Scout Troops and Packs. He served as liaison between the church and his community's Locust Manor Civic Association for over 20

years. As a member of the Board of Directors, his work impacted the quality of life for the residents of Locust Manor. Nelson was a member of the Queens Federation of Churches for 25 years, where he served as Vice Chairman for its Youth Program. He also served five consecutive years of service to the Board of Directors of Interfaith Council of Southwest Queens. In 1986, Nelson was voted "Man-of-the-Year" by the congregation. Nelson was one of the founders of the United Black Men of Queens (UBMO) and for more than 15 years, Nelson had been affiliated with the Jamaica Service Program for Older Adults (JSPOA), where he was a member of the Board of Directors. In addition to his community involvement, he was a member of the Progressive Sportsman Club, which later became Alpha Affiliates Corporation, St. Albans, NY where he spent countless hours. (memories) It was in this setting that he mentored his son, Bernard, and grandsons, Gary and Daren, the art of running a business. His involvement with the Boy Scouts of America was also another fond memory. He took his daughters to Cub Scout meetings—not to mention it was a "Boy" scout event, where they had to learn the "Cub Scout" oath. Nelson, being adventurous, took his family on many outings—the drive down Route 13 to Quantico, MD, trips to Atlantic City, NJ, Rockaway Beach/Playland and Coney Island. In his earlier years, he loved to go hunting upstate NY with the Progressive Sportsman, bringing back deer, squirrels and game for Rodessie to cook. He was equally delighted to take overseas trips with his wife or leisurely ocean cruises with his daughters and family. On November 23, the Lord called Nelson home to join his wife, his parents, siblings and son, Bernard. Left to cherish his memory are daughters Ellen (Edgar), Jerilyn (Curtis) and Suella (Bert); grandchildren Crystal, Tiffany, Gary, Daren, and Diane; ten great grandchildren, nieces and nephews and, two sisters-in-law.

Tribute Wall

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“ *To the Family: May your faith in God's loving resurrection provision comfort you all as you look ahead to the fulfillment of Jesus' words recorded at John 11:25....I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life. God promises: Your dead ones will live....They will rise up. ~Isaiah 26:19. Keep in mind...God is faithful and always keeps his promises! (John 3:16, Revelation 21:3-5)*

Beulah Parks - December 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM