



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Perhaps you hugged one of us or held our shaking hands. Perhaps you prayed or spoke the kindest comforting words. Perhaps you sat quietly in a chair, or rendered a service unseen. Perhaps you sang a lovely song or sent beautiful flowers. Whatever done to console our hearts, we truly felt your love. Everything done added strength and will always be remembered. To all of you who saw us through, we express our gratitude,
Grace and Love.

In lieu of flowers, the Family is requesting that donations be sent to:

THE BERNIE MAC FOUNDATION FOR SARCOIDOSIS
website: www.berniemacfoundation.org

Donations which exceed \$2,000 should be sent to:

NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY
201 East Huron Street • Chicago, Illinois 60611
(312) 557-6200 - Laura Doggett

We thank you very kindly!

Arrangements Entrusted to:
Teak and Sons Funeral Chapels



7838 South Cottage Grove Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60619
(773) 846-6567

18400 South Pulaski Road
Country Club Hills, Illinois 60478
(708) 206-0860

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Memorial Service
Celebrating the Life of

Bernard Jeffrey McCullough

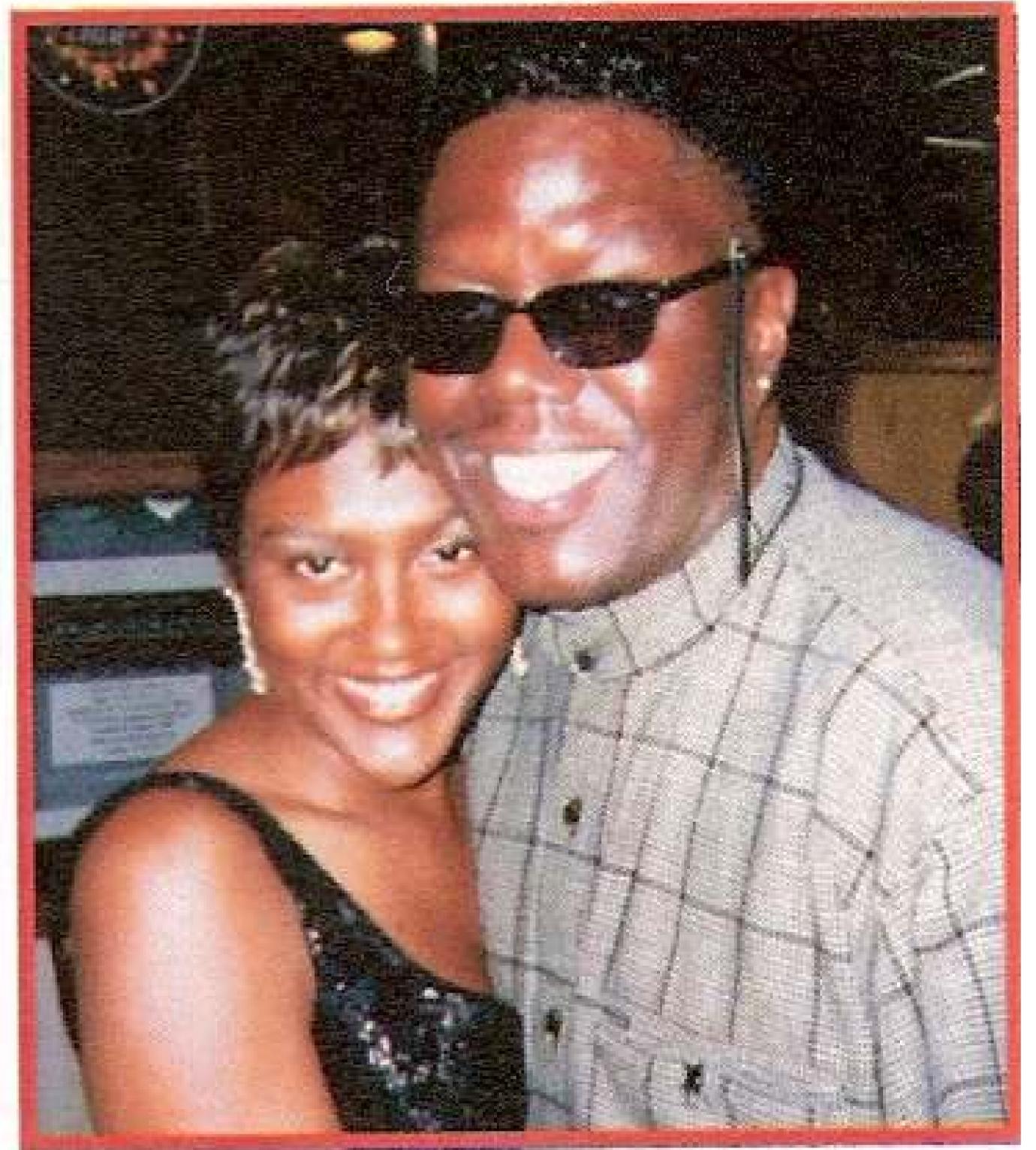
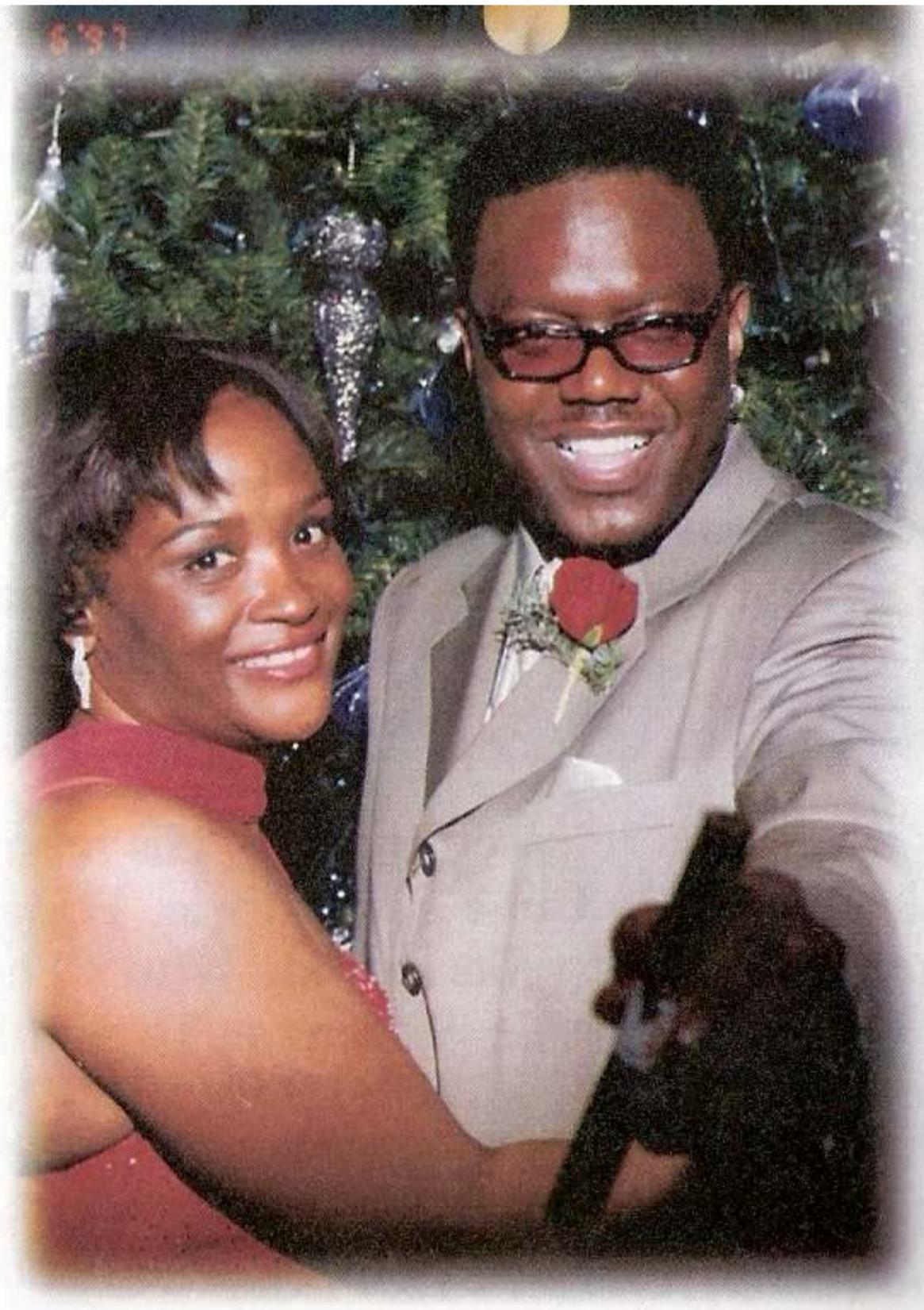
October 5, 1957 **"Bernie Mac"** August 9, 2008

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2008
SERVICE: 12:00 P.M. NOON
THE HOUSE OF HOPE
115TH & BISHOP FORD FREEWAY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

REVEREND SENATOR JAMES T. MEEKS, PASTOR

Love Forever Rhonda

Love Forever Je' Niece

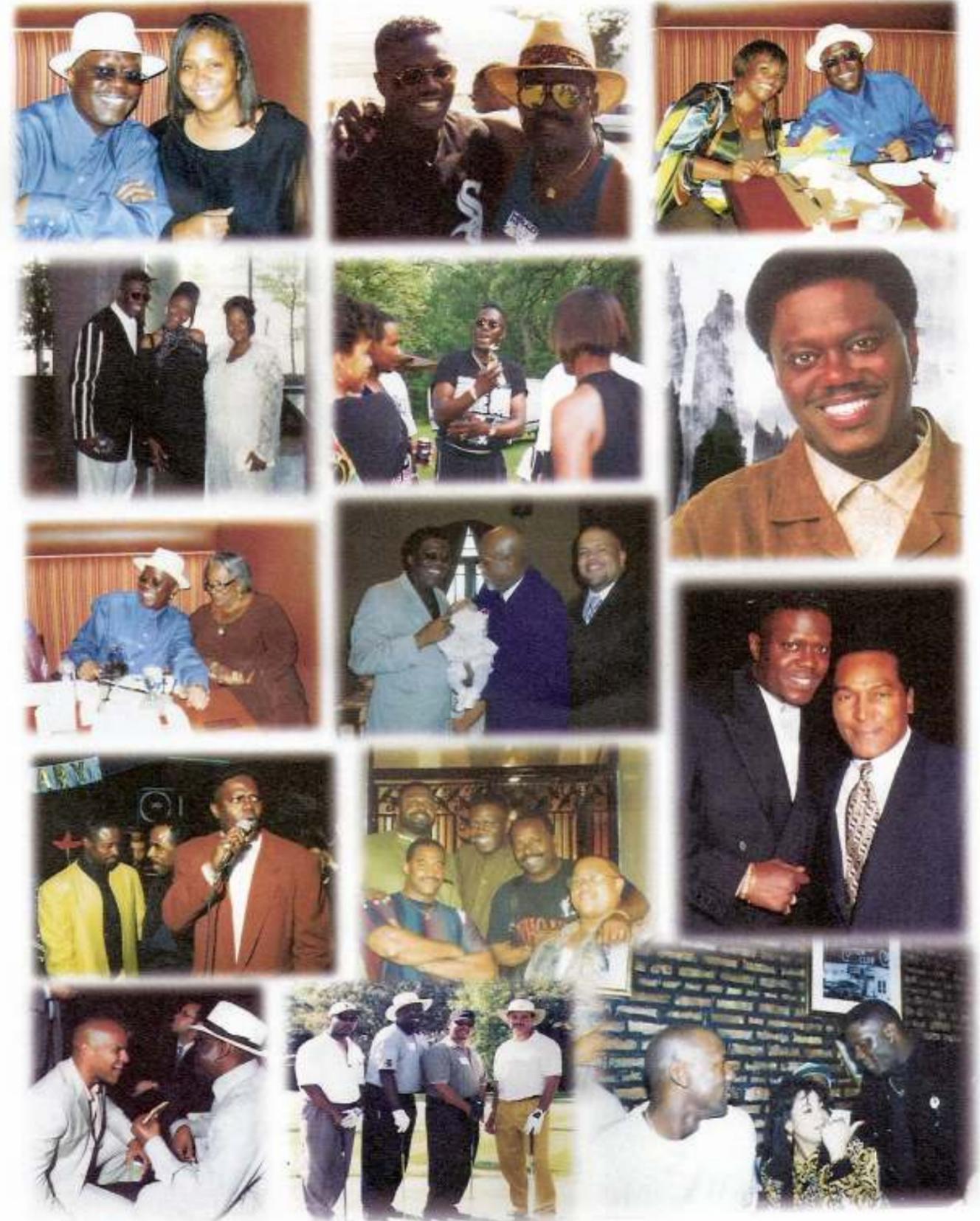
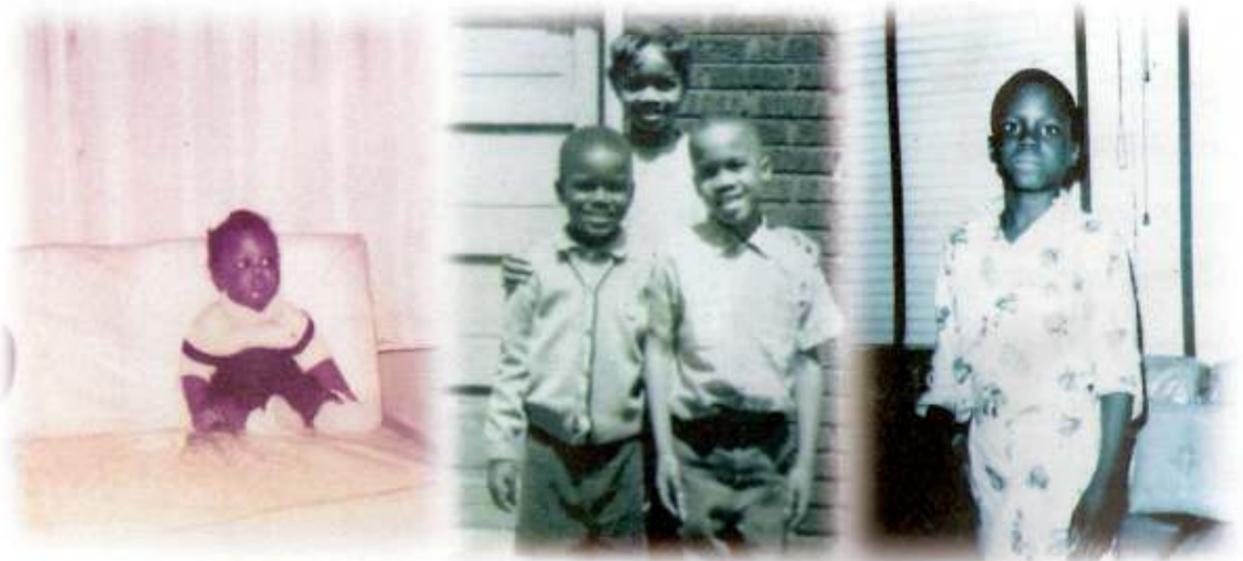




*Bernard,
We met as teenagers 33 years ago
and from there you became my boyfriend,
my husband, my friend, my
lover, my confidant, my
prayer partner and my
biggest critic. I truly
thought we had more time
together but God said
you have completed
your work here. I
have truly enjoyed
being your wife.
I thank you for
the wonderful life
that we shared
together. I love you
with all my heart, but
God loved you more.*

"I want to ta ta you baby."

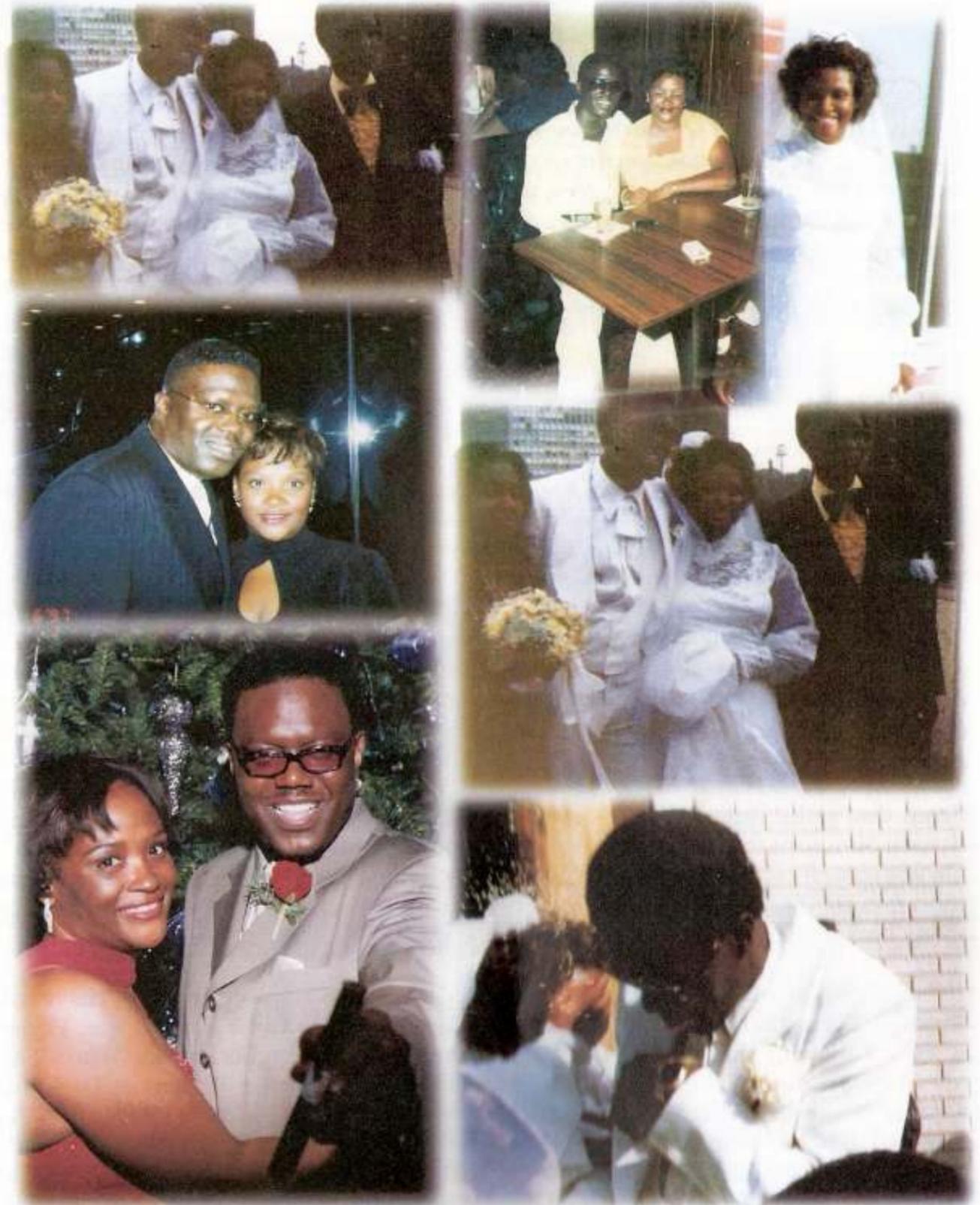
*Your loving and devoted wife,
Rhonda*



“TRIBUTE TO BERNIE”

Whereas this is a resolution honoring Bernard Jeffrey McCullough, a.k.a. “Bernie Mac” on this, fifth day of October 2007, as we celebrate his 50th birthday. Whereas, we, the family recognize and commemorate our Bernard for your love and dedication to us as a husband, father, grandfather, uncle, nephew, brother and son. We honor you, Bernard, on this day for your unconditional loyalty, as well as your willingness to always provide comfort and words of encouragement to your family and friends, of whom there are many. Whereas, we admire you, Bernard, for your discipleship to the sick and shut-in, and your ability to connect with people from all walks of life, no matter what their circumstances, making them feel special. We recognize you, Bernard for following your calling: for sharing your rapier wit and offering your sense of humor as a great gift that you give to the world: a gift, wrapped in your deep compassion and understanding of humanity and tied with a bow of love that is reciprocated, tenfold by those of us who are gathered here on this special day. Whereas, we, your family, recognize and celebrate your great success as a human being, living the life that the Creator called you to live and the manifestation of that success in the recognition of all you have accomplished as an artist: Your entry into the Guinness Book of Records, your many Humanitarian Awards, including the N.A.A.C.P. Award, your Emmy Award nominations, and your Award-Winning Stand-Up Comedy Specials. We treasure, too, the many hours of enjoyment and entertainment you have given us with the books you have written and your movies; over twenty-eight and counting. And let us not forget the show that allowed us to share you with the world: The Bernie Mac Show, in syndication, to be enjoyed by generations to come. And while you, and your lovely wife together have reached out wholeheartedly to those most in need through your many and varied quiet and discreet acts of chaity, specifically, as you heeded the call in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, we who love you want you to know that we see how you embrace your fellow man with the warm and incandescent spirit you have become known for. And whereas, Bernard, we have designated you as the ultimate “*Let’s have a good time and let the good times roll*” O.P.M. (Official Party Master). We commend your ability to celebrate life! And finally, dear sweet Bernard, we recognize your special aura; how you so effortlessly draw people into the basic tenets of leading a good life. You don’t preach, but you teach and lead by example. You have shown us how to treat each other and love one another. Yours is a truly *Christian Walk*, a shining example of what it means to live according to “His” will and “His Word.” You are a role model for all of us: Your life is a testament to the idea that if we believe in God, raise our expectations to reflect His desire for us and never give up, our dreams are possible. Lastly, what we recognize, Bernard, what we know to be true, is that yours is a purpose driven life, one that your parents especially your mother, are so proud of. Your mom, who was so much a guiding force in the realization of your dream to make people laugh to forget their pains, is sharing this day with us from on high, their spirits strongly felt in this room. They can see, as surely as if they were sitting right beside us, our joy and our awe at their legacy represented so strongly in the man you have become on your fifty year journey to this exact moment in time. Your values, ethics and morals are a true measure of a real man, and we are so proud to call you one of our own. We, who have the privilege of sharing the universe with you, bless your parents, your wife Rhonda, your daughter Je’Niece, your granddaughter, Jasmine, son-in-law, Tre’, and all the positive role models and influences in your life, past and present. We bless you, Bernard Jeffrey McCullough. Happy 50th Birthday, may the Creator continue to shine down upon you and give you Peace, Love, Health, and Prosperity, Always.

WITH LOVE, MARY ANN AND FAMILY



His Story

To the world, he was Bernie Mac, but he was born October 5, 1957, Bernard Jeffery McCullough. He was the second child born to Mary McCullough and Jeffery Harrison, both of whom have already made their life transition. Bernard or "Beanie" as he was affectionately called, grew up in the Englewood Community where gang activity was rampant. However, always being a leader and not a follower, he gained the respect of most of the gang members without ever joining. He was forever the clown and always known for making people laugh. He accepted Christ at a young age and attended Burning Bush Missionary Baptist Church.

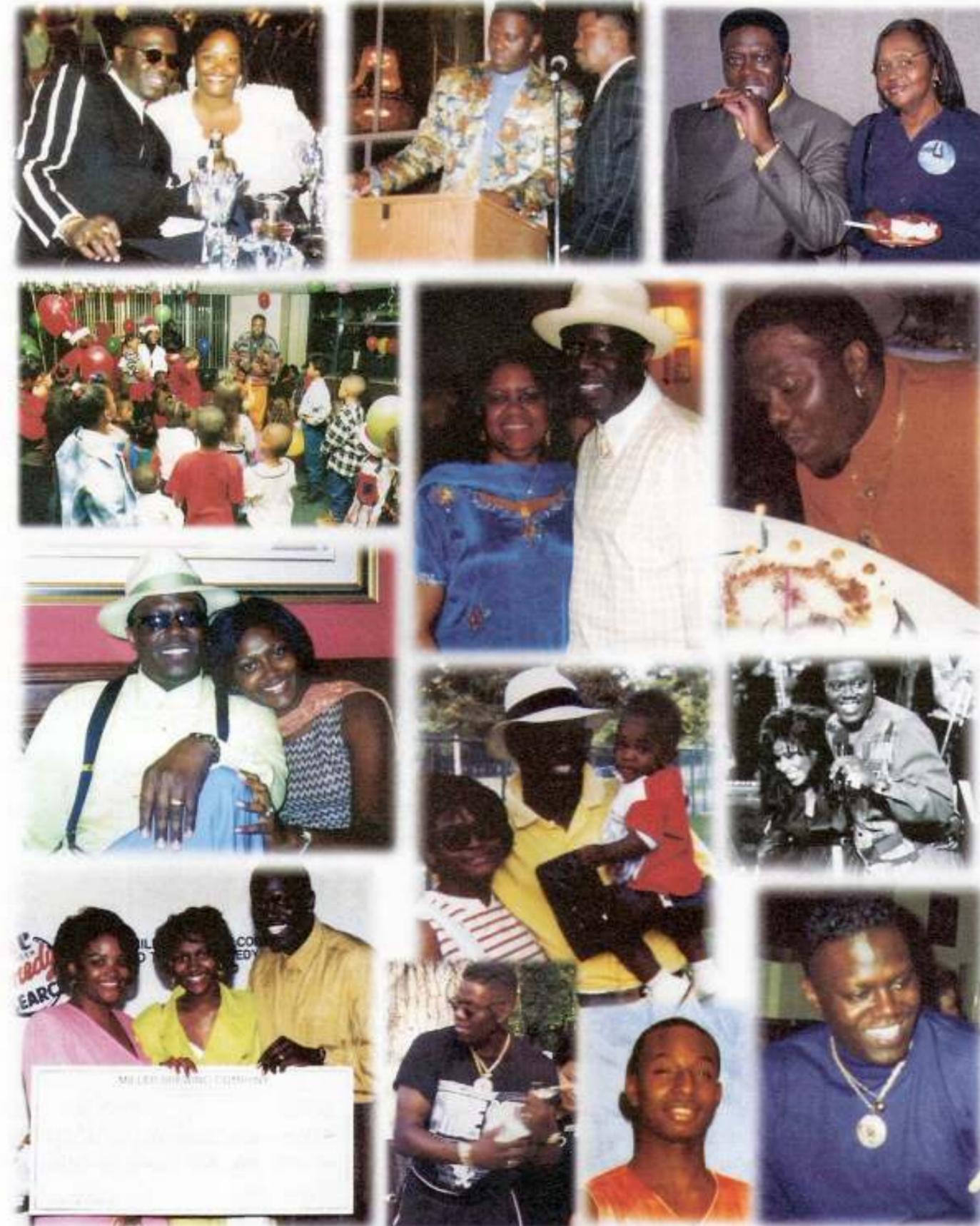
Bernard attended Chicago Vocational High School, where he met the love of his life, Rhonda Gore. They dated for two years before they were married on September 17, 1977. The following year they welcomed their daughter, Je'Niece was born.

It was at the very young age of 4 when Bernard realized his life's purpose. He was to bring laughter to the world. He credits seeing his mother laugh at Bill Cosby in the midst of crying as his motivation. He professed to her "MaMa I'm gonna be a comedian so maybe you never have to cry again."

Bernard held many different jobs before he would be recognized in his comedy career. He would be a truck driver, restaurant manager, mover, basketball coach, and Wonder Bread delivery man (among other things) before he would finally pursue comedy full time.

His break arrived in 1990 when he won first place in the Miller Lite Comedy Search. From that point, his popularity grew and he garnered attention which prompted Russell Simmons to give him a spot on his ground breaking show "Def Comedy Jam". He was so well received that he was invited back to perform a second time. From that moment, the Mac Man became a phenomenon. He would go on tour opening for many performers, including Chaka Khan, Barry White and the Whispers.

Bernie made his film debut in Mo' Money which was released in 1992. His break through performance would be as Pastor Cleaver in Ice Cube's hit movie, Friday (1995). Following that role, he worked on other films. His credits include Who's The Man (1993), Above The Rim, House Party 3 (1994); Don't Be A Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice In The Hood, Get On The Bus (1996); B.A.P.S., Booty Call, How To Be A Player (1998); Life (1999); Head Of State, Ocean's II, What's The Worst That Could Happen (2001); Bad Santa, Charlie's Angels Full Throttle (2003); Mr. 3000, Ocean 12 (2004); Guess Who (2005); Ocean's 13, Pride,



Dad, you loved to profess, "I'm a hard man!" and I would have to lovingly agree. You were hard on me and now I understand your reason. You were preparing me for this day. I will not lie. I am utterly devastated by your departure from this realm. But I stand strong in the midst of my pain because of you. I've had you for 30 years, and because of those 30 years, I realize what will now be missing in my life. You were the very first man I have ever loved, and trust me when I say that the very large shoes you have left behind will never be filled by another. People would always ask me if I was proud of you. I realize that for them the question was rooted in your celebrity. But I must say, that if the world never knew you as Bernie Mac, I would still be proud. I am proud that at the tender age of 19, you married my mother and became my father. I'm proud that you committed yourself to leading our home with love, laughter, integrity, and honor. I'm proud that you instilled values in me and pushed me to be my very best. I'm proud that you did whatever necessary to support our family. I'm proud that you had the courage and fortitude to follow your dream. And I'm so proud I was able to make you a grandfather. Daddy I have worshipped and idolized you, judged and condemned you and finally loved and accepted you. I am so thankful for the love and care you have given me and for pushing me to always be the "Lady." I love you in a time and space where there are no words and I will represent here for you by always putting the CL on my A-S-S.



Always
Boops



His Story (continued)

Transformers (2007) and he will be seen this year in his final films, Old Dogs, Soul Men and Madagascar 3. He even managed to add author to his list of accomplishments, penning 2 autobiographical Books "I Ain't Scared Of You" and "Maybe You Never Cry Again."

In 2000, he would garner even more attention by touring the country as one of "The Original Kings Of Comedy", along with Cedric The Entertainer, D.L. Hughley and Steve Harvey. Prompted by his joke of being the only member without a television show, Fox offered him a deal. In 2001, The Bernie Mac Show, which was loosely based on his own life, premiered and went on to become a great success, garnering him a Peabody Award, NAACP Image Award, as well as several Emmy Nominations. His character, "Uncle Bernie" was even ranked #47 in TV Guide's List of the "50 Greatest TV Dads Of All Time."

Most recently, Bernie appeared publicly in Chicago speaking to young people at Crane High School. He also sparked a bit of controversy by telling a somewhat racy joke at a fundraiser for Presidential hopeful, Barack Obama. However, true to his own self, Bernie's response was simply, "It was joke, if you don't like it, don't laugh."

Bernie was a true Chicagoan who loved his city and continued to live here even when his celebrity grew. His passion for his city and young people prompted him to contribute greatly to his community and involve himself with Chicago Public Schools and other Youth Organizations. His most recent plan was to retire from stand up comedy and focus solely on acting and producing projects.

Comedian, Actor, Producer, Author, Humanitarian, Husband, Father, Grandfather and Friend, Bernie wore many hats and had a huge heart that he shared with the world. He shared his gift of laughter with the world and on August 9, 2008, The Lord called him home. He may be gone, but he will never be forgotten. In his own words, "I don't wanna be no star because stars fall. I do what I do and I rise." And he most certainly did.

Bernie leaves to cherish his memory, His Loving and Devoted Wife, Rhonda; One beautiful Daughter, Je Niece Childress (Tré); One precious Granddaughter, Jasmine; One Sister Gayla Harrison and a host of loving relatives, friends and fans too numerous to name.

Order of Service

PASTOR T.L. BARRETT, JR., Officiating
LIFE CENTER CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Chicago Vocational Career Academy High School	Color Guard
Call To Worship	Reverend Gregory Powell
Praise Team	New Faith Baptist Church International
Scripture Readings	Reverend Gregory Powell Old Testament New Testament
Prayer	Reverend Dr. Alexis Felder
Musical Selection	New Faith Baptist Church International Choir
Greetings	Reverend Senator James T. Meeks Host Pastor Alexi Giannoulis Illinois State Treasurer The Honorable Richard J. Daley Mayor of Chicago
Musical Selection	Theresa Griffin
Acknowledgement of Cards, Gifts, Letters and Resolutions	Pam Morris Mayor's Office of Special Events WVON Radio
Obituary	Minister Joyce LeFlore
Musical Selection	Kim Stratton

Celebration of Life Tributes

Bernard "The Husband, Father and Grandfather"	Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.
Bernard "The Family Man"	Mary Ann Grossett, Sister-in-law Kimberly L. Bonner, Cousin

Order of Service (continued)

Bernard "The Father"	Family Friend, Pam Morris written by Je'Niece McCullough Childress "Boops"
Bernie "The Friend"	Alexis Mihelich Morris Frazier Morris Allen, Jr. Roger Smith Al Varnardo Michael Daniel Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr.
Musical Selection	New Faith Baptist Church International Choir
Bernie "The Comedian"	Shawn Morgan
Bernie "The Business Man"	Ed Williams Attorney at Law Steven Greener, Manager
Bernie Mac "The Celebrity"	Cedric "The Entertainer" Steve Harvey D.L. Hughley Stella Foster Jeremy Suarez Ali Leroi Kenny Smith Samuel L. Jackson
Musical Selection	Santita Jackson Darius Brooks
Tribute to Bernie Mac	Crane Technical Preparatory Common High School Mr. Christopher Robbins, Assistant Principal Lee Giles, Student
Musical Selection	Rachelle Farrell
Eulogy	Reverend Dr. Trunell D. Felder, Pastor New Faith Baptist International Church
Benediction	Reverend Senator James T. Meeks
Recessional	"Thoughts and Wishes" Hamilton Bohannon