



Atty. Frederick Robinson

June 18, 2011

ROBINSON, Atty. C. Frederick - Age 79, passed away Saturday, June 18, 2011 at Hurley Medical Center. Funeral Service 11 a.m. Monday, June 27, 2011 at Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, 317 E. Hamilton Ave. Rev. Dr. Mark A. Jones, Sr. officiating. Interment Flint Memorial Park Cemetery, G-9506 N. Dort Hwy. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 11 a.m. Monday. Atty. Robinson will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 12Noon-6 p.m. Sunday with Memorial Service under the auspices of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. from 4-6 p.m.

Atty. Carrous Frederick Robinson was born August 13, 1931 to Carrous William Robinson and Senas Mehetabel Barnes. He was born in High Point, North Carolina and into the virulent racism of the segregated South.

In 1949, Fred graduated from William Penn High School and moved on to Howard University in Washington, D.C. Upon his graduation from Howard University College of Law in 1956, Fred moved to Flint and opened his law office with his long time partner and friend, A. Glenn Epps. In 1961, he and Mr. Epps opened the law office at 2501 N. Saginaw Street, where he continued practicing law until the time of his death.

C. Fred fought against racism and inequality. With his many allies in the Black Community, he created organizations for the empowerment of black people and to break the mental bonds of slavery and oppression.

Justice, not money, motivated C. Frederick Robinson. He practiced law for

over 55 years believing that it was his duty as a lawyer to contribute to society; not to enrich himself.

Fred never claimed to be perfect, and he did not judge others for their flaws and weaknesses. He was fully aware that some would and that some did take advantage, but he truly believed in second chances and that it is never too late to be what you might have been.

Fred touched many lives as a friend, an ally, and a mentor. He lived a rich life – full of joy, sadness, and disappointment – with few regrets. C. Fred Robinson was one of a kind and he will truly be missed. And through it all, he did it his way.

He is predeceased by the love of his life, Rebecca Louise Rotan Robinson and their son, C. Frederick Robinson II.

His legacy will be carried on by his four daughters and their progeny: Debra Lynne Robinson, M.D., Carolyn Boyd, Rachel Kimberly Robinson, J.D., and Yvette Raquel Robinson, LCSW, and their children; Fred is survived by his sisters, Carolyn Etheridge and Evelyn Davis, and their children.

<http://webcasts.lifetributes.com/228794>

Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Atty. Frederick Robinson*



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Atty. Frederick Robinson*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Your family is in our prayers.*

Calvin and Pamela Hightower - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Fred's Family:
I so enjoyed being around Fred, both in & out of the courthouse. He was a terrific guy, full of life, an excellenet attorney who is hghly respected, and of course a pioneer and leader in civil rights. Take heart that his memory lives in all of us in such a good way. Fred loved to help people. He fought the good fight-every day.*

I'll personally miss him very much, and will keep him, & all of you, in my thoughts and prayers.

Atty. George Hamo - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ First off I would like to send my prayers out to the family. This is so hard for me I really don't know where to start. When I first met Fred I was 17 years old and just got out of foster care. I had a three year old daughter. I had to go to Fred office and provide him with an address for some court documents. The first day in his office I told him I didn't have an address and that I was living with different people at the time. Without him even knowing me he gave me keys to a house. Myself and my child had a home and for that I will forever be Thankful. I moved into this house with nothing but a blanket (tears) The very next week Fred had my house furnished and gave me a car. He didn't even know me but God knew my story and sent me to an angel. I could go on and on about what a loving person he was. He would give you the shirt off his back. Fred was a father to those that didn't have one. Well that's what he was to me. In my eyes he was a father with integrity ripples through the generations. He made the world a better place and he will be missed dearly. R.I.P. My friend/father Fred Robinson.

June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ I cannot imagine what you are experiencing right now, losing your father so abruptly and in such cruel fashion. I can only offer my sympathy and a willing ear if you need one. I wish Dayna and I could be there with you but I know you will not lack for family support.
Much love, and many prayers.

Essie

Essie Woods Bruell - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ *My deepest thoughts are with all of Fred's family and friends. We have all lost a very good man to the Lord.*

Alvita Jackson - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *I am sorry to see Fred leave us. It was a please to know him while I worked in the prosecutor's office. May his memory be eternal with the Lord.*

Mark Liss - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are will you all
Deepest Sympathy*

*Jacqueline R Berry, MD
Howard Med 1981*

Jacqueline R Berry - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Mr. Robinson was an extraordinary man, & I was truly blessed to have known him. I was a tenant in 1 of his homes, & also worked to lease his properties for a while. I still remember for lunch we wanted a burger from Rally's & a cup of chili. He was full of wisdom for both legal & life issues. He would always ask me if I had a 'hole in my head'! I've never been disciplined with such love, & nobody could chastise like him. He was a father figure,mentor,teacher, & friend. He will truly be missed! Rest in Peace Mr. Robinson.*

Michelle (Harris) McLaughlin - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Your father defended my father over 40 years ago against the racist police department who had beat my father for no good reason. They fought him while all five of his kids watch in our driveway and took him to jail, I will never forge. He lost the case but he was not afraid of the City of Flint Police Department, what a Man and a senseless loss.

Brenda Hardy - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I cannot imagine what the Family are experiencing. He was a good Father mentor and teacher. Rest in peace Mr. Robinson. Sam & Beve will keep him & Family in our prayers.

Samuel & Beverly Felder - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KO

“ To Dr. Robinson and Family

I am deeply sadden by the lost of your father . What an awesome and great man in our lifetime.

Kevin Oates - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LY

“ To The Family
Sorry for your loss and you'll continue to be in my prayers.

Lynette - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dear Rachel & Family, Sorrow is an inevitable part of human life, and something with which we all must deal at some point. But this verse reminds us that pain doesn't last forever, just as night is followed by the dawn. Psalm 30:5 (KJV) says: ...weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to you & your family during this difficult time. My prayers are with you, that you will rest in the arms of the comforter, our Lord Jesus Christ and know that there is a promise that we can see our loved ones again and how we can do just that.

In love and sincerity.

Brenda C. Sherrell - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To the family of my frat brother our family send our love ,sympathy and pray God will bless and keep you in his care each and everyday. He heals the brokenhearted Psalm 147:3

Dr. Warren Southall & family - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ To the family of ATTY. C. Frederick Robinson. We the Moore Family was sadden, to hear of the lost, of Atty. Robinson. Please know, that you're in our prayers and thoughts. Prayer is the key. Respectfully, The Moore Family: Kenneth (Deb), Barbara (Shermon), Patricia, Sheila, Billy (Viv.), *Kevin II* and Nita (Kenny). The Grands: Dr. Kim. Tiffiany, Sheree'. Kristin (Tonu), Kevin II (TaLaya), Terry II, Sheena', D.D., Kyla, Kavottis, Keria, Doron', Doren and Kendrick.

Doris B. Moore-White - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ you will be miss by the flint community. i meet fred when i was very young and in the streets. he representing my ex-boyfriend in a murder trail and from than he became a mentor. fred was a good man and really believed in making flint a better place. you will be sadly miss.

Latrice Gardner - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ To the entire Robinson family:

I had the good fortune to know Mr. Robinson for many years when I lived in Flint. He would appear on my radio program over the years to discuss one of the many high profile cases he was involved in. In addition to being a fine lawyer, he was even a nicer human being.

The good Lord threw the mold away when he made C. Frederick Robinson! He was a man of principal, loyalty and had a great sense of humor.

His tragic death is sad on so many levels. I feel for his many friends and family. I mourn for my former community that has been wrought with needless violence and worry that Flint has lost a voice to the voiceless. I respected Mr. Robinson for being a champion of the people. His record on matters of civil rights is clear. His noble works will continue to live on.

The Supreme Architect said we will be judged by the way we treat "the least" among us. If that's the case, Attorney Robinson certainly has a reserved space where the streets are paved with gold.

My deepest sympathies go to his friends, family and colleagues. You see, we now have the difficult job. All of Mr. Robinson's needs have been met. But WE can continue to carry the torch that Fred carried so gallantly for so many years.

Godspeed to his soul.

*Dave Barber
Providence, RI*

Dave Barber - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *Debra and Rachel*

I know that no words can come even remotely close to healing the pain that you feel. My heart goes out to you in this difficult time. May you find peace and comfort in knowing that your grief is shared by so many of us.

My deepest sympathy and prayers to you and your family.

Cynthia Boston-Thompson

Port Saint Lucie/ West Palm Beach, Florida

CYNTHIA BOSTON-THOMPSON - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *Debra, Rachel and Yvette; I worked for Fred for 15+ years, the office and the Nestors. He was a friend, boss and mentor. There are no words to describe our relationship. I am so sorry for your loss and you have my deepest sympathy and condolences. I am still in shock because he was a good man. "Look to the hills from where your strength come," The Lord makes no mistakes and he came and took His angel home and we know he's in a better place. My prayers are with the family, God bless. Love you guys.*

Janis Thorns - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ To the Family,

Today, we offer tribute to our uncle, C. Frederick Robinson. We are all so proud of our Uncle Fred. Our mother, Wava Robinson Sanders, would often express her love and admiration for each of her brothers and sisters. On many occasions she spoke proudly of Uncle Fred's many accomplishments and his life of duty and service. As a widow, our mother closely identified with her brother's role as a single parent to his daughters. His commitment to fatherhood and service to his community created a common bond between them. As you look at his children and his community service, they speak to the successful outcome of what he put his hands to do.

During family times, our mother would often discuss the background and educational preparation made by each of her brothers and sisters in pursuit of their life calling and career. Pride in being a Robinson was deeply ingrained in us. We were given a true sense of self and our unique purposes in serving God and mankind. This common trait and destiny can be observed throughout our bloodline.

Reflecting upon family gatherings over the years we would always assume that Uncle Fred would be there. We looked forward to his triumphant arrival and his stance at the podium to begin his dissertation regarding our Robinson Family heritage. He would expound upon the family traditions and the expectations of those blessed to be in the lineage of C. W. and Mehetebel Robinson, his parents and the heads of the family. He and his siblings, Minetta, Pauline, Carolyn, Wava, Paul, and Evelyn were each highly accomplished and did the family "proud." They really set the "Bar" high for those of us who would follow, and carry on the family name.

Our uncle influenced each of his nieces and nephews with his entrepreneurial spirit. Many have chosen to follow in his footsteps of self enterprise.

As Wava's children, we particularly remember the many new things he exposed to us. He would come to New York and invite us to upscale hotels and restaurants during an era when few black people had an opportunity for that kind of experience and exposure.

Lynn recalls her uncle sending a plane ticket to come to Flint. She took her first flight solo at nine years old. She developed a love for flying because of that at this early age. As well, she remembers the awesome occasion when our mother took her to the exquisite and beautiful Americana Hotel, New York in route to Michigan. Uncle Fred was taking her to visit Debbie Lynne, who was only 7 days younger in age.

We will sincerely miss our uncle, C. Frederick Robinson, the patriarch of our family.

We will treasure memories of family gathering around Aunt Carolyn's eloquent dining room table, enjoying a scrumptious meal and then we would proceed to begin the family praise time. Uncle Fred would usually begin this ritual by asking Aunt Evelyn to come to the piano and sing "Mercy Lord."

To our cousins, Debbie, Rachel, and Yvette, to their spouses and children, we say that we love you and pray that God will soothe your grief, comfort you on every side, and restore your joy.

As we celebrate Uncle Fred's life, we honor all of his family, friends and fellow laborers. We share in your grief at his passing.

Let us remember and take comfort in knowing that John3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but will have everlasting life."

*Lovingly Submitted,
DeEtte, Marion III, Leona, and Lynn*

Deette Reed - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ To the Family,

Today, we offer tribute to our uncle, C. Frederick Robinson. We are all so proud of our Uncle Fred. Our mother, Wava Robinson Sanders, would often express her love and admiration for each of her brothers and sisters. On many occasions she spoke proudly of Uncle Fred's many accomplishments and his life of duty and service. As a widow, our mother closely identified with her brother's role as a single parent to his daughters. His commitment to fatherhood and service to his community created a common bond between them. As you look at his children and his community service, they speak to the successful outcome of what he put his hands to do.

During family times, our mother would often discuss the background and educational preparation made by each of her brothers and sisters in pursuit of their life calling and career. Pride in being a Robinson was deeply ingrained in us. We were given a true sense of self and our unique purposes in serving God and mankind. This common trait and destiny can be observed throughout our bloodline.

Reflecting upon family gatherings over the years we would always assume that Uncle Fred would be there. We looked forward to his triumphant arrival and his stance at the podium to begin his dissertation regarding our Robinson Family heritage. He would expound upon the family traditions and the expectations of those blessed to be in the lineage of C. W. and Mehetabel Robinson, his parents and the heads of the family. He and his siblings, Minetta, Pauline, Carolyn, Wava, Paul, and Evelyn were each highly accomplished and did the family "proud." They really set the "Bar" high for those of us who would follow, and carry on the family name.

Our uncle influenced each of his nieces and nephews with his entrepreneurial spirit. Many have chosen to follow in his footsteps of self enterprise.

As Wava's children, we particularly remember the many new things he exposed to us. He would come to New York and invite us to upscale hotels and restaurants during an era when few black people had an opportunity for that kind of experience and exposure.

Lynn recalls her uncle sending a plane ticket to come to Flint. She took her first flight solo at nine years old. She developed a love for flying because of that at this early age. As well, she remembers the awesome occasion when our mother took her to the exquisite and beautiful Americana Hotel, New York in route to Michigan. Uncle Fred was taking her to visit Debbie Lynne, who was only 7 days younger in age.

We will sincerely miss our uncle, C. Frederick Robinson, the patriarch of our family.

We will treasure memories of family gathering around Aunt Carolyn's eloquent dining room table, enjoying a scrumptious meal and then we would proceed to begin the family praise time. Uncle Fred would usually begin this ritual by asking Aunt Evelyn to come to the piano and sing "Mercy Lord."

To our cousins, Debbie, Rachel, and Yvette, to their spouses and children, we say that we love you and pray that God will soothe your grief, comfort you on every side, and restore your joy.

As we celebrate Uncle Fred's life, we honor all of his family, friends and fellow laborers. We share in your grief at his passing.

Let us remember and take comfort in knowing that John3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but will have everlasting life."

*Lovingly Submitted,
DeEtte, Marion III, Leona, and Lynn*

Deette Reed - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Debbie,*
My heart was saddened at the news of your loss. Know that I am praying for you and your family at this time. My God Bless and Keep you and Comfort you with peace.

Terry Brannon
Flint central High School

Terry Brannon - June 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM