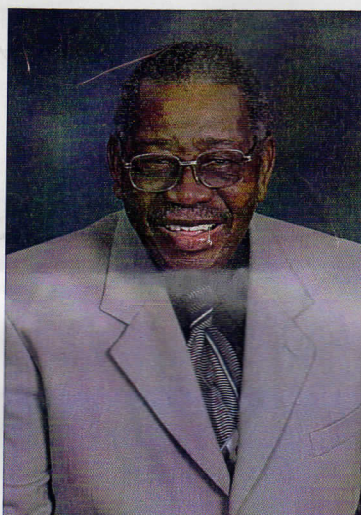


*A Celebration
Of Life*

Walter Willie Roland



*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—
and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—
not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

Sunrise

January 27, 1922

Sunset

March 16, 2008

Saturday, March 22, 2008
10:00 A.M.

First Baptist Church Piney Grove
4699 West Oakland Park Boulevard
Lauderdale Lakes, Florida
Rev. Joseph L. Roberts, Senior Pastor

Interment: Sunset Memorial Gardens
3201 Northwest 19th Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

A Roy Mizell & Kurtz Funeral Home Service

Reflections of A Life

God saw you getting weary, so He did what was best. He came and stood beside you and whispered "Come and rest." Sleep on "Daddy" and take your rest, we love you!

God, in his infinite wisdom, saw fit to call Deacon Walter Willie Roland, affectionately known as "Daddy" by those close to him, home to rest and he slipped into God's loving arms on Sunday, March 16, 2008. Deacon Roland was born the fourth of five sons on January 27, 1922 in Mathis, Georgia to the late Thomas and Onnie Roland. His brothers Johnny, Willie, Leroy and Clayton preceded him in death. He was educated in the Jefferson County School System in Mathis.

Deacon Roland accepted Christ at an early age at the Thompson Springhill Methodist Church in Mathis, Georgia. He joined First Baptist Church Piney Grove and his membership extended for over 58 years. He was very active and served faithfully in various capacities. He was President of Usher Board # 2, President of the Sanctuary Choir, and a member of the Brotherhood. Because of his faithfulness to Christ and his spiritual leadership, he was ordained a Deacon in 1957. He served in this capacity until he was called home to be with his Lord and Savior.

In 1939 he married his childhood sweetheart, Georgia Beasley. Shortly after they were married, they moved to Belleglade, Florida. After a year, they moved back to Georgia. They really loved Florida and decided after the birth of their first child to return to Florida. They settled in Fort Lauderdale and increased the size of the family adding five more children to their nuptial union. Three of his children, Leonard, Patricia and Brent preceded him in death. Walter served his Country in the U.S. Navy and was a World War II Veteran.

He was an avid fisherman. He took many fishing trips taking his son, grandsons and fishing partner and oldest nephew, Leroy Change, Jr. with him. Deacon Roland played semi-pro baseball with the Colored League in Broward County, Florida traveling to many games on an old school bus painted blue and white. He also managed a baseball team. He was a lover of sports and was an avid bowler. He last bowled in November 2007 scoring 205 in his last game.

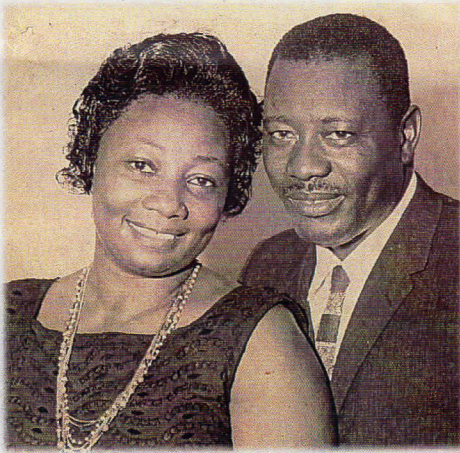
Deacon Roland was a licensed plumber learning his trade while working at Chris Craft Boating Company. He later started his own business, Roland and Sons Plumbing Company in 1970. Because of health problems, he retired in 2000.

He leaves to cherish his memories, his devoted wife of 68 years, Georgia; three daughters: Theretha Eady, Earma Wilcox, and Joan Smith (Samuel Smith), a special "Sister-Cousin": Thelma James; one daughter-in-law: Keytheal Roland; one brother-in-law: Dorsey Beasley; five sister-in-laws: Mattie Cruz, Mattie Roland, Olga Roland, Freddie Beasley, and Josephine Beasley; 20 grand-children, 35 great-grand-children and 11 great-great-grandchildren, his favorite fishing partner, oldest and dearest nephew: Leroy Change, Jr.; Elmer Wilkerson and the children of Thelma James and a host of other loving relatives: nephews, nieces, cousins, Church family, devoted friends, and caring neighbors.

His Garden

*God looked around His garden, and found an empty place;
He then looked down upon this earth, and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you, and lifted you to rest;
God's garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best.*

In Loving Memory



A Tribute to My Husband

*Many years ago I met and married you
And from that day I realized that you
were my dream come true.*

*We walked together side by side through the
thick and through the thin*

Laughed together cried together,

My husband, my partner, my friend.

I'll miss the sound of your loving voice,

"Hey doll" you'd call out to me.

Gone to be with Jesus now your spirit's been set free.

And though I continue this road

without you alone I'll never be,

for Jesus is my strength and memories of you and me.

Thank you for being the provider you were

keeping me clothed in your care,

*I made up my mind a long time ago that I would follow you
anywhere. A man of your word you've proven to be,*

you kept your vow from the start

to be with me, grow old with me till death us do part.

My darling, "Will" we must end this story

for it's simply a fact of life

I know that I was truly Blessed the day I became your wife.

Forever and a Day

"George"

Order of Service

Rev. Robert Perry, Officiating

The Prelude

The Processional The Final Glance

The Selection First Baptist Church Piney Grove
Celestial Choir

The Scriptures Rev. John Williams
Old Testament Joshua 24:14-15
New Testament Ephesians 4:21-26

The Prayer Rev. Robert Perry

The Selection First Baptist Church Piney Grove
Celestial Choir

(The Reflections)

As A Deacon Deacon Donald Campbell

As I Knew Him Sister Marie Holloway-Harrison

The Selection "I Won't Complain"
Deacon Lonnie Snell

As a Granddad Brother Jerold Smith

As Family Sister Joan Roland Smith, Daughter

The Acknowledgments Roy Mizell/Kurtz Staff

The Hymn of Comfort "Medley of Comfort"
Sister Hattie "Dee" Harden

The Words of Comfort ... Rev. Joseph L. Robert

The Recessional

MEMORIES OF MY GRAND DAD



Walter Willie Roland was his name. He was a Milkman, an Electrician, a Master Plumber, a mentor, a friend, a Father and a Grand Father, but most of all he was "Daddy". There are five generations of Rolands that Daddy presided over. What can anyone say about a man who is the Daddy of us all?

I asked my cousins what were their most favorite memories of Dad. Some male cousins said that they owed all that they are to him. He taught us what it was to be a real man. He was the example of how to work hard. Some remember when "Daddy" came home from work, how all of us kids use to fight over who would have the honor of pulling off his boots and socks as he sat in his big easy chair. Some remembered some of his colorful expressions that sounded like "Wrench round and rans it off!"

Daddy set a tradition that is relevant at this time of year. Early Easter Sunday morning we would all gather at his house to take pictures. We would all be in our Sunday best and then... the Easter egg hunts for the kids. It was one of the happiest days of the year for us all.

I am the fortunate one to be the first Grand child to Daddy. I worked with him and prayed with him. The lessons of Faith in Christ and to Love mankind is the legacy that I accept. How we live our lives is truly all about Love. I remember this scripture he quoted to me in my time of near death ... "for the Lord he shall descend with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we that are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we be with the Lord.

We Love you Daddy and we shall see you in the air.