

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise to God!

— James 5:13 ESV

PALL BEARERS

Shannon Stapleton [Son/Grandson] Gary Pouncy [Son-in-Law]
John Bernard [Son-in-Law] Aren King [Grandson]
Bruce Archie [Future Son-in-Law] Craig Wilkins [Son-in-Law]

FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Friends of the Family

INTERMENT

Rose Hill Cemetery

1615 Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL 34741

REPAST

Immediately following the interment, please join the family
for a repast at 313 Kassik Circle, Orlando, FL 32824.

In Appreciation

The family of Mr. James W. Stapleton expresses their sincerest
appreciation and gratitude for your sympathy, generosity, and all acts of kindness.

May God continue to bless and keep you in His care!

We take solace in 1 Corinthians 2:9.....

*“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man,
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”*

— the Family



Mitchell's Funeral Home

Directors

“The Home That Faith and Service Built”

501 Fairvilla Rd., Orlando, FL 32808 • (407) 298-0703

www.mitchellsfuneralhome.com

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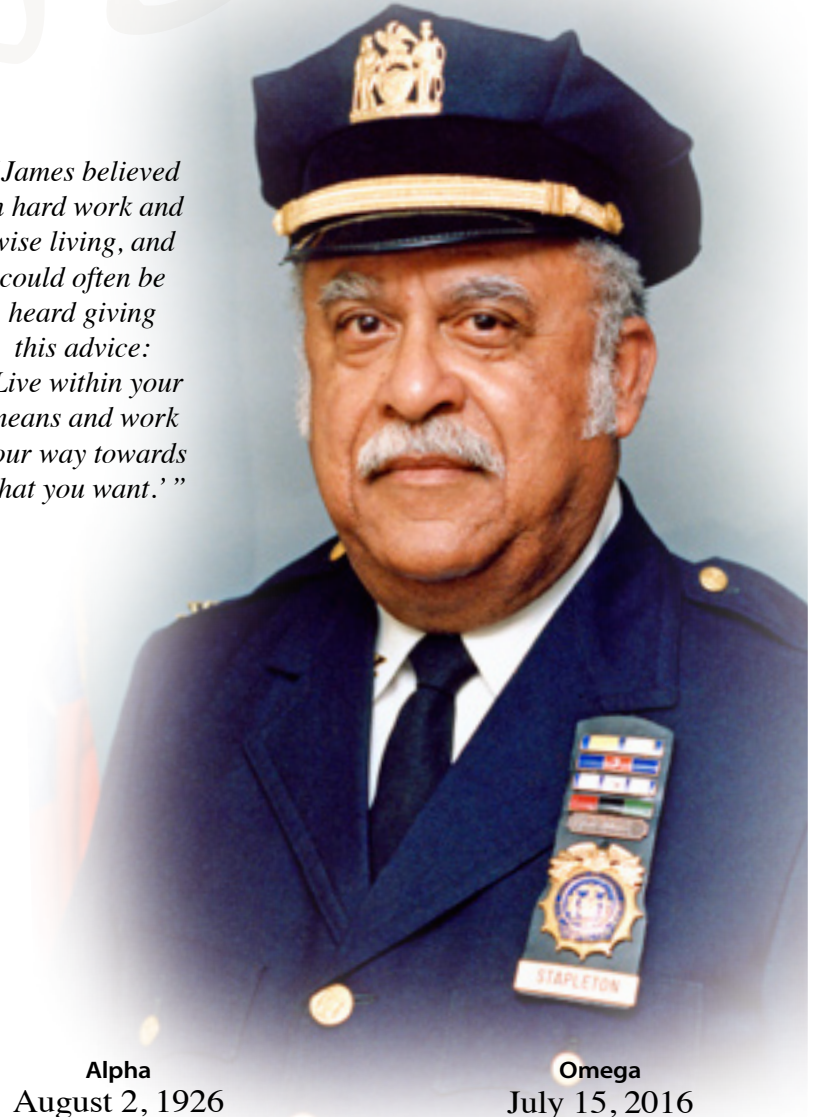
Celebrating the Life

MR.

of

James W. Stapleton

*“James believed
in hard work and
wise living, and
could often be
heard giving
this advice:
‘Live within your
means and work
your way towards
what you want.’ ”*



Alpha

August 2, 1926

Omega

July 15, 2016

IN THE CHAPEL OF MITCHELL'S FUNERAL HOME
11:00am, Saturday, July 30th, 2016
501 Fairvilla Rd., Orlando, Florida 32808

A Legacy™

A Heritage: Character Qualities, Memoirs...

*“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die....a time to weep, and a time to laugh:
a time to mourn, and a time to dance...”*

– Ecclesiastes 3:1-2a, 4

James W. Stapleton was born on August 2nd, 1926 to the late Reuben and Edith Stapleton in Brooklyn, New York. James was one of two sons born to this union, but his brother Milton preceded him in death in 1997. After graduating high school, James enlisted in the US Army. After serving two years he exited the Army with a honorable discharge, and went on to later join the New York City Housing Department in 1958. While working James attended John Jay College, where he obtained an Associate Degree in Communications and Electronics. He also studied and received a Federal First Class radio/telephone license, but he didn't stop there. His love for learning caused him to go on to major in Political Science and Public Administration and receive a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree respectively.

His communication license afforded him clearance to be selected by the Police Department to go to Detroit to meet with a designer at Motorola and develop the walkie/talkie radio that is used by the police today. He then went on to take the necessary tests to become Sergeant, and then Lieutenant. He was later appointed Captain and transferred to the Internal Affairs Division. He was appointed Deputy Inspector, Full Inspector, and eventually he was appointed Deputy Chief.

During his Law Enforcement Career, James was also involved in various organizations. He served as the National Vice President for Eastern Region 1 of Noble, and President of the New York Chapter. He also held the position of Chairman of the Political Action Committee of the One Hundred Black Men Organization. In August of 1989, James retired from the New York City Police Department, but 9 months later he came out of retirement and was appointed Director of Administration for Battery Park City Authority by former Governor, Mario Cuomo. His appointment as the head of the Civilian Complaint Division was an historical achievement as he was the *first* Black man appointed, and was the *first* Black man appointed by a Black man. In 1992 James received an award for The Who's Who Worldwide for demonstrating Leadership Achievement in his profession.

By 1995, James had successfully completed this leg of his race, thus, he retired a second time and relocated to Orlando, Florida with his loving wife, Fredonia. In Orlando he enjoyed golfing, tinkering with electronics, building projects, and playing on the computer. He was a history buff and seemingly knew something about *everything*. Needless to say, James believed in hard work and wise living, and could often be heard giving this advice “live within your means and work your way towards what you want.”

James W. Stapleton was preceded in death by his **wife** – Fredonia, in 2002; **parents** – Reuben and Edith Stapleton, who were immigrants from St. Vincent [his **mother** was very close to having lived 100 years, passing at the ripe age of 99]; **brother** – Milton Stapleton; and **children** – James Stapleton Jr., Nadine Stapleton, & Debra Toppin.

To cherish many fond memories of a life well-lived, he leaves behind: **children** – Victoria (Gary) Pouncy of VA, Vanessa (Craig) Wilkins from New York, Annette (John) Bernard from Georgia, Marissa (Bruce) Stapleton from Florida, Shawana Stapleton, of New York, and Shannon (Tamika) Stapleton from New York; a host of **grandchildren**, **great grand children**, and **great-great grandchildren**;

two **sisters-in-law** – Elisse Elliott and Sarah Stapleton;
one **brother-in-law** – Jerome Drayton; two **nieces** – Marie Oliver from Georgia, and Charisse Elliott of Florida;
one **nephew** – Blaine Drayton from Maryland;
other relatives and many friends.

Order of Service

Officiating Minister – Bishop Kelvin E. Burke
Organist / Music by – Minister Edward Brown

Processional – “When We All Get to Heaven”

Selection – “Amazing Grace”

Opening Prayer Charisse Elliott (Niece)

Lessons from Scripture

Old Testament – Psalm 91:1-2, 14-16

New Testament – John 3:5-8, 16-18, 34-35

Song – “His Eye is on the Sparrow”

Reflections (limit your remarks to 2 minutes each, please)

Open to Family and Friends

Acknowledgments Bill Maylard (Family Friend)

Song – “Going Up Yonder”

Words of Comfort Bill Maylard (Family Friend)

Recessional – “I Feel Like Going On”

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*Yet we have this assurance: Those who belong to God will live;
their bodies will rise again! Those who sleep in the earth
will rise up and sing for joy!* – Isaiah 26:19_{NLT}



James with Wife, Fredonia