

Celebration of Life



Milton Lee Holden

02.10.1936

02.01.2018



HOMEGOING SERVICE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2018
10 O'CLOCK AM
VIEWING 8AM TO 10AM



MT. ZION CME CHURCH
701 FELTON AVENUE, DARBY TOWNSHIP, PA 19079
REV. ALFRED S. PARKER, JR., PASTOR

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF

MILTON LEE HOLDEN

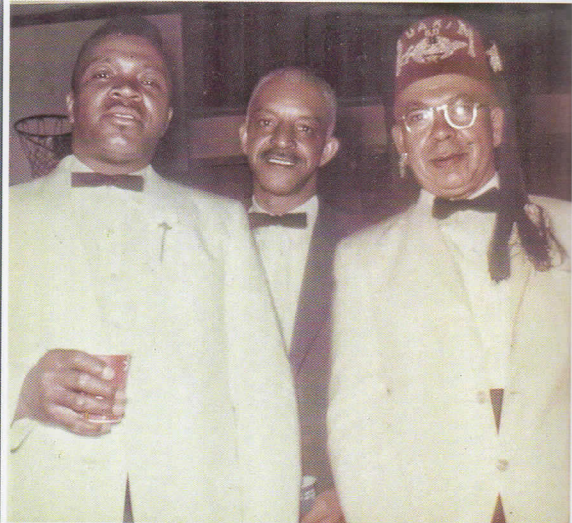
Milton Lee Holden (Mickey), of Sharon Hill, PA, retired member of the 82nd Airborne, made his final "jump" on February 1, 2018, in the company of his loving wife. Milton was the only child born to Roland Kelly and Lillie Mae Holden on February 10, 1936 in Accomack, VA. Shortly after birth, he moved to Millsboro, Delaware where he was raised by his grandparents - Beshore and Lenora Holden. While Milton did not have siblings, he was raised with his first cousins Anne Holden (Hicks) and Norman Oliver, whom he adored.

Milton joined the military in 1954 where he was stationed at Fort Bragg as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division. He was promoted four times and was a Qualified Jumpmaster with 38 Jumps when he was honorably discharged in 1957. After his military service, Milton met and married Esther, his wife of 58 years, on October 24, 1959. Together, they had two children - son, Dana Ivan (died shortly after birth) and daughter, Dawn Holden Woods. While living in Delaware, Milton was active as a 32nd Degree Mason and Past Master of Rising Sun Lodge #4 Prince Hall Affiliation. Milton and his wife moved to Philadelphia in 1967 in search of better career options, finding Cement Masons Local 592 where he happily served as a cement mason until retiring in 1996.

In August 1974, Milton and Esther moved to Darby Township. Milton immediately volunteered to serve his new community by joining the Darby Township Volunteer Fire Company # 4. As a volunteer fire fighter, he received many awards including Outstanding Senior Fireman and the Director's Award for his many years of faithful service. In his fifties, Milton became a dedicated member of Mt Zion C.M.E. Church and the Brotherhood Breakfast Association of Churches, where he once served as the Chairman of the Trustee Board. As a member of the Brotherhood, he received several awards for his exemplary service.

Milton enjoyed family activities - amusement parks, barbeques, weddings, reunions and the like. He and Esther continued to find time for amusement parks long after Dawn became an adult. He particularly enjoyed playing Pokeno with his wife and extended family, which was a New Year's Eve tradition. While his first love was his family, power tools and pickup trucks were a close second. Milton loved to work around the house. When the weather was warm, his family would be awakened by the sound of power tools on Saturday mornings.

Milton is survived by his Wife, Esther Holden; Daughter and Son-In-Law, Dawn and Tommy Woods; Sister-in-Law, Flora Hope; Nieces, Muriel Hope, Terri Hope and Mia Howell; and Nephews, Myron Hope and Johnathan Conaway.





THE ORDER OF SERVICE

- Organ Prelude
- ProcessionalMinisters, Clergy & Family
- Closing of Bier Claude J. Edney Funeral Home Staff
- Hymn of Comfort "I'll Fly Away"
- Prayer of Comfort
- Ministry of the Written Word
Old Testament - Psalm 27:1-4 & New Testament - John 14:1-6
- Ministry of Song Sis. Latosha Wray, First African Baptist Church
- Resolutions, Cards & AcknowledgementsBro. Bruce Benson
- ObituaryBro. Bruce Benson
- Family Tributes & Remarks
Cousin Trudy Hicks Mifflin - Cousin Denise Hicks Barnes - Rev. Tyrone Fitzgerald
- Words of Comfort Rev. George Holland, Green Grove Baptist Church
- Ministry of Song Sis. Latosha Wray
- Eulogy Rev. Alfred S. Parker, Jr., Pastor, Mt. Zion CME Church
- Benediction and Recessional

Interment

Mt. Zion Cemetery, 1400 Springfield Rd, Darby PA

Repast immediately following the service at
Fellowship Hall - Mt. Zion CME Church





Memories of My Dad

Every Saturday during the warm weather, I remember waking up to the sound of loud thuds, lawn mowers and saws. My father was always building, fixing or updating our home. Sometimes I used to think he would break something, just to have something to fix, but in time I realized that was his way of showing his love for us. In my early twenties, I moved out and bought a house without consulting with my parents, which was clearly crazy and boy was it a fixer upper. My dad, retired at the time, started packing his lunch and reporting to my house to fix it; sheetrocking walls, patching concrete and calling vendors to fix all of the things that were outside of the scope of his expertise, which only included plumbing and electrical work by his account. I share this story, not because he loved his trade, which he did, but I also came to learn that this was his love language...making sure I was prepared and taken care off. I remember him asking me before I got married, why I didn't renew my AAA membership and I told him that it was because, I would just call him if my car broke down. I knew he would come, even if he mumbled a few choice words under his breath along the way. My father believed in being on time. He actually believed in being early because on time was considered late! Apparently this trait didn't transfer to my mother and I, so we'd have to take two cars to church because he would be 15 minutes early and we'd be twenty minutes late. As he aged, he'd be the first person at Cousin Brian and Trudy's for every party and the first person ready to leave. Well Dad, you were the first one up in heaven and we know you'll be saving seats for us. I appreciate the happy life you created for me. I'll miss and love you always.

~ Dawn ~





Embracing the Moment

Lord you are everything to us. Thank you that we can walk each moment with you and not have to figure life out on our own and when we come to a dark time, we can put our hand in yours and depend on you as we walk through it together. I know that the upright shall dwell in your presence and that's where we want to live. For in your presence we will find healing, deliverance, love, peace, joy and hope.

Lord I know that regardless of what situation we might be in right now, you have an abundance of blessings for us. You are working powerfully in our life, thank you for saving us, Jesus and setting us free from all that would keep us from moving into everything you have for us. Thank you for filling us with your Holy Spirit. Thank you for loving us.

To my loving husband,

Who knew when we met more than 58 years ago at the Blue Goose Restaurant in Milton, Delaware that we'd be happily married for a lifetime. Looking back, we were just kids at ages 19 and 23, but our love matured over time. We weren't the sentimental couple, but you have been my best friend for life and with God's help we weathered good times, the death of a child and sickness ... TOGETHER. I'll miss you dearly, but I know you're in a better place with no sickness and suffering.

Love you always, Esther



Services of Comfort Entrusted to:

Claude J. Edney Funeral Home, Inc.

Claude J. Edney, Sr., Founder - Claude J. Edney, Jr., Supervisor

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