

Celebrating the Life of



Reverend Edward James Laiscell

October 10, 1942 – February 15, 2021

Friday, March 5, 2021

Viewing: 10:00 a.m.

Service: 11:00 a.m.

From the Heart Church Ministries®

Annex at 5055 Allentown Road, Suitland, Maryland 20746

Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor

Obituary

Edward James Laiscell was born on October 10, 1942, to John and Rhoda Laiscell in East Fairhaven, Massachusetts, in the home of his maternal grandmother, Izulina DePina. He was the youngest of four children.

In 1960, Edward graduated from New Britain High School in Connecticut. And in October of that year, he followed his only brother, Johnny, and joined the U.S. Navy. In April 1968, after having been honorably discharged from the military, he began working as a journalist for *The Hartford Times* newspaper. From 1978-1984, he was employed with The Hartford Inquirer Newspaper Group as a journalist photographer and managing editor from 1984-1994. During his years as a photojournalist, he had the opportunity to capture images of celebrities such as Muhammad Ali, Ossie Davis, and Ruby Dee; former Presidents Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush; several former District of Columbia mayors; and gospel greats Shirley Caesar, Reverend James Cleveland, and Marvin Sapp, among other notables. His photographs were used to help tell the untold stories—they were worth more than a thousand words.

Edward had a strong work ethic, professional in attitude and in appearance. In 1977, he started preparing taxes in the office of Jack Ross, an opportunity that ultimately led to a door-to-door, person-to-person successful business. In November 2000, he took a position with Catholic Charities in Washington, D.C., and later became program supervisor, a position he held for many years. He loved working to help men in homeless shelters in the District and Maryland, and he was committed to the organization's mission—his co-workers referred to him as “Mr. Policy” because he was known to strictly adhere to the established rules and regulations.

Edward was a former member of several professional and religious organizations to include the Greater Hartford Alliance of Ministers and the Black Ecumenical Alliance of Ministers. Additionally, he was highlighted in the U.S. Registry of Who's Who in Leading American Executives, one of the many recognitions he received over the years.

On December 31, 1986, Edward married the love of his life, Marlene, and together the lovely couple raised five children: Sonya, JoAnna, Edward Jr., Toni, and Robert. Edward was a loving husband and father who enjoyed spending time with his family.

Edward, a man of unwavering faith, accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior on November 5, 1976. The dedicated prayer warrior knew God had a plan for his life and he was eager to follow it. As he matured in his relationship with the Lord, he was elevated in the Body of Christ and his responsibilities increased. While in Connecticut, he received numerous appointments and served in different capacities in the House of God Which is the Church of the Living God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth, Inc. There he received an Elders Certificate of Ordination Credential in 1983. In the eight years that followed, Reverend Laiscell accepted various pastoral appointments, and evangelical

Obituary (continued)

In 1993, as he continued to follow God's plan for his life, Reverend Laiscell and his family relocated to Maryland to join From the Heart Church Ministries (formerly Full Gospel AME Zion Church), another opportunity for spiritual growth and development. From 1996-1999, he received numerous Certificates of Appointment to serve in the Philadelphia and Baltimore Annual Conferences of the AME Zion Church, which included District Director for the Prison Ministry, Conference Evangelist, and Conference Missionary.

In 1999, Reverend Laiscell was ordained an Elder at From the Heart under the leadership of the late Episcopal Pastor Dr. John A. Cherry. For over 20 years, he was actively involved in the life of the church—faithfully serving on the Ministerial Staff, in the Prison, Seniors, and Community Outreach Ministries. He was truly committed to his church and the work of the ministry.

Reverend Laiscell had several pastimes. He was an avid sports fan—it really didn't matter which sport—he liked them all. Moreover, the history buff loved watching game shows, Jeopardy was his favorite. He enjoyed Bible Trivia, playing Scrabble with his mother, and taking trips to the beach with his children and grandchildren. Although a very picky eater, Reverend Laiscell was fond of lemon pie, and Shepherd's pie—a meat and vegetable casserole his mother used to make, and his wife later adopted. Additionally, he was the most amazing travel companion—never forgetting directions to places he had only been to once—even years later. He generally did the driving on road trips with Marlene, with a time schedule in mind, he didn't take any chances on letting her behind the wheel, except when they were visiting family in Connecticut.

Reverend Laiscell loved sharing the Gospel of the Good News of Jesus Christ. When describing her late husband, Marlene his wife of 34 years, reflects on 2 Timothy 2: 24-26, "My husband was a gentle and kind man, able to teach, loved to teach! He had the patience of Job and was always, always, always ready and willing to serve God's people." Reverend Laiscell, with his gentle nature and many gifts and talents, went home to be with the Lord on February 15, 2021. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Reverend Laiscell leaves to cherish his memory his wife Marlene Laiscell; children: Sonya Laiscell and Edward Laiscell, Jr., of Hartford, Connecticut, JoAnna Laiscell of Manchester, Connecticut, Toni Law (Anthony) of Winter Park, Florida, and Robert Dickson of New Britain, Connecticut; brother, John Laiscell (Diane) from Rhode Island; sisters, Judy Laiscell of Rocky Hill, Connecticut, and Debra Laiscell of Middletown, Connecticut; 18 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a special family in Maryland; a host of other relatives and friends; and his From the Heart Church Ministries family.

Reverend Laiscell was preceded in death by his parents, John and Rhoda Laiscell; and sister, Edna Johnson.

Order of Service

Invocation

Scripture Reading

*Old Testament: Psalm 34:1-10
New Testament: Romans 8:29-39*

Prayer of Comfort

Selection *FTH Psalmist*

Acknowledgements

Remarks

*Ms. JoAnna Laiscell, Daughter
Reverend Msgr. John J. Enzler, President and CEO,
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington
Mr. Nathaniel Jenkins, Longtime Friend (Virtual Remarks)*

Obituary (*Read Silently*)

Song of Preparation *FTH Psalmist*

Message of Hope *Bishop John A. Cherry, II*

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment

WHEN IT'S TIME

Written By: Toni Law

*When it's time there's never preparation for those who are not prepared
to say their final I LOVE YOU...*

There's only time to remember you....

*Reflections of times shared, bringing a smile while tears are falling,
but knowing you are in a peaceful slumber*

*Awaiting the shout with the voice of an archangel and the trump of
God then will be the time you shall arise (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
to be forever with the Lord. So while we're still here preparing and waiting,
continue to sleep, for on that day we shall be caught up to meet him*

WHEN IT'S TIME



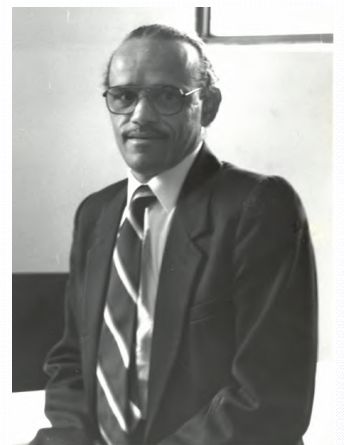
LIFE IS BUT A STOPPING PLACE

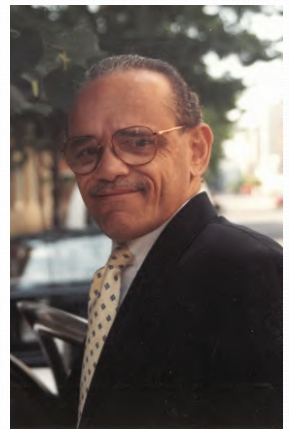
Author Unknown

*Life is but a stopping place
a pause in what's to be
a resting place along the road to sweet eternity.*

*We all have different journeys,
different paths along the way,
we all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay.*

*Our destination is a place far greater than we know,
for some, the journey's quicker,
for some, the journey's slow,
And when the journey finally ends,
we'll claim a great reward,
and find an everlasting peace,*





*As a photojournalist, Reverend Edward Laiscell captured
images of influential people—to tell the untold stories!*



Pallbearers (Grandsons)

Isiah Barnes, Mirajsh Barnes, DeQuan Dickson, Monte' Dickson, Titus Law and Vaughn Law

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We the family of Reverend Edward James Laiscell acknowledge with deep appreciation every act of kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement. May God richly bless you all. We love you all.

Services Entrusted to:
Hodges and Edwards Funeral Home