

A Celebration of Life
for
Gregory Leon Powell

Sunrise
September 5, 1961

Sunset
October 6, 2021



Tuesday, November 2, 2021

*Family Hour: 12:30 p.m.
Service: 1:30 p.m.*

J. B. Jenkins Funeral Home

*7474 Landover Road
Landover, Maryland 20785*

Obituary

Early Years

Gregory Leon Powell (also known as “Greg”) was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, on September 5, 1961, to William Thomas Powell and Freida Thomas Powell. The family relocated to Washington, D.C., when Greg was very young. Greg was educated in the Washington, D.C. and Prince George’s County, Maryland public school systems. He spent his childhood summers in Rocky Mount.

Education and Training

Greg attended Bowie State University where he was a communications major. He also proudly served his country. On December 6, 1981, he was commissioned a second lieutenant, reserve officer in the United States Army. He received his military training at Fort Benning in Georgia.

Professional Life

Greg had a propensity for science which led him to train in biohazard clean room technologies and manufacturing. Through the course of his career, he held various laboratory technician and medical manufacturing positions in the medical and pharmaceutical industry. Some of these companies included AstraZeneca, IDT Biologika, Vigene Biosciences, Virxsys, and most recently Beckton Dickinson. In manufacturing, Greg worked for Stress Indicators Inc., the inventor and manufacturer of SmartBolts, where he established close friendships with the owner and his family. Always punctual, he had excellent organizational and leadership skills in work and in life.

Church

From an early age, Greg had a love and yearning for God and the Bible. He was a dutiful servant of the Lord, and he was known for keeping the faith and seeking God, no matter the trial or tribulation. Greg accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior as a young adult. He joined Israel Metropolitan CME Church on December 12, 2010; and was granted his Exhorter’s License on June 13, 2019. He dutifully served his church volunteering in several ministries. In his later and final years, he served as Head of Security, Assistant Photographer, Driver, Valet, self-appointed Special Assistant to the Pastor, ministerial staff, and any ministry that he felt needed his help or support. There were no tasks too large or too small for Greg. He was willing and able to do whatever was needed to lend a helping hand, and he did so with that dazzling smile.

Joy

Greg had a love for fashion, especially bowties, fedoras, eyeglasses, and shoes. He was unabashedly himself, and always dressed GQ. His claim to fame was the church fashion show where he glided down the runway smiling and dressed to the nines. Like his dad, Greg had a passion for sports, his favorites were football and basketball. He looked forward to spending time with his father to watch a Washington Football Team game. Saturday mornings were for coffee and conversations with his sister, Kim. Sundays were for worship with his devoted partner Vee and his Israel church family followed by brunch with Vee; and concluding with impromptu visits to family and friends. Greg was an excellent navigator and a lover of road trips. He was the great encourager, possessing a kind word, Bible verse, or a contagious smile for you. An extrovert, he made everything exciting. He always brought the energy to those around him and loved his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Cherished Memories

Greg leaves to mourn his death and cherish his memories, his father, William Thomas Powell of Mitchellville, MD; son, Andrew Clarence Gilchrist (Laisha); grandsons, Malachi and Mekhi of Germantown, MD; sister, Kimberly Rochelle Powell of Mitchellville, MD; niece, Tyler Rochelle Blount of Mitchellville, MD; and devoted partner, Arevivia “Vee” Renee Amos of Washington, D.C.; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, other loved ones and friends. Gregg is also survived by his brothers: Duane Warren (Pamela) of Enfield, NC, Darius Parker

Order of Service

Prayer of Comfort Reverend Dr. Ricky D. Helton

Congregational Hymn Israel Metropolitan CME Music Ministry

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Isaiah 55:6-7
New Testament: Matthew 5:1-10

Poem Ms. Rhonda Dews

Musical Selection Israel Metropolitan CME Music Ministry

Church Paper Reverend Carole Richardson

Reflections

Mr. Maurice White
Reverend Dr. Jerry Wes

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation Israel Metropolitan CME Music Ministry

Eulogy Reverend Dr. Ricky D. Helton

Recessional

*A million times we needed you
A million times we've cried
If love could have saved you
You never would have died
In life we loved you dearly
In death we love you still
In our hearts you hold a place
No one else will ever fill
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
Part of us went with you
The day God took you home*

Love, your Family

Dear Brother,

I am so grateful for that last weekend we spent together. Talking, laughing, crying and breaking bread together. I'm so happy I made your coffee Sunday morning. I feel full of joy remembering how we praised and worshipped at the FBCG outdoor tent service. Who knew it would be your last weekend on this earth? Our last hours together. Everything was orchestrated by God. You'd be happy to hear of the outpouring of love, laughs and fond memories so many people have shared about you. Well done. Until we meet again, I'll be missing you.

My Dearest, Irreplaceable, One-of-a-kind Greg,

You have been a loving partner, protector, my best friend, confidant, advisor, cheerleader, #1 fan, prayer warrior, Israel Met. CME member in Christ, my go to and Mr. fix it. It has been a journey through storms and summer breezes, endless adventures with a wealth of life lessons experienced; through this we grew and deepened our bond. I miss everything, your daily phone calls morning through night, your laughter and enthusiasm. I miss you, it's a lot quieter without you. I wish I knew on October 3rd, what I know today, that this day would be the last day of phone calls, texts, voicemails, emails, the last time I hear you speak, see you smile, receive a warm embrace, for you to live and breathe. What seemed like a regular day, turned into the most important day, without warning, you were gone. Gone much too soon; we just celebrated your 60th birthday, looking towards brighter horizons unforeseen. I'm confused, so now I lean not on my own understanding. I know you are within eternal gates, in God's hands, and at peace, so I do not worry. I look forward to a reunion in Heaven, until that time, I shall cherish your memory, praise God, stay in his word, keep the faith, and soldier on as you would expect and want me to do.

Farewell, until we meet again, my spirit is in "The Father's" house dwelling in eternal peace.



My Last Job

*The Lord had been talking and telling me what I must do,
Could it be my end was close, and that I'd soon be through?
There was no day to pass when He didn't send a message,
of my never-ending task in an unsuspecting passage
It was almost like a movie, put in speeded motion
I sat back and watched myself as I got the strongest notion.
Your time on earth is short and your life is unsuspecting
But when I see the bottom line there's a clue I'd been detecting
Go and tell the world what I have done for you
Tell of the unending love and life that shows He's always true
I could not bite my tongue and I could not hold back the words
I had to go and tell, open doors to others and loudly sound the bell
It's surprising I wasn't frightened of what I now know is true
Because I've listened to my Lord say go and tell and do!*

“Smile” by Nat King Cole

*Smile though your heart is aching
Smile even though it's breaking
When there are clouds in the sky, you'll get by
If you smile through your fear and sorrow
Smile and maybe tomorrow
You'll see the sun come shining through for you
Light up your face with gladness
Hide every trace of sadness
Although a tear may be ever so near
That's the time you must keep on trying
Smile, what's the use of crying?
You'll find that life is still worthwhile
If you just smile*





Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

The family and devoted partner of Gregory Leon Powell wishes to acknowledge and express sincere appreciation for the many expressions of love and kindness shown. To the following individuals and church families, please accept our humble appreciation, you have been a blessing during this time:

Special thanks to Israel Metropolitan CME Church, Senior Pastor, Reverend Dr. Ricky D. Helton; Reverend Carole E. Richardson; Music Directors, Reverend Dr. Jerry West, Reverend Tyrena Davis, and the Israel Metropolitan CME singers; Mr. Maurice White, Sponsor, Recovery Program Ministry; Ms. Victoria Harrison, Church Photographer, President; Voices Choir; Toni Perry Garrison, President, Women's Missionary Society, and the Emma Hockett Circle. In addition, we thank From the Heart Church Ministries for your love and support during our time of need; Sisters in Christ: Tanya Bennett, Tammie Brown, Gwendolyn Bryant and Rhonda Dews.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Shatterproof at www.shatterproof.org

Repast

*Lake Arbor Dean Room
1399 Golf Course Drive,
Mitchellville, MD 20721
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

Due to COVID restrictions, the church family and invited guests only!



Repast is limited to immediate family,

Service Entrusted to: