



Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.

May 4, 1938 - May 9, 2013

Portsmouth - Bernard Delano Griffin, Sr., 75, of Watson Street was called home to be with the Lord on May 9, 2013. He was a lifetime member of New First Baptist Church Taylorsville, Portsmouth. Mr. Griffin was a proud graduate of I. C. Norcom High School class of 1956, and a graduate of Hampton University formerly known as Hampton Institute class of 1962. Mr. Griffin served in the U. S. Army from 1962 to 1964. He retired from Chesapeake Public Schools in 1991 after 26 years of service. Mr. Griffin has always been active in the community as a civic league president, coach, volunteer, public servant and mentor. He was a Portsmouth School Board member from 1988-1992, serving as chairman for the latter two years. He was on Portsmouth City Council from 1992 – 2004 serving as Vice Mayor for two terms, and he was appointed Mayor from July 2010 to November 2010. Mr. Griffin is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 50 years, Alveria Griffin; three sons, Bernard, Jr., Vernon and Adrian, Sr.; three grandchildren, Quanesha, Mariana and Adrian, Jr.; two great grandchildren, Temire and Téliyah; a sister Mae Breckenridge Haywood (Fred); and two brothers, Darnell Griffin and Leslie Griffin. He is also survived by his special friends, Bill and Deloris Haywood and family as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren and devoted friends. A wake service will be held on Thursday at 6pm at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 2714 Frederick Blvd., Portsmouth. A life celebration service will be held at 11am on Friday, May 17 at Willett Hall, 3701 Willett Drive, Portsmouth. Donations may be made to the Bernard D. Griffin,

Sr. Memorial Fund at Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, 5800 High Street East, Portsmouth, VA 23703. The family has entrusted J. T. Fisher Funeral Services to handle the final care arrangements. Condolences can be offered to the family at www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 16. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

St Mark Missionary Baptist Church
2714 Frederick Blvd
Portsmouth, VA

Service

MAY 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Willett Hall
3701 Willett Drive
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I regret never having the opportunity to have met you. I forgive you. I pray you are now at peace.

Dr. Stacie Braswell - May 19, 2013 at 08:48 PM

BR

“ To the family of Bernard Griffin, Sr. Very sorry to hear of the passing of my dear classmate. He was a true and concern friend of everyone he came in contact with. May all of you find kindness to warm you, sympathy to comfort you, and cherished memories to bring peace to your heart. Bertha Rollerson Rogers, Class of 1956.

Bertha Rogers - May 17, 2013 at 08:54 AM

GS

“ Germaine Monteil Stephenson lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.



Germaine Monteil Stephenson - May 17, 2013 at 07:51 AM

AW

“ My condolences to Mrs. Griffin and the family. Bernard Griffin was a community giant. He loved his family, his community and the City of Portsmouth. Blessings to you, and may the peace of God bring you comfort in this challenging time.

Ann Wright

ann wright - May 16, 2013 at 10:40 PM

MT

“ Mrs. Hazel Turner lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.



Mrs. Hazel Turner - May 16, 2013 at 10:14 PM

MT

“ Mrs. Hazel Turneral lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.



Mrs. Hazel Turneral - May 16, 2013 at 10:13 PM

LP

“ *Alveria, Mae and Griffin Family,*
We were very saddened to hear of the loss of Bernard. Truly, he was a man of God and this is very evident in the wonderful and beautiful commentaries, reflections and tributes to him, as well as his relationship to Alveria and the legacy he leave to his sons, family and all of us who knew him, The Scriptures say....." mark the perfect man,for the end of that man is peace." How proud and inspired Norcom, Hampton University, Portsmouth and Tidewater are for the gift of his life. Truly, his " life did the singing " as well. " To God be the Glory." Love in Christ, Leon and Maxine Pierce

Leon and Maxine Pierce - May 16, 2013 at 05:07 PM

MF

“ *Ms.Jackie Freeman lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.*



ms.Jackie Freeman - May 16, 2013 at 03:12 PM

TF

“ *The Whitehead Family lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.*



The Whitehead Family - May 16, 2013 at 10:05 AM

TF

“ *The Whitehead Family lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.*



The Whitehead Family - May 16, 2013 at 10:04 AM

LA

“ *To the Griffin Family I share with you in sorrow of your great lost in the passing of your loved one .Bernard was a great person and he will be sadly missed. Be strong and let Gods love continue to guide you. Keep your hands in Gods unchanging hands.*

Larry Mondy

lawrencemondy - May 15, 2013 at 11:14 PM

DH

“ *I offer my condolences to the Griffin Family. Mr. (Coach) Griffin was a true gentleman and always had a kind word to say. He influenced many people in a positive way !*

David Harlow

David Harlow - May 15, 2013 at 04:19 PM

TH

“ *It's the little things, the small, everyday occurrences that you'll remember. The laughs, the stories, the smiles. And even though it seems like you can never recover from your loss, it is these very memories that will help push the pain away and bring back the smiles. We pray the love of God enfolds you during your difficult times and he helps you heal with the passage of time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

The Sessoms Family

Tamia Sessoms Hopkins - May 15, 2013 at 03:33 PM

JF

“ *To The Family Of Mr Bernard D Griffin May Comfort And Bless Your. Ms Jackie Freeman And Family.*

Jackie Freeman - May 15, 2013 at 02:10 PM

KG

“ *Condolences to the Griffin family.*



Kecia Griffin - May 15, 2013 at 09:21 AM

AJ

“ *Adrienne L. Joyner lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.*



Adrienne L. Joyner - May 15, 2013 at 06:06 AM

JK

“Wow! You've been there for me and my family! I'll always remember your ethnic wear! What will UMOJA be without you? We honor you and your leadership!!

Jacqueline Kendall - May 13, 2013 at 11:14 PM

WG

“May God bless and keep you during your period of heavy hearts. Please accept our sincere condolence for your tremendous loss and a hearty thank you for sharing him with us. The city of Portsmouth and the region are better than he found it, so his work for us is done. Mr. Griffin was good and faithful servant of the people to the very end.

Wilson, Evelyn & Denise Goode - May 13, 2013 at 04:55 PM

CG

“To Alveria and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Bernard's passing, May God grant you comfort as you face this very difficult time, Our Lord said he would never leave you nor forsake you, You all are in my prayers.



Carolyn Glover - May 12, 2013 at 09:52 PM

AA

“Annie Alston lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.



Annie Alston - May 11, 2013 at 05:45 PM

AD

“ Our condolences. He will be missed.
"Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted."

From the Pattie Baker branch family members

Another Baker Descendant - May 11, 2013 at 02:21 PM

AM

“ To Soror Alveria Griffin and family, please accept my deepest condolence at this time. May the road ahead for you and your loved ones be filled with peace, joy and hope that you will someday see your loved one again. "Let not thine heart be troubled."



Soror Arlene Mattai - Chesapeake, VA

ARLENE ANN MATTAI - May 11, 2013 at 05:47 AM

KN

“ May God continue to comfort all who loved Mr. Griffin. We can all look forward to the day when death will be no more (Revelation 21:4) and instead of tears of sorrow there will only be tears of joy. I am sure he will be missed by many. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy.

K. Nichols - May 10, 2013 at 10:20 AM

JJ

“ Jacqueline Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Bernard D. Griffin, Sr.



Jacqueline Jacobs - May 10, 2013 at 05:45 AM