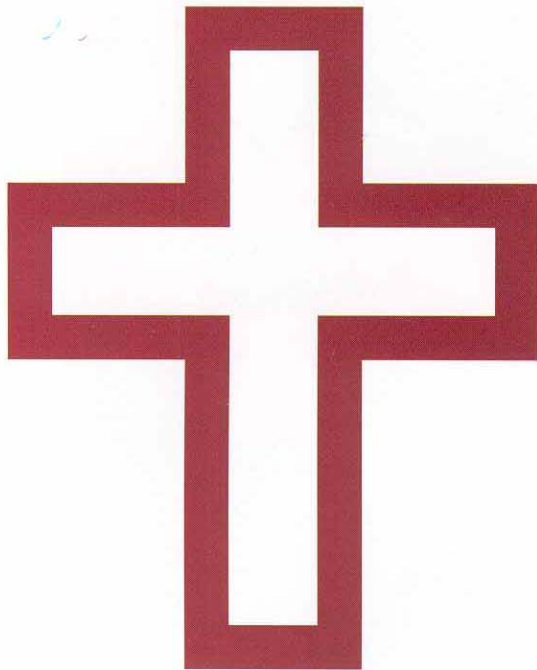


OBITUARY



Joseph Bullard (June 20, 1941 – February 8, 2002)

On February 8, Heritage Housing's long time resident passed away. Services were held at the Manhattan Baptist Church and he was interred in Carvington Cemetery, in Long Island.

Joe will be dearly missed. He imbued the front office, where he served as receptionist, with maturity and dignity. In 1993, Heritage Housing published a volume of Joe's poetry, "Survival" This collection included biographical poems, odes to his loved ones, odes to Harlem, and verses about memorable and colorful characters from his past.

"A Brief Autobiography"

"I was born in Harlem, New York, USA. In fact, I was born in my parents' apartment at 269 West 153rd Street, on June of 1941. I was the youngest of two children; my sister Georgina, being seven years my senior.

I had what could be called a happy childhood with lots of friends and activities. My mother was religious and this meant I had to attend church,

which I called the "kissing church." When services were over, the ladies of the congregation would hug and kiss everyone and wish them a good week. We also attended prayer and Bible classes at the kissing church.

My mother passed away in the early 1970s from diabetes, which plagued her most of her life. My father died of a heart attack a few years before my mother. The loss of both parents was devastating, despite the fact that they were in their mid-seventies when they passed.

My sister, Georgina and I were great friends. She was dubbed "June" for she was born in the month of June. My sister also had diabetes and died in June of 1989. She was 56 years of age, still a comparatively young person. I am now in my early fifties and in surprisingly good physical condition.

I have had my ups and downs with mental illness for some years now, for a number of reasons – a period of homelessness and I am an alcoholic. Alcoholism sometimes gets the best of me. But, hope springs eternal in the human breast.

I now have a good support system in my residential treatment program. The project is run under the auspices of [Heritage Health and Housing]. I want to combat this malady. If I can, I would really love to get back together with my ex-wife, Sandra. We have a daughter, Candace Elizabeth, in her mid-twenties, who is gainfully employed and attending college at night. My daughter and my former wife are the light of my life. They give me great joy and support.

When I first joined my community residence program, they encouraged me to write my feelings. I began writing..."

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