

“God delights in the death of his saints; for at death life is changed not ended...”

Samuel George David Macfoy

It is in Hope of the Resurrection to Eternal Life through our Lord Jesus Christ that LECUSA ANNOUNCES the eternal home going of Brother **Samuel David George Macfoy** who departed this life on the morning of Monday, July 3, 2017 at the amazing age of 107 years.

Two months earlier, at his 107th birthday celebration, the Liberian Community in the US granted him the distinguished recognition of being the oldest Liberian former civil servant.

Bro. Macfoy was a member of a large family in Liberia, Sierra Leone, England and in the United States. He leaves to mourn his loss his children Patrick (Elizabeth), Samuel, George, Collins, JC (Joyce), Kedrick (Millicent), Rameses (Ann), Juanita, Alberta, Mark, 35 grandchildren, 38 great-

Funeral Service

Saturday, July 29, 2017 at Trinity St Philip’s Church, 608 Broad St., Newark, NJ 07102

Viewing: 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Service: 11:00 a.m.

Contacts

George Macfoy 678 437 0146

Collins Macfoy 917 294 4601

Juanita Macauley 919 620 1993

May his soul rest in peace and light perpetual shine on him.

Life Sketch of Samuel George Macfoy

Samuel David George Macfoy was born in Greenville, Sinoe County, Liberia, on May 1, 1910. He was the fourth child of Josiah C. and Abigail Macfoy. The family lived in Greenville until he was seven when they left Liberia for neighboring Sierra Leone. Samuel began his early education at the Government Elementary School in Greenville. After relocating to Sierra Leone, he was enrolled at the Bishop Crowther Elementary School in Cline Town and later matriculated to the C.M.S. Grammar School, a prestigious High School for boys, where he remained until

completion of the prescribed course of study, A-Levels. The following year he was awarded a certificate in Bookkeeping upon completion of a correspondence course from the United Kingdom.

Samuel then returned to Liberia, this time residing in Monrovia, the capital city. His first assignment was with the Compagnie Francaise de L'Afrique Occidentale (C.F.A.O.) Company, a French mercantile firm where he worked for eight years, first as a Salesman and then as a Bookkeeper. Subsequently, he entered Government service and was employed at the Central Office of the Department of Justice, now Ministry of Justice, during the incumbency of the late Attorney General Christian A. Cassell. His work ethics earned him the respect of all his bosses from Attorney General Cassell to Minister Chea Cheapoo, with whom he served after the Military Coup in 1980, until his retirement shortly thereafter. Samuel moved through the ranks at the Ministry of Justice, serving faithfully in the following positions: Bookkeeper, Accountant, Chief Accountant, Director of Finance and Operations and finally, Assistant Minister of Justice for Finance and Operations. In all these positions, he proved to be hard-working, diligent and reliable, exhibiting his basic principal of excellence to which he held himself accountable.

Samuel was an Episcopalian from birth. He was baptized at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Greenville and later was confirmed at Bishop Crowther Memorial Church. When he returned to Monrovia, he became a devoted member of Trinity Pro-Cathedral, now Trinity Cathedral, on Broad Street in downtown Monrovia. He first became a chorister, singing in the Senior Choir, and later served as Choir Director. He was noted for his strong tenor, a characteristic that remained with him until late in his life. He also served the Church as Financial Secretary, Treasurer, and Member of the Cathedral Chapter, bringing to each of these positions his hard work and dedication to duty, qualities he had exhibited throughout his life. Upon taking up residency in Newark, he became a faithful member of Trinity and St. Philip's Cathedral. He and his wife, Gladys felt right at home since their home congregation was Trinity Cathedral, on Broad Street in Monrovia, and in Newark they would be attending Trinity and St Philip's coincidentally also on Broad Street.

Fraternally, Samuel was a Past Master of St. John Lodge #3 AF & AM, a 33rd degree Mason and a life Member of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Republic of Liberia. He was also a Past District Grand Master of Odd Fellows and Past Master of the United Brothers of Friendship (UBF).

Following the breakout of the civil war in Liberia in late 1989, Monrovia became an increasingly dangerous place to live. In fact, his sister who was visiting him from Sierra Leone got caught up in one of the upheavals and became one of the many victims of the war. Samuel moved to Freetown, Sierra Leone where he was joined by his dear wife, "Gladees", whom he had married on May 18, 1957 in Monrovia.

In 1992, the couple moved to the US, staying in Georgia and Texas before moving to New Jersey. There they got involved in many community activities including being regular attendees at Happy Days, a senior day care group that met in East Orange. Despite his advanced age he remained alert and mobile for a long time celebrating his 100th birthday in grand style in May 2010 in Newark.

After a brief stay in hospital in 2011, Samuel was transferred to the St Mary's Life Care Center, now Alaris Health at St Mary's, a care facility in Orange, New Jersey. Gladys' health declined rapidly and she passed away on April 4, 2012. Lacking the companionship of his wife with whom he could reminisce about cherished memories of years past, Samuel's condition gradually deteriorated until his death in the early hours of Monday, July 3, 2017 at the ripe old age of 107 years. At the time of his death he was the oldest Liberian former civil servant, a distinction recognized by the Liberian Community in the US at his 107th birthday celebration two months earlier.

Samuel received many distinctions to celebrate his longevity. In July 2010, a citation from President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia, conferred on him the distinction of Knight Great Band in the Humane Order of African Redemption in consideration of his "enormous contribution to the cause of the people of Liberia," humanity, state and church.¹ In 2015, then President and First Lady Barack and Michelle Obama sent him a dually signed congratulatory message. In May 2017, Mayor Dwayne Warren of Orange, NJ, declared him the oldest citizen in the city of Orange. The mayor of the city of Newark Municipal Council issued a resolution naming May 1st, 2017 S G Macfoy Day.

Samuel was a member of a large family in Liberia, Sierra Leone, England and in the United States. He leaves to mourn his loss his children Patrick (Elizabeth), Samuel, George, Collins, JC (Joyce), Kedrick (Millicent), Rameses (Ann), Juanita, Alberta, Mark, 35 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren, 1 sister - Annie Ann, several nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren and friends including Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Johnson, Dr. J Bankole Jarrett, Christian R Smith, Cedric McPherson, K. Jeffries Adorkor, Albert Ajohn, and his many friends at Alaris as well as members of the Thomas and Bright families. He was preceded in death by his wife Gladys, his daughters Victoria and Christiana and his sons Guilford and Dunstan.

Samuel will be greatly missed by family and friends for his wisdom, love and support. We thank God for sharing him with us for these 107 years and we commend him to God's gracious care and keeping. May his soul - and the souls of all the faithful departed - rest in perfect peace.

¹<http://www.liberianembassyus.org/index.php?mact=News,cntnt01,detail,0&cntnt01articleid=65&cntnt01origid=15&cntnt01detailtemplate=newsdetail&cntnt01returnid=90>. 28/09/2012 accessed July 14, 2017

