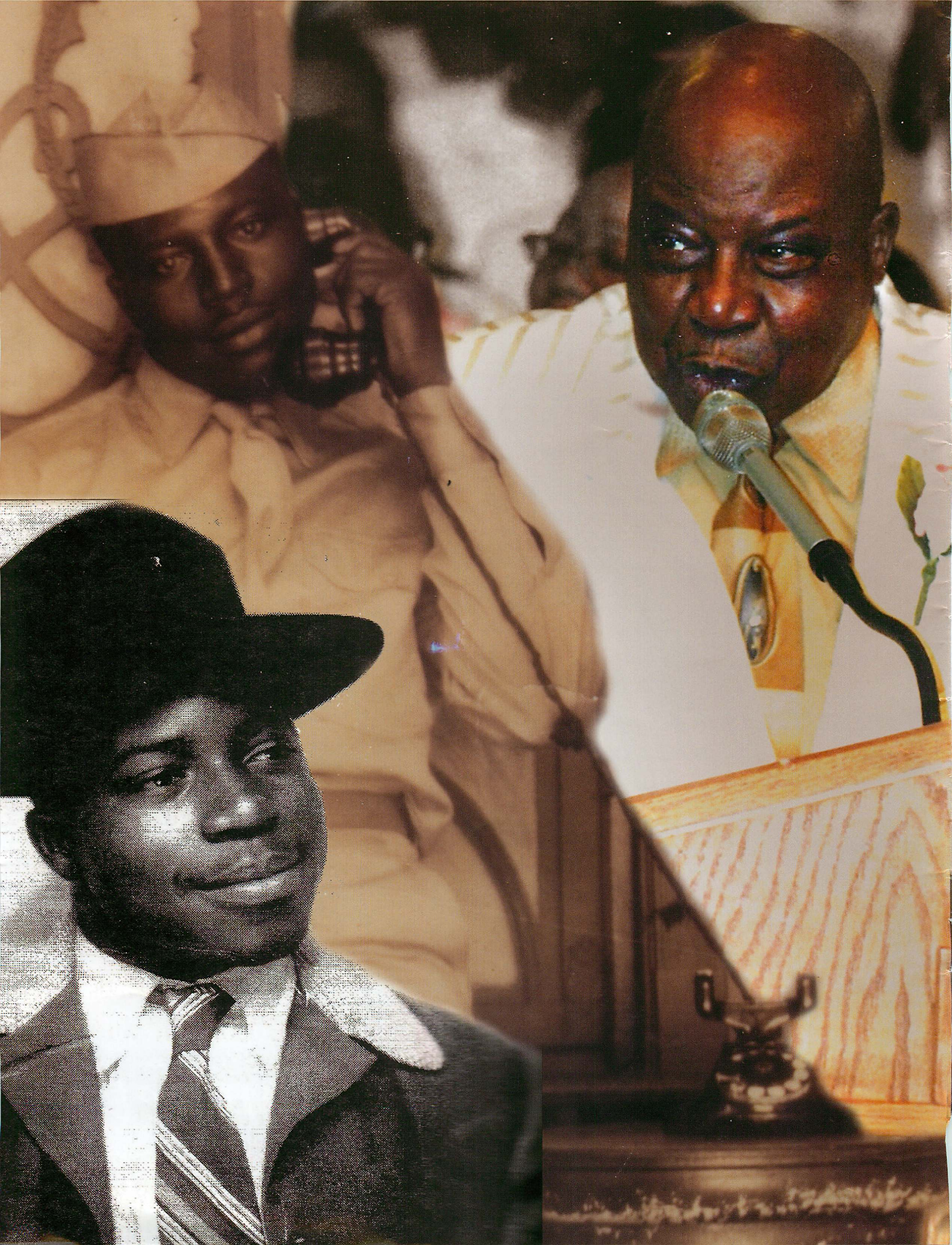



Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton
March 31, 1928 - February 10, 2011





*Celebrating the Life & Legacy of
Dr. Isaac Singleton*

Saturday, February 19, 2011

Lying in Repose

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 20, 2011

Lying in Repose

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Memorial Musical Celebration

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Monday February 21, 2011

A Celebration of Life & Legacy

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 22, 2011

Internment: Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

12:00 p.m.

The repast will follow at the Mt. Zion Family Life Center.

Order of Service

officiating
Pastor David G. Latimore, M.Div.
Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Joliet, IL

Prelude

Mt. Zion Combined Choirs

Processional

The Singleton Family

Call to Worship

Scriptures:

Old Testament

*Father Ray Lescher
Sacred Heart Church*

New Testament

*Rev. Victor Roland
Lilydale 1st Baptist Church, Chicago, IL*

Prayer

*Pastor Perry Bennett
Macedonia Baptist Church, Rockford, IL*

Condolences and Acknowledgements

*Pastor Charlyn Singleton
Loveland Church, Fontana, CA*

Musical Tribute

Willie Newsome



Friend Tributes

Deacon Billy Davis
Armor Bearer
Deacon Henry Bennett
Former Chairman of Deacon Ministry

Special Musical Tribute *"I bowed down and cried holy"* *Pastor Glenda McCullum*
Kingdon Builders Worship Center

Special Acknowledgements

Clergy Tributes

Minister Kailen Winfrey
Founder of The FaithCast

Pastor Perry Bennett
Macadonia Baptist Church Rockford, IL

Pastor Hector Edwards
Former Pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church

Rev. Clarence Lumumba James
Foundier of Youth Leadership Development Programs

Musical Tribute

Music Ministry

Civil & Human Rights Tribute

Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.
Founder & President of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition

Rev. Tyrone Cryder
Director of Development Southern Leadership Conference

Special Tributes

Dr. Beverly Johnson Thomas
President of Baptist General State Convention
of the Illinois Women's Department

*Dr. Louis Malone
President of Baptist General State Convention of Illinois*

Tributes from the Bahamas

Rev. Shelton Higgs

Pastor William Thompson

Poem

Ranae Gaffin

Musical Tribute

"A Man Called Isaac"

(written by: James Brown)

Special Tribute

"The Man"

Pastor Alvin Edwards

Family Tributes

*Roberta Sims
Cousin*

*Isaac Singleton Jr.
Oldest son*

*Matthew Hayes
Grandson*

*Minister Chuckie Singleton
Grandson*

Musical Tribute

Mt. Zion Music Department

Eulogy

*Pastor Charles Singleton
Loveland Church -Fontana, CA*

Closing Selection

Benediction

*Pastor Calvin Quarles
Bolingbrook Community Church*

Recessional

Total Praise

Mt. Zion Music Ministry

Life Reflections

Today's scripture comes from Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." The title of today's sermon is "Lord, I Tried." I am going to talk about three points:

- Route 66
- One more night with the frogs
- God's presence has made the difference.

Let's turn to Isaiah 35, Verse 8. "And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way."

Since there are 66 books in the Bible, it seems the Bible is our road map. As I look back over my life, I see God's hand. It all started out like this: join me on my journey to and on Route 66.....

Isaac Singleton was born to Ruben and Sarah Singleton on March 31, 1928 in Tallulah, Louisiana. He is described by his double first-cousin, Roberta Sims, as a person who enjoyed having fun. Roberta and Isaac were both the only children in their families. "I was like his little sister," she remembers fondly.

Since childhood, he was known for his singing ability, according to longtime friend, Perry Bennett. "I met him in Louisiana while he was singing in a quartet group when he was 10 or 11. At that time, he had long pretty black hair and he was skinny," says Bennett with a laugh. "He was one of the greatest."

After he graduated high school, in 1944, Singleton volunteered to go into the U.S. Army Air Corps.

"My dad never talked much about his military experience but I recall one story in particular in which he flew a mission in the Pacific Theatre where he went up against the Japanese Zeros as a tail gunner," said his son Bill. "He said that suddenly all around him, the Zeros came down from above and began to fire on his plane. He began to fire back and he said it happened so fast and was over so quickly, that he didn't have time to think but he just started firing his gun. After landing, he couldn't get out of the air craft. He was trapped and the emergency response team had to cut him out of the plane. Then he said he then went to sign up for a bombardier training. He said he didn't want any part of what he had experienced again."

When he got out, two years later, he moved to Los Angeles, California, which was the beginning of his journey on Route 66. On this material highway, Route 66 runs from Chicago to Los Angeles and covers eight states; Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California. Singleton lived in California for a year.

In 1947, he came back to Louisiana and married his high school sweetheart, Pearl Beatrice Dexter. "I didn't really like him at first, but that changed," says Pearl. "He was what I wanted in a husband. He was a Christian, he worked hard and he was very nice. He was also very handsome. He was clean-cut and wore

ironed khaki pants. He definitely wasn't a lazy person. He was very ambitious, and didn't mind working." Isaac Singleton Sr. and Pearl Beatrice Singleton became husband and wife on September, 12, 1947. They have been married for 63 years. Six children were born to this union, Gloria Singleton-Hayes, Isaac Singleton Jr., Charles Edward Singleton, Barbara Ann Singleton Edwards, Valerie Jean Singleton and Willie Darren Singleton. The couple has 19 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Pearl Singleton said that every day of their married life, he told her he loved her. "I think God put us together for a purpose. It was divine order to bring people into the world to love the Lord and draw others to Christ."

The couple moved to Saginaw, Michigan, and then to Joliet in 1951 where they joined the Mt. Zion Baptist Church under Pastor J.W. Hill.

"When Singleton came to Joliet he was in a quartet group from Saginaw," says Tim Jones. "In 1953, we formed a group called the Wings of Wonder. Singleton led most of our songs. We use to tour in Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana and Indiana. I remember this one place we sung in South Bend, Indiana; I started out singing 'Christian Automobiles' and he came behind me and tore up the church with 'Move in the Room with the Lord.' Everybody was shouting. People were asking who was that bad dude. When Singleton's sang his favorite song "hallelujah"; when he did, he would wreck the house out. Rev. Singleton was different from everybody else

around here. It was noticeable. I have never seen him take a drink or use a curse word. He was the closest I have ever had as a brother." Singleton left the group when he went into seminary in 1957.

Singleton was called to the ministry at the age of 30 while a deacon at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. He began pastoring at his first church, the Russell Street Church of Christ in Centerville, Illinois while attending seminary school at Lincoln Christian College in Lincoln. He later pastored the Colette Street Church of Christ in Danville.

In December, 1961, he became the pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Joliet. Pastor Singleton said he's most thankful to God for giving him this opportunity and sustaining him for 47 years in the ministry. "I am also proud of the people who have grown with me," he said. "Mt. Zion and I have grown together. The accomplishments that have been attained far exceed any imagination I had in December, 1961." Under his leadership, the membership has grown from 100 to more than 2,000 members. "It makes my cup overflow to see what God has done," said Singleton.

In 1986, because of his national notoriety in the Civil Rights movement, he was one of 150 African-American pastors invited to the White House by President Ronald Reagan to consult on Civil Rights issues.

"There is no doubt that Isaac Singleton was the center of change," says Pastor Calvin Quarles of Bolingbrook Community Church. "Change that

occurred in Will County during the Civil Rights movement was mostly due to Isaac Singleton's leadership. He was the voice of the movement. When I was in serious trouble, he came to my rescue as I was one of the students arrested during the riots at Joliet West in the 1960s. I was accused of inciting a riot. I was arrested along with other students for standing up for our rights at Joliet West. When we were arrested, Isaac Singleton insisted on our release."

Singleton said: "These students were in a cafeteria strategizing on how they could get a black on the cheerleading and pompon squads. There were no black board members and no one to voice their sentiments to. They were just trying to come up with a strategy to get a black board member and a black to work on the yearbook committee. The administration thought the young people were meeting to form a gang. At the time, 2,800 students were attending Joliet West and 125 of them were black. At the time, I worked at Sears Roebuck. I left my job and couldn't believe what I saw, the police were running the black students around the school like they were rabbits."

"I got a bus and brought the students to Mt. Zion Baptist Church," added Singleton. "I met with the parents and students and I later went to the school and asked the principal to let the students go to class. He called the superintendent and she said no and also advised that they couldn't make up their classes." While negotiating with school administration for the students to return back to school and receive proper credit, Singleton organized a freedom

school at Mt. Zion until they went back two weeks later.

During the 1960s, Singleton fought for the right to vote. He participated in several marches with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., including Montgomery, Alabama. "I'll never forget as we were coming down Confederate Square, people were shouting 'niggers go back to Africa.' People were vicious. They were hanging out of windows. The one thing to remember about this march was there were whites and all races working together here and people from all denominations -- all marching for blacks to have the right to vote."

Pastor Perry Bennett recalls the days of the nationwide riots after the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "A lot of trouble was kept down in Joliet because of Pastor Singleton," says Bennett. "He and I were the only two preachers who walked the streets. He was called crazy and was told that people would kill him, but this didn't stop him. I didn't want him to go by himself so I went with him. The people had a respect for him and listened to him and he calmed them down and talked to them. He saved a lot of buildings from being burned. He was never afraid and never backed down. He was always a leader."

The next point is to never spend one more night with the frogs. Moses was chosen by God to tell Pharaoh to let the people go. Pharaoh ignored the demand and experienced 10 plagues. On Pastor Singleton's journey on Route 66, he witnessed many injustices. He, like Moses, was chosen to help God's people. Singleton accepted the call.

Imagine how miserable the people of Egypt felt with frogs everywhere. The frogs had over taken them. They were even jumping out of their water. Pastor Isaac Singleton stood for justice. He refused to look injustice in the face and spend one more night with the frogss. He stood and acted and did not wait for next day.

During the 1960s, Singleton was instrumental in changing business practices within Joliet. "I remember a group of us met with the NAACP president and gathered in a restaurant that served coffee to blacks for 50 cents and 15 cents for whites," said Singleton. "We filled the place up and as a white person left, a black person came in." As a result, the vote passed for open occupancy in Joliet.

Singleton also recalls the days in the 1960s when his wife, Pearl, worked at a restaurant which wouldn't serve him coffee. The waitress served both people on each side of him. "She advised 'we don't serve color people here.' I told her 'I don't eat them either, I just want some coffee.'" She got the manager and he told him that white people didn't want to eat with colored and he couldn't eat there. He went into the kitchen and removed his wife from the establishment.

Singleton says his motivation for justice was prompted by not being able to ride the bus to school as a child and teen-ager. Often the white students on the bus threw rocks at him. One day he threw rocks back at them. That was his way of saying no to the injustice.

In the 1970s, Mt. Zion built a new church. The congregation went from a small church with outside toilets to the present home now located at 402 Singleton Place. "I didn't know anything about building a church. I have always consulted God . We needed \$500,000 to build the church, all we had was \$50,000. I negotiated all the material, got contractors and we used our own people of Mt. Zion to build the church. After the church was built, it was paid for within three years."

The 1970s also represented a time in history when Singleton helped people obtain jobs. He organized Operation Bread Basket (PUSH) here in Joliet. "As we got more freedom, racism was used to prevent (people from getting jobs) and ridding people of jobs," says Pastor Singleton. "I didn't like it. Many people came to me who lost their jobs and I worked to get their jobs back."

The 1980s were all about education. "I was concerned about our young people going out and getting a good education. To motivate them, I put in action our honor roll system. Education has always been important to me. I wish I had the opportunity many young people have today. Every grading period, young people on the honor roll come forward during a special time in the service to be recognized," said Singleton. Mt. Zion also has scholarship funding. "As a result, young people who would not have gone to college can go and are now business leaders, physicians, instructors, attorneys and etcetera," added Singleton.

In 1985, the Family Life Center, a multi-purpose facility, was added to the church. It houses a full basketball court, 23 classrooms, a commercial kitchen, locker rooms, showers and a banquet hall. The building valued at \$3.9 million was paid off in eight years. His vision and the purpose of this facility were to keep the children off the street and to educate them. This was all part of the church motto "Dedicated to serve the whole man: Mind, body and spirit."

The 1990s were a time of travel; Pastor Singleton preached in six of the seven continents. "Singleton is a motivator, a molder and a minister," says Former Pastor Hector Edwards, who came to Mt. Zion in 1981. The former pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church said "he has the ability to lead people, challenge them and bring out the best in them. The doctrine he teaches is sound and anyone who has sat under him as I have will tell you it has enhanced their spiritual walk with the Lord. He is a leader who demonstrates ministry beyond Mt. Zion and the United States. His mission and passion has inspired me." Mt. Zion has built two churches in Africa and has funded many foreign mission projects.

Singleton said his first sermon as pastor of Mt. Zion was titled "The presences of God makes the Difference". "God has blessed me to live, he has blessed me in my living, and He's blessed the work I try to do for Him." When asked how he would like to be remembered, he said "that I love people, love God and tried to help someone. I want people to say, I followed God for it was He who has enabled me to do what I have done. I am

so proud and grateful for all God has done through me."

After Pastor Singleton retired in March of 2009, he became Pastor Emeritus. He often said he retired from pastoring, but not from preaching. The call remained on his life and he continued to preach and teach the gospel.

Hundreds of weddings, hundreds of baby dedications, and hundreds of funerals were performed as well as thousands of souls have been saved. A world full of believers and unbelievers lives' have been changed after knowing the love of Jesus Christ through the Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton.

LORD, I TRIED!





My Rock, My Tree, My Friend!

Words cannot express how I feel about my love, my husband for always.

The high school in Tallulah, Louisiana provided the back drop for a love to grow at recess time. I could not have made a better choice for a husband. I love you; always have and always will. Uncle Sam called you away for three years which always caused a delay in our courtship. But the flame never went out. You were always my tiger.

I miss your jokes. I miss you telling me how much you love me every day; your wide smile; and your love for people, especially Mt. Zion and your children.

YOUR ONE WIFE!



KNOWING THE LOVE OF A FATHER

There is no love like a father's love. It empowers you, takes away all doubt, makes you bold and gives you courage when you are "scared to death". It quickened my heart when he showed up for me. He had my back and always told me you can do this Glo, go for it. My dad was my champion, my knight in shining armor. My thoughts automatically would and always will be, "Now what would Dad do?"

I know there were times when I displeased him, but he still loved me in spite of his displeasure. We talked about everything from politics to politeness. I thank you Dad for loving me, for training me to be a woman for all seasons. I know I am beautiful because my Daddy told me so. I learned how to walk, talk and select appropriate attire. "Look your best and walk with your head held high", he would say. He also taught me how to be at ease among all people, black, white, yellow, or red. In my travels these were valuable lessons for they allowed me a lot of "firsts" in employment opportunities

He was a father as well as a grandfather to my children. He encouraged them the same way as he did me and took them places a lot of children did not have a chance to go. They were introduced to dignitaries and persons of great character and influence. I thank you Dad for helping to broaden their minds and shape their characters. You were (as they called you) their "Poppa-Daddy".

I will miss him so very much my heart aches. I won't be able sit down to eat breakfast and discuss the news or watch CNN. I won't be able to give him words of encouragement as I sometimes did when "father time" walked by and robbed him of his ease of thought and movement. There were times when he made me feel like his little girl, even at my age. At other times I saw him struggle with age and physical pain and I became his care taker. I stepped into my full adulthood and became "his second mama" as he used to call me. He told everyone and I enjoyed every minute of it. It was my time to take care of him.

I love you Daddy and I will see you as soon as my feet touch Zion. I am prepared (I had a great teacher in you) but not quite ready. I know I have work to do if I want o see Jesus and you. It will be "howdy, howdy and never goodbye".. If you feel or see me slipping, "have my back" with the Lord and nudge me a little, I'll know it is you... I'll straighten up. By the by, "I got Mama's back too!!!

Your Glo

There are no words that can describe my feelings for my father that are good enough to write down. My feelings for my father are deep in my core. I feel as if part of me is gone. I know he is not gone as he is with me in my very essence and existence. I loved him in my mortal perception even more now. His personality and mind, whether serious or joking, was a wonderful thing to behold.

Goodbye father! We all love you. Until we meet again in God's Kingdom,
Ike

He (Dr. Isaac Singleton) has always been prolific, powerful, interesting, and intriguing. From "FIVE GOOD THINGS ABOUT HELL" to "ROUTE 66, his messages have regaled us, caught our attention, built us up in Christ, and influenced our most important life decisions.

He was one of the first to break down the Greek tenses, moods, and declensions on Sunday mornings. He somehow managed to get to us the "spirit" and "truth" of good preaching. This meant that we were given the meat of the word-truth-in intellectually stimulating fashion, but we never lacked the gravy of the word-spirit-in exciting joyful style.

Dr. Isaac Singleton retired from pasting, yet not from preaching. Thank God that such a thing is possible.

His powerful sermons still ring in my ears, and yours, if you listen carefully. I am proud to call him Dad, but in this respect we all share a unique and treasured kinship; he has been our preacher.

The good news, which has shaped our lives and learning, is his legacy and with his beck/compendium we will ever humbly boast, "I was a witness."

Joyfully in Jesus,
Charles

My father was one of the most gracious and giving people you will ever have the privilege of getting to know. Dad overcame overwhelming odds in life. He grew up in the cotton fields and bayous of Louisiana to succeed in helping to change lives through tremendous God-driven impact. There is no doubt in my mind that this man received the favor of God as He has directed their lives.

Barbara



When I was six years old, after spending the summer with my grandparents in Louisiana, we were so excited to get back home.

I recall how happy I was upon arriving at the train station in Kankakee. I was looking out the window waving at my Dad and watching him waving at us.

The train stopped briefly and started back again and my dad began to run alongside us, all the while yelling for the conductor to stop. We couldn't get off! The train kept going and I began to cry. What a hopeless feeling it was seeing that he could not save us. After a few minutes I wondered if I would ever see my daddy again. A few hours later, the train stopped and there he was! Somehow I knew that my dad would save us. He had driven from station to station all night to find us.

Dad, did you know that you are my hero?

Bill

Unless you are a Believer, you will not believe the Holy Spirit and I had a conversation prior to my dad's passing. From the phone call, this time was different. Symptoms more serious. Efforts to sustain his life more fervent. The Holy Spirit began to minister to me and it both comforted and disturbed me for I knew if this was necessary of Him, my dad may not survive.

I tried to carry on normally and continued my journey to the church. I prayed and prayed, barely feeling my reason for being there. I asked the Comforter what should I do, how could I live, who will help me fight, for my battles have been many. He told me to "continue" and go forth in ministry and He would keep me. I felt like I can only imagine the Philistine's felt when David slew Goliath. My giant, my warrior, my winning champion is no longer on this battlefield with me. I felt vulnerable, afraid, exposed, amazed. Grief broke my heart until my rib cage physically ached.

A true champion, however, fights for the right and noble needs of many as my dad did. He ived his life to the utter glory of God with a hope that we all will travel the road he loved in our lives and ultimately in our own passing.

I would love to collapse into a little heap and stay there but he gave me too much strength for that. I would love to wail endlessly in sorrow, but he gave me too much joy for that. I would love to shake my fist in anger at the God he served for allowing this to happen, but he taught me to make Him my God also. So, I'm too saved for that. I would love to feel utterly hopeless, but he taught me too much about eternity for that.

The prophet Samuel comes to mind when I think of you now, dad, though never before. I don't believe my grandma, Sarah, dedicated you to the Lord in that fashion. So, I enjoy the thought that God dedicated you to Himself. You were born to serve God and though we feel some loss of time that we desired to spend with you, never can we feel loss of love. Our times together were of such quality and true joy! Heaven has become a brighter, more beautiful and definitely more humorous place in my heart. Eternally dad, eternally, my gratitude for just being yours. Amazing love you gave. Amazing woman you married and we will continue to shower our wonderful mother with the love you both poured into us.

Your baby girl,

Valerie

Dear Poppy,

A legendary super hero to nineteen grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, and four great great grandchildren, You are a critical inspiration to each and every one of us. Our lives have been transformed and touched because of you. Here are a few words of reflection of what you mean to us.....

"Poppy was the Abraham of the Singleton family. Like Abraham, he didn't come from a family that knew God, but Poppy heard God's voice too and obeyed and birthed a legacy of godliness and ministry, just like Abraham."

-Chuckie

Because of the blessings of Abraham and because you are Isaac, I am exceedingly and abundantly blessed! Without your push, I would never have sought my doctorate! I will cherish our talks, the wisdom that you not only shared from the pulpit, but that which only a GRAND father can impart upon his granddaughter. Nothing compares to the love I have for the man who created and sustained a beautiful family of believers. You ARE a legacy, your presence and even your face will continue to carry on through the generations. Moreover, your sense of humor will help carry us through until we meet again. I LOVE YOU TODAY...I LOVE YOU ALWAYS..."

-Brianna

"My grandfather, Dr. Isaac Singleton, was a great warrior for God. A pastor, leader, activist... more importantly husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather... who left us a legacy of excellence, love and service to God. It's a privilege just to have known him but even more so to be one of his descendants. I am proud to be part of this line of Godly men and women and will continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ so that I can follow just as he followed Jesus. Thank you. I'll keep fighting so that, like you, I can receive my crowns and say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." I miss you, but I'll see you soon."

-Corey

You are "my inspiration, my advisor, my example, my encouragement, my guide, my pastor, my friend. You mean so much to me. It can't be quantified in mere words. I miss, cherish, laugh with, love, respect, and revere the very thought of you. You truly live on through the hearts you have touched."

- Bobby

"Thank you for being my first pastor and feeding me the words that changed my life. I love you!"

-Chello

"For me you are a superhero. Even though you are no longer on earth, I pray that everyone remembers and continues your legacy. I know the Lord Will Make a Way, Oh Yes He Will!"

-Brittany

"One thing I remember about is that he had the most amazing stories about what he went through in life. At the end of each story, he always ended with his love for us or his beloved Pearl. He showed me how a man is supposed to love a woman and what love truly defines. For that I am truly blessed."

-Robyn

"It's hard not having you here already; it feels like a piece of me is gone. I will love and miss you forever "Doc" and I promise that we will carry your legacy. , Pastor, Doctor, Apostolos you will be dearly missed.

-Calief

Poppy has touched a lot of people in his life, If I follow in his foot steps and use God as my light I can touch a lot of lives too.

-Ranae

I didn't think December would really be the last time I would see you but I'm glad I got to spend lots of time with you and Nana this past Thanksgiving at my dad's house and a few days in December when you came out to California. All your stories about the plantation in Louisiana and breaking the mules (ha ha) put a smile on my face. I like the story about when you were a teen you "put your age up" to move to California (smile). I can't even tell you how many times you kept telling your story in the same day. Nevertheless, I took it in because I wanted to soak up every word and soak up the sound of your raspy, deep voice. I know how passionate those stories were to you. I enjoyed listening because grandparents aren't here forever. However, I am in total shock still, but the mature person in me rises up and says praise the Lord. You are in a better place, a whole other dimension - Heaven with the Creator of the universe. I am a little jealous, but I'm still in shock. I will miss you sooooo much, I will miss your voice, your smell and kissing your baldhead (smile)

-Saphira

"Seasons turn and the days change and everything you love changes with them. That is the adventure. Love, to the great adventurer. Your legend cannot be summarized. Truly, you lived..."

-Carey

I lost my grandfather, the Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton. To many around the world he was pastor, teacher and advocate. To me he was "poppa daddy"...strong, honorable, funny, and at times intentionally mean for your own good. I considered it a blessing to be his granddaughter, and I am soooo thankful for everything he taught me. I will miss kissing his baldhead, hearing his laugh, and cooking rice with every meal. you worked so hard to give your family a good name and life on this earth, please rest and enjoy God's glory. We love you for eternity Poppa Daddy
-Chevez

He was a perfect example of a man, of a role model, of a Christian, and a perfect example of a father. He meant so many things to me, and I feel privileged and honored to be a part of his legacy. I am empowered by his struggles and his accomplishments. He said we have no excuses not to be better than him. I will miss his smiles, strong handshakes, his jokes, his uplift, and I will miss seeing him with my Nana.
-Damen

Poppy left us unexpectedly, but he did not leave us unequipped. He prepared me as we talked nearly every week, usually over spiritual growth and life in general. It is more than a blessing that someone so active within the community, a shepherd guiding a large flock, still made time to chat with a grandson miles away. As he leaves us in 2011, I am aware that his absence will not be permanent, as we'll once again be reunited for eternity in Heaven. I will continue to walk with God as did, knowing that I will always feel fulfilled as long as I have God leading me. I believe that is the last lesson he wanted us to learn.
-Myles

Truly, you lived , we will miss your wisdom, your preaching, your jokes, your stories, and we will miss your earthly dynamic presence. Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton, we are honored to call you and blessed to be apart of a royal line.

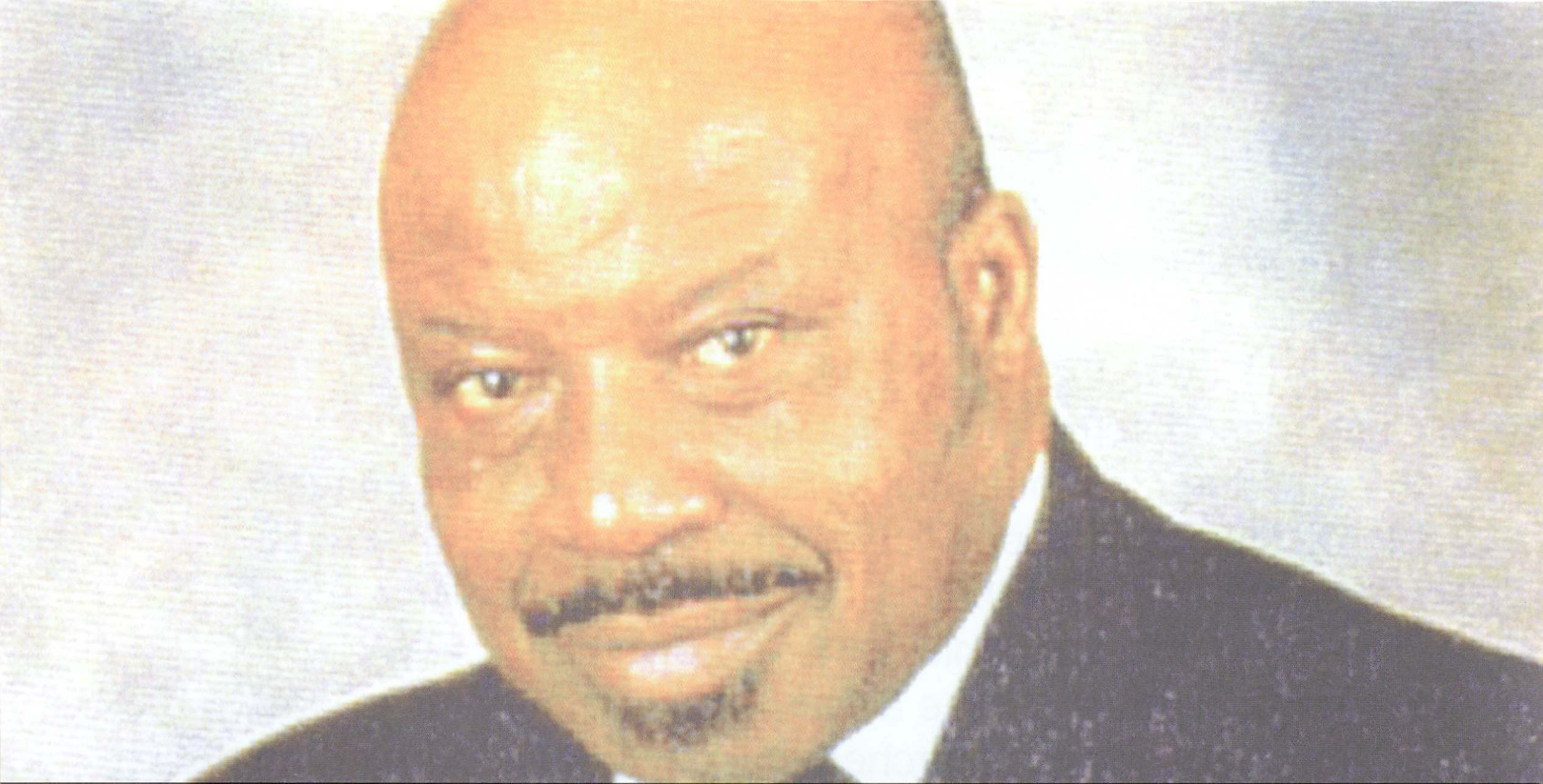
Yours Truly,

Chavez White, Matthew Hayes, Chuckie Singleton, Calief Edwards, Damond Singleton, Chris Singleton, Brianna Moore, Bobby Gaffin, Corey Singleton, Miles Singleton, Isaac Edwards, Britney Deloach, Ryan Gaffin, Kerry Singleton, Saphira Singletoon, Robin Gaffin, Ranae Gaffin

My Poppy Flower

Once a seed so magnificent, God planted
Became the most beautiful person you could ever imagine
Memories of this poppy flower I try to salvage
His stems so strong, hurricane winds couldn't damage
His soil so rich, tsunamis couldn't drown him
His roots dig deep, so he always stayed grounded
Maybe that's why he marched that day Martin Luther King did
He bloomed so bright, his light would hurt your eyelids
Anointing so powerful, you could spot him out of a thousand
God used his words like opium medicine for the savage
He fathered all flowers no matter what their damage
He has a lot of seeds, six plants and still countin
Not just any flower can do things like this poppy did
He saved and led flower fields that's growing by thousands
Strong green grass growing rapidly all around him
Birds chirp in the weightless oxygen that keeps breath in him
Insects hid under his leaves as the birds tried to devour them
Vibrant red petals plead the immaculate blood within us
Mighty trees use their wings to protect us from evil dust
God shines thankfully with bright sun rays to show he's victorious
I'm glad I can't be sad you were picked and replanted
by the hands of Jesus.

Ranae Gaffin



Dr. Singleton is preceded in death by his parents, Ruben and Sarah Singleton.

He leaves in the loving care of God, his loving and devoted wife of 63 years, Pearl Singleton; six children, Gloria Singleton-Hayes, Isaac Singleton Jr.; both of Joliet, Charles (Charlyn) Edward Singleton of Ontario, California; Barbara (Alvin) Ann Singleton Edwards of Charlottesville, Virginia; Valerie Jean Singleton of Fontana, California and Willie (LaDonna) Darren Singleton of McKinney, Texas. He is also survived by 19 grandchildren: Chevez White, Matthew Hayes, Chuckie Singleton, Calief Edwards, Damond Singleton, Chris Singleton, Brianna Moore, Bobby Gaffin, Corey Singleton, Myles Singleton, Julius Flowers, Isaac Edwards, Britney Deloach, Ryan Gaffin, Kerry Singleton, Saphira Singleton, Robin Gaffin, Ranae Gaffin; 9 great grandchildren: Urriah Moore, Kaydin Edwards, Jeremiah Edwards, Jeffrey White III, Jordan White, Justice White, Marcellos Hayes Marco Hayes, Morgan Hayes, Zaquia Singleton, Josie Singleton, Charissa Singleton, and 4 great great grandchildren. He'll also be missed by a special cousin, Roberta Sims and her six children, and a host of relatives and friends.



A LETTER FROM ISAAC

As people of faith, we have often listened to the readings of the letters of Paul to the various communities. Paul would always start out by saying words like “grace and peace be with you. Or as he said to the Romans I thank God for you.”

I believe if Isaac wrote to us today he would say these same words too. He would then say to us, please don't grieve for me. That awesome God we always served came and set me free. I worked faithful to carry out the missions he assigned to me. Now I am no longer that freedom fighting preacher I used to be. YES! I laid many foundations but they were not all cement and wood.

My most rewarding joys and accomplishments were helping Jacob and MAC fight for social justice in the neighborhoods. I always believed that for every issue that we helped to turn around pleased god so much, he placed an extra star in our crown. Finally, god recognized that my body was growing tired and weak and healing was not to be. He quietly placed his arms around me and said “Isaac my servant, come on home with me.” Now all my worries are over. And all of my pain is gone away. My Mount Zion loved ones and friends are with me and we are celebrating today. OH YEAH! I am walking tall and upright with Robert Holmes holding my hand and we are walking up the king's high way to sing in the angel's band. Again, I beg you my loved ones, please don't grieve for me. I am living in the land of the angels and saints. I AM FREE!! I AM FREE!! I AM FREE!!

I LOVE YOU ALL,
ISAAC

Created with love BY: Wynell V. Butler

Pastor Singleton has fathered some 38 ministers in his 50 year reign in the ministry. He called them his sons and daughters in the ministry. According to Singleton, a son or daughter is someone who announced their calling to the ministry and started preaching at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, or a minister who has been under his leadership for a lengthy period of time. Out of the 38 spiritual sons and daughters, 13 of them are pastoring their own church. "God has blessed Mt. Zion to be an incubator for producing preachers" said Singleton. Pastor Perry Bennett, (pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church in Rockford) his first son, announced his calling to the ministry in 1967 says "Pastor Singleton has been a blessing to all of us. I don't know of another pastor that has had this amount of ministers under them. He's a great man. If there was a preachers hall of fame, he would be inducted."

Rev. Singleton 'fathers' leaders

Pastor mentors
37 ministers in
45-year career

By Bonnie Williams-Winfrey
SPECIAL TO THE HERALD NEWS

The Rev. Isaac Singleton, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church for 45 years, has been more than a good father to his family.

The internationally known pastor has also been a good "father" to an incredible number of ministers: 37.

He calls them his spiritual sons and daughters, ministers who announced their calling and started preaching at Mt. Zion, or were under his leadership for a lengthy period.

Thirteen of them are pastoring their own church.

"God has blessed Mt. Zion to be an incubator for producing preachers," said Singleton.

"I don't know of another who has had this amount of ministers under them," said the Rev. Perry Bennett of Macedonia Baptist Church in Rockford, his first "son," who announced his calling in 1967.

"He's a great man. If there was a preachers hall of fame, he would be inducted."

"I'm just honored to be listed among the spiritual children of Isaac Singleton," said Calvin Quarles of Bolingbrook Community Church, who announced his calling in 1984. "He has been



The Rev. Isaac and Mrs. Pearl Singleton



Bennett Moncrief-Brown Brown Churchill Coleman Cook



Davis A. Edwards H. Edwards Ellis James Jones

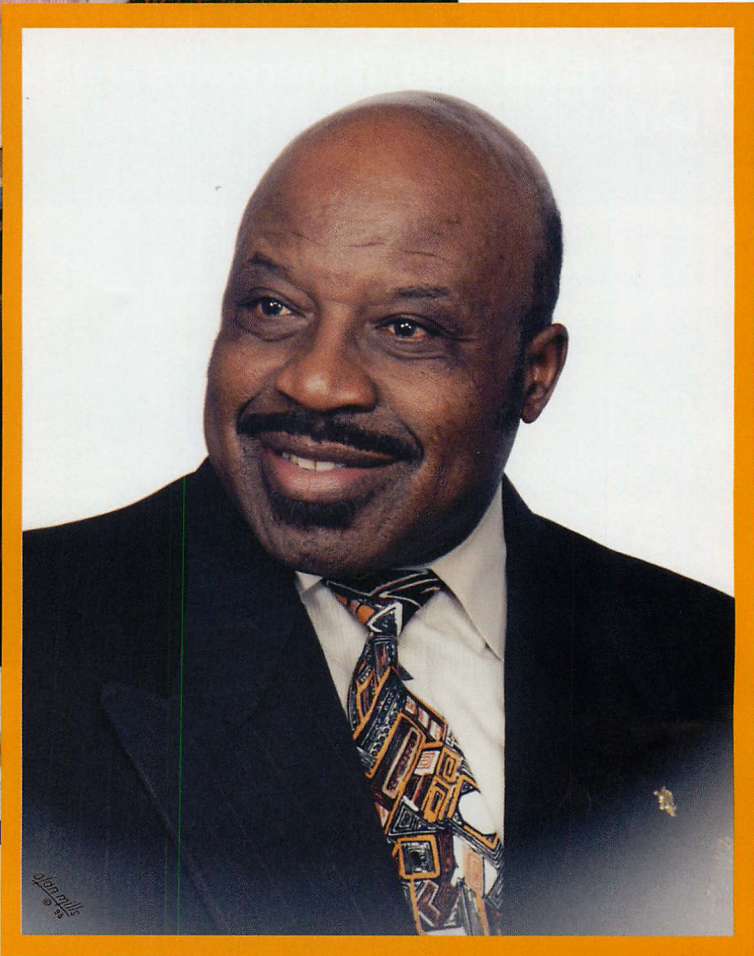
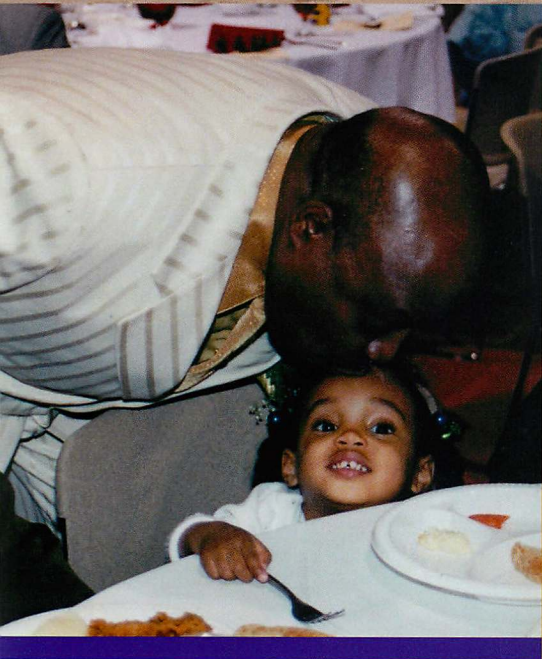
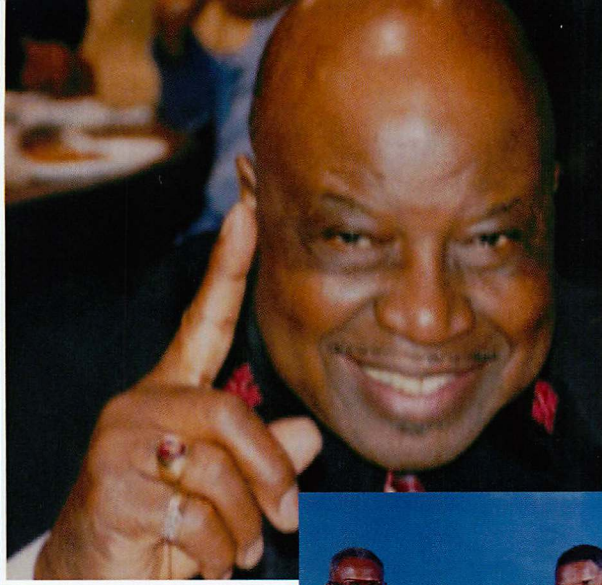


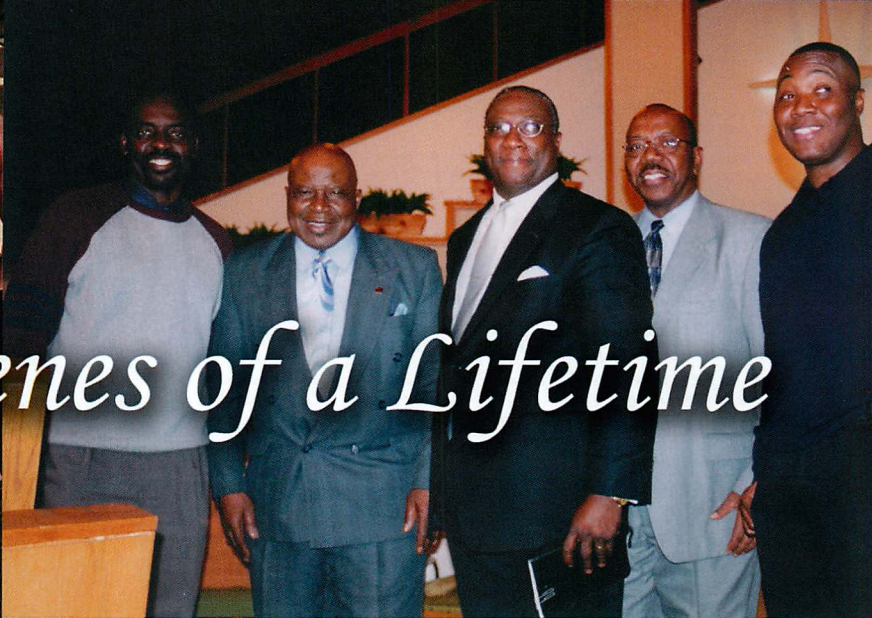
Harden G. McCullum V. McCullum McElroy Moffet Pierce Quarles Vance Roland Victor Roland Ruffin



Shelby B. Singleton C. Singleton Stephens Tatum Thompson Turner E. Winfrey Jr. K. Winfrey Veasy

Pastor Emeritus Singleton has not only been blessed to ordain what some people believe is a record number of ministers under one pastor, but he was also blessed to see the CALL accepted and filtered down through generations in his own family. They include: Ministers in the family include: Charles Singleton, Bill Singleton, Alvin Edwards, Charlyn Singleton, Chuckie Singleton, Corey Singleton, Calief Edwards, Chevez White, and Jeffrey White.





STATE OF ILLINOIS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Proclamation

Presented this 21st day of February 2011

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2011, Illinois lost an honorable citizen with the passing of Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton is widely recognized as one of the most prolific speakers and teachers of the gospel, having devoted over four decades of his life to the ministry; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton was one of the City of Joliet's most prominent church leaders. For more than forty years he was the pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, having built the church from a membership of about 100 people in its beginning in 1961, to more than 2,000 in the church by the time of his retirement in 2009; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton was also an active advocate for civil rights, marching alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights movement, and sharing his dream of equality for all people; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton gained national notoriety for his efforts during the civil rights movement and has been consulted on civil rights issues by two Presidents; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton's impressive list of accomplishments also includes preaching on five continents and building churches in Africa; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton was a civic leader and public servant, as well as a spiritual leader, founding the Joliet Affiliate Rainbow/P.U.S.H. Coalition, and serving as president of the Metropolitan Alliance Council; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton was also a veteran, having honorably served our country with the United States Army Air Corps during World War II; and,

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton exemplified the finest tradition of service and dedication to the community. His passing is truly a great loss for all people in the State of Illinois:

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby recognize and commend the life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton, and offer my sincere condolences to his family and friends.



Pat Quinn
Governor, State of Illinois

STATE OF ILLINOIS

State Senator A.J. Wilhelmi
acknowledges
the Life and Legacy of
Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton

WHEREAS, State Senator A.J. Wilhelmi and the entire Joliet community was saddened to learn that Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton passed away on February 10, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton was one of Joliet's most prominent church leaders of the past 50 years and one of its most active and effective advocates for Civil Rights;

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton retired in 2009 as Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church after nearly 5 decades of service, growing the church from a membership of 100 in 1961 to more than 2000 in 2011;

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton made social justice a reality for many through his work in affordable housing, and fairness for all the tenets of his life's work;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, State Senator A.J. Wilhelmi do hereby acknowledge the passing of Reverend Dr. Isaac Singleton.

Dated: February 10, 2011
Offered by:



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ARTHUR SCHULTZ
MAYOR
815.724.3700
FAX 815.724.3715

CITY OF JOLIET
150 WEST JEFFERSON STREET
JOLIET, ILLINOIS 60432-4158

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Reverend Isaac Singleton, Sr. and Pearl Singleton were married for 63 wonderful years before he was called upon by his Heavenly Father on February 10, 2011 at the age of 82 years old;

While on this earth Rev. Singleton dedicated more than 50 years to his church and his parishioners, but he dedicated his entire life to making a difference for all mankind. During the 1950's and 1960's Reverend Singleton played a major role in the Civil Rights Movement, marching alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, sharing in Dr. King's dream of equality for everyone;

Reverend Singleton was pastor at Russell Street Church in East St. Louis, Illinois and the Zion Street Church in Danville, IL before becoming the pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Joliet, IL in 1961;

Reverend Singleton began his spiritual duties at Mt. Zion Church, Joliet, IL with a membership of 100 members, however, under the leadership and guidance of Reverend Singleton, the parish has grown to include over 2,000 members;

Reverend Singleton was very proud of his church, along with the Family Center, and the education area;

Reverend Singleton was the founder of the Hill Memorial Center and also the founder of Operation PUSH, of which he was a member for many years. He also served on numerous committees in the County area for nearly five decades;

Reverend Singleton is respected and will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and everyone he came in contact with.

I, Arthur Schultz, Mayor of the City of Joliet, on behalf of the City of Joliet, do hereby recognize Reverend Isaac Singleton for his numerous accomplishments and the positive impact he has made throughout Will County. We will be forever grateful for Reverend Singleton's influence on the people of Joliet.

Arthur Schultz
MAYOR ARTHUR SCHULTZ

To Rev. Isaac Singleton,
Your continued support
of Operation People
makes moments like this
possible!
With Deepest Respect!
Lawrence M. Walsh
3/15/20

EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION
CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF
DR. ISAAC SINGLETON

WHEREAS, Our community has lost a great leader in the recent death of Dr. Isaac Singleton and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton is recognized as one of the most influential spiritual leaders of our time and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Singleton spent more than four decades spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and,

WHEREAS, sharing his dream, his vision, and his struggle for equality, Dr. Singleton marched alongside Dr. Martin Luther King during the 1950s and 1960s and,

WHEREAS, countless lives have been touched by the work of Dr. Singleton in gaining equal employment and housing, and fighting discrimination.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Will County Executive Lawrence M. Walsh, do hereby acknowledge the important legacy of Dr. Singleton and encourage all communities to continue to support his work for equality.

Dated this 18th day of February, 2011

Lawrence M. Walsh
Lawrence M. Walsh
Will County Executive

Pallbearers

Dr. Isaac Singleton's grandsons

Calief Edwards

Isaac Edwards

Robert "Bobby" Gaffin

Ryan Gaffin IV

Matthew Hayes

Carey "Mikey" Singleton

Chris Singleton

Corey Singleton

Chuckie Singleton

Diamond Singleton

Myles Singleton

Honorary Pallbearers

Sons & Daughters of

Pastor Singleton's in the ministry

Calvin Quarles - Rufus Stephens

Alvin Edwards - Edward Winfrey Jr.

Perry Bennett - Andre Thompson

Naurice Moffett - Naomi Brown

Kailen Winfrey - Calvin Cook

Richard Churchill - David Turner

Kevin Veasy - Robert Johnson

Eddie Pierce - Charles "Chuck" Singleton

Willie (Bill) Singleton - Courtney Ellis-

Santana Jones - Victor McCullum

Leonard James - Rubin Tatum

Lawrence Pierce - Riley Ruffin

Hector Edwards - David Davis

Victor Roland - Kenneth Shelby

Carrie Coleman - Harlene Harden

Charles Pierce - Vance Roland

Shelton Higgs - Jerry McElroy

Gloria Moncrief-Brown

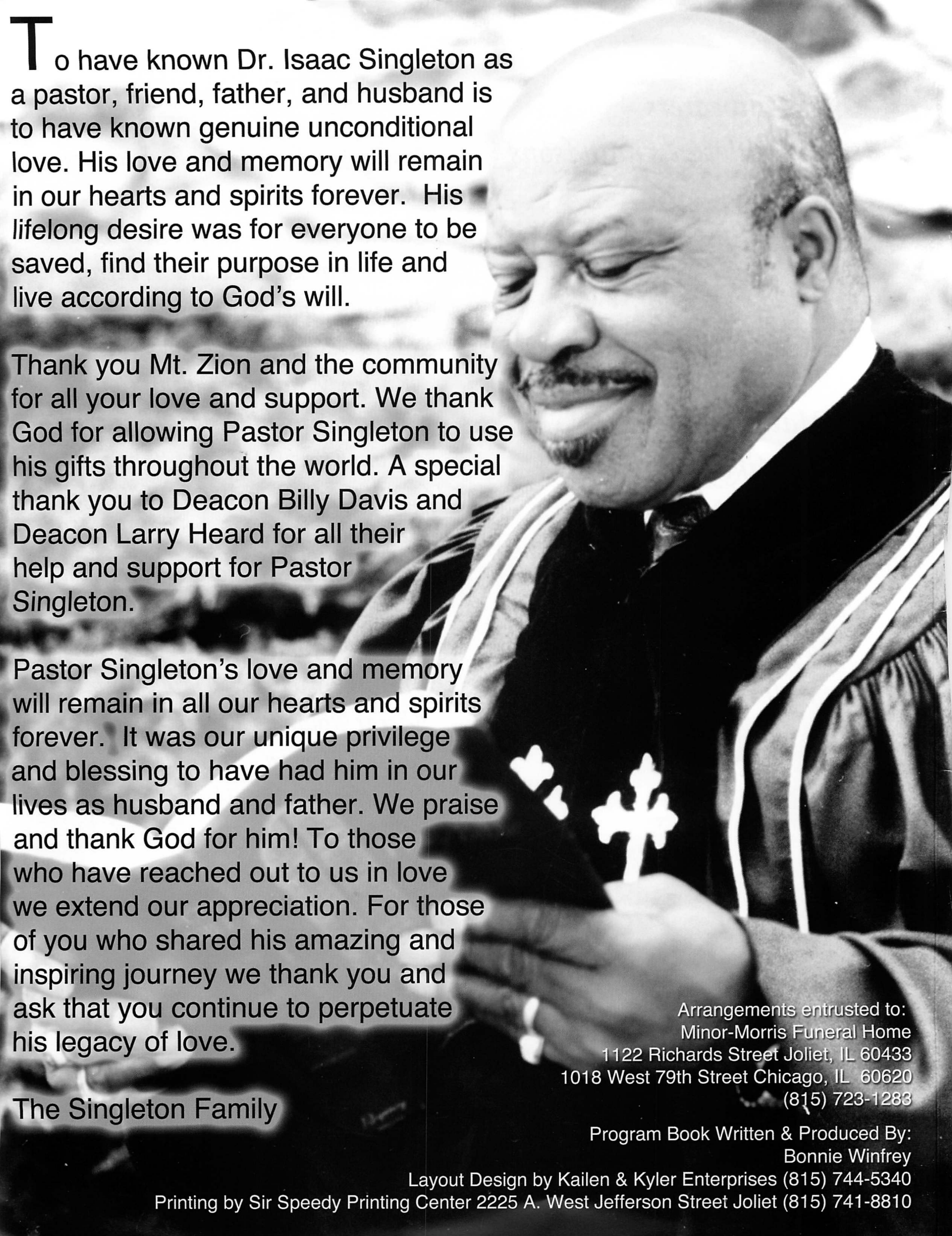
Glenda McCullum

Honor Guards

Buffalo Soldiers

Stone City Lodge #34 F & A.M.

Mt. Zion Deacons



To have known Dr. Isaac Singleton as a pastor, friend, father, and husband is to have known genuine unconditional love. His love and memory will remain in our hearts and spirits forever. His lifelong desire was for everyone to be saved, find their purpose in life and live according to God's will.

Thank you Mt. Zion and the community for all your love and support. We thank God for allowing Pastor Singleton to use his gifts throughout the world. A special thank you to Deacon Billy Davis and Deacon Larry Heard for all their help and support for Pastor Singleton.

Pastor Singleton's love and memory will remain in all our hearts and spirits forever. It was our unique privilege and blessing to have had him in our lives as husband and father. We praise and thank God for him! To those who have reached out to us in love we extend our appreciation. For those of you who shared his amazing and inspiring journey we thank you and ask that you continue to perpetuate his legacy of love.

The Singleton Family

Arrangements entrusted to:
Minor-Morris Funeral Home
1122 Richards Street Joliet, IL 60433
1018 West 79th Street Chicago, IL 60620
(815) 723-1288

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Bonnie Winfrey

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