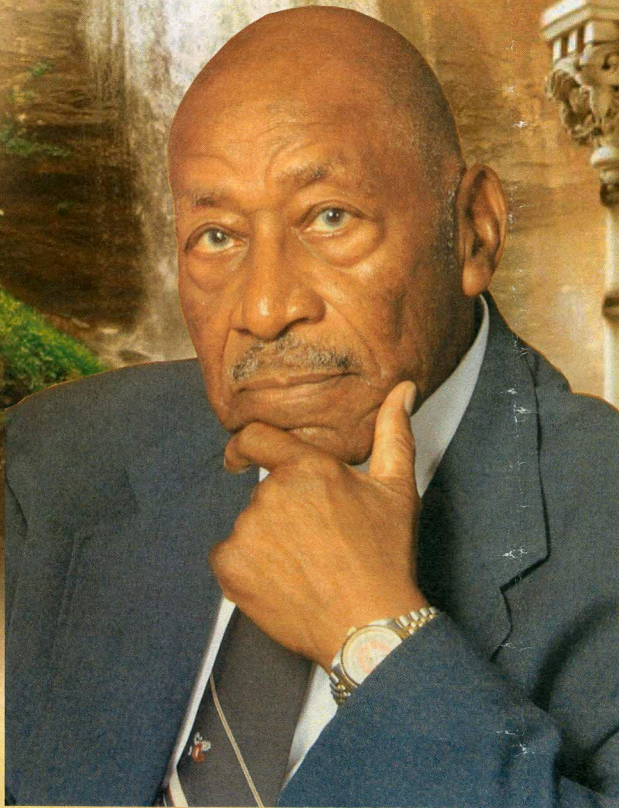


*Memorial Service For*

**W.E. Clark III**

May 12, 1927 — May 11, 2012



*"Strong Men Keep Coming"*

Monday, May 21, 2012 - 11:00 a.m.

**Diamond Hill Baptist Church**

1415 Grace Street, Lynchburg, VA

Rev. Warren Anderson, Senior Pastor

*How Did You Die?*

*Did you tackle that trouble that came your way  
With a resolute heart and cheerful?  
Or hide your face from the light of day  
With a craven soul and fearful?  
Oh, a trouble's a ton, or a trouble's an ounce,  
Or a trouble is what you make it.  
And it isn't the fact that you're hurt that counts,  
But only how did you take it?*

*You are beaten to earth? Well, well, what's that?  
Come up with a smiling face.  
It's nothing against you to fall down flat,  
But to lie there – that's disgrace.  
The harder you're thrown, why the higher you bounce;  
Be proud of your blackened eye!  
It isn't the fact that you're licked that counts;  
It's how did you fight and why?*

*And though you be done to the death, what then?  
If you battled the best you could;  
If you played your part in the world of men,  
Why the Critic will call it good.  
Death comes with a crawl, or comes with a pounce,  
And whether he's slow or spry,  
It isn't the fact that you're dead that counts,  
But only how did you die?*

*--Edmund Vance Cooke*

*Order of Service*

Rev. Warren Anderson, Presiding

*Musical Prelude*

*Call to Worship*

*Solo .....Kathy Holmes-Jefferies*

*Proclamation..... City of Lynchburg*

*Reflections/Resolutions*

- Rev. Warren Anderson, Diamond Hill Baptist Church*
- Elbert Scott, Jr., Family*
- John H. Hughes, IV, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.*
- James Hughes, Lynchburg Branch NAACP*
- Robert Caldwell, American Legion Post Tenth District CMDR*
- Jacqueline Taliaferro, Lynchburg City Schools*
- Joseph Berryman, Pleasant Valley*

*Silent Reading of the Obituary*

*Message .....Wayne E. Clark  
"Chill.....It's Will"*

*Solo .....Jackie Booker*

*Benediction ..... Rev. Warren Anderson*

*We know that many of you would like to share your reflections and memories of W.E. You can share your memories by posting a message on his Facebook page that will be maintained by Carden Clark, granddaughter. Please send a friend request to his page, W. E. Clark III to post your reflections for all to read.*

*Immediately following the memorial service,  
please join the family for repast in the Fellowship Hall.*

## *Obituary*

Born on May 12, 1927 to Willie Earl Clark, Jr. and Hilda Cordelia Lamb Clark in the city of Norfolk, Virginia he was given the name, **Willie Earl Clark III**. He was the first child and was followed in birth by two sisters, Cordelia Frances and Delores Virginia, and a brother, Allen Eugene Clark.

W. E. was an educator by profession, but he was more than that to the world. He was a devoted husband, loving and involved father, a mentor, teacher, child advocate, mediator, historian, photographer, chemist, carpenter, collector, ardent pinochle card player, and writer.

W.E. married Geraldine White in December 1955. From this marriage came two children, Wayne Eric and Tonya Tuawan Clark, respectively. In 1983, Wayne married Mary Pennix and from this marriage, two grandchildren, Camden Wayne and Carden Marie.

His elementary and secondary education was gained from public schools in Norfolk, Virginia. After high school, he was drafted into the military to serve as a United States Marine during World War II. He exhibited great pride in being a Montford Point Marine. He made it clear that his service was without combat or overseas experience. Being a WW II Veteran made it possible for him to use the GI Bill in his effort to further his education. His higher education was obtained from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1952 with a B. S. degree in chemistry.

After graduating from Shaw University, the Lynchburg City School System hired W.E. and assigned him to teach science and to serve as an assistant football coach at Dunbar High School. Later he was assigned to teach at E.C. Glass High school where he served as the Chairman of the Science Department. While employed, there were many nights and summers spent studying courses in science at Morgan State College, Howard University, University of Virginia, Lynchburg College, Virginia State College and American University. Many of these courses involved scientific research. During 1965, a leave of absence was granted to W.E. to acquire a Master's Degree in research chemistry from A & T University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Outside of the field of education, W.E. helped organized a Boy Scout troop which he helped organize at Diamond Hill Baptist Church and served on the

Board of Directors at Hunton Branch YMCA and the Metropolitan YMCA Board of Central Virginia

W.E. was an active member of the Virginia American Legion, Post 0016. His memberships in organizations included the Gamma Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Lynchburg Branch of the NAACP, Board of Directors-White Rock Cemetery, American Chemical Society, Virginia Education Association, Board of Directors-Anne Spencer Foundation, Improved Lodge 192 A&F Masons, Inc. and the Board of Directors-Virginia University of Lynchburg.

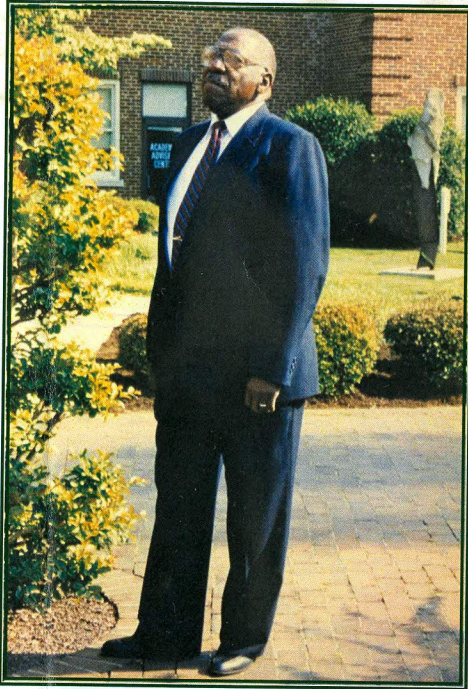
Notable achievements include the Mayor's Award of Excellence (2011) and an honorary Doctorate degree in Humane Letters from Eastern Theological (2012). W. E.'s most exciting honor will be presented to his wife in June 2012 as he will receive posthumously a medal of honor from President Barack Obama recognizing his service in the segregated Montford Point Marines in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

W.E. was extremely active in the community. Notably, he worked tirelessly with the Campbell County Branch of the NAACP during the fight for public school integration, an activity continued until his section of the county was annexed by the city of Lynchburg, VA at which time he became involved with the Lynchburg Branch of NAACP.

Black and white photography being one of his hobbies, he often displayed photo exhibits relating to Black History and Civil Rights. His interest in photography and community affairs led him to participate as a photographer and writer for the local Black newspaper, *The Piedmont Area Journal*.

W.E. always gave his all to the community. He attended and participated in City Council meetings regularly. He worked with the Pleasant Valley/Tyreanna Community when the state planned to create a by-pass highway and other issues. These efforts gave W.E. the unofficial title of "Mayor of Pleasant Valley."

Willie Earl Clark, III believed in the concept of togetherness. While many called him W. E. for short, Willie meant it to be WE together can accomplish anything.



*House by the Side of the Road*  
*Sam Walter Foss*

*There are hermit souls that live withdrawn  
In the place of their self-content;  
There are souls like stars, that dwell apart,  
In a fellowless firmament;  
There are pioneer souls that blaze the paths  
Where highways never ran-  
But let me live by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.*

*Let me live in a house by the side of the road  
Where the race of men go by-  
The men who are good and the men who are bad,  
As good and as bad as I.  
I would not sit in the scorner's seat  
Nor hurl the cynic's ban-  
Let me live in a house by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.*

*I see from my house by the side of the road  
By the side of the highway of life,  
The men who press with the ardor of hope,  
The men who are faint with the strife,  
But I turn not away from their smiles and tears,  
Both parts of an infinite plan-  
Let me live in a house by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.*

*I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead,  
And mountains of wearisome height;  
That the road passes on through the long afternoon  
And stretches away to the night.  
And still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice  
And weep with the strangers that moan,  
Nor live in my house by the side of the road  
Like a man who dwells alone.*

*Let me live in my house by the side of the road,  
Where the race of men go by-  
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,  
Wise, foolish - so am I.  
Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,  
Or hurl the cynic's ban?  
Let me live in my house by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.*

# *Acknowledgement*

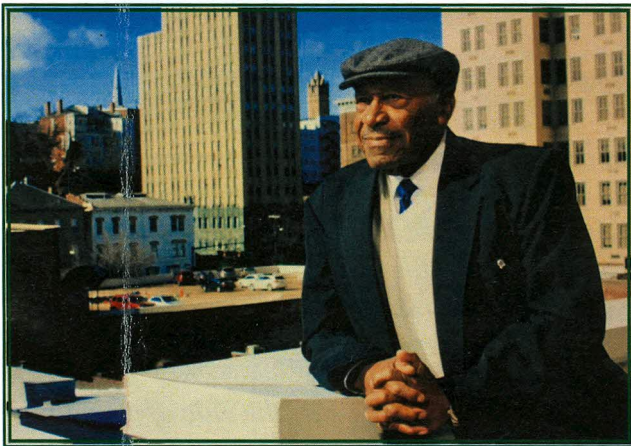
## *In Appreciation*

*We acknowledge your presence here today,  
The cards you mailed along the way;  
The services you stopped to render;  
The gifts you bought with thoughts so tender.*

*The prayers you said which played a part,  
In easing the pain that was in our hearts,  
Each helped us find the strength to bear,  
The loss of one we held so dear.*

*It was a great comfort indeed,  
To see you in time of sorrow and need;  
So from our hearts which you tried to mend,  
We thank you sincerely again and again,  
For being such truly wonderful friends.*

*May God continue to richly bless each of you.*



*From the Clark Family with Love*

Professional Services Entrusted to the Care of:  
**Franklin-Hutcherson Funeral Home**  
918 Fifth Street Lynchburg, VA  
434-846-1337

*Programs Designed by: Heart to Heart Designs*