



Shelton Steven Saunders

April 12, 1930 - April 16, 2015

Shelton Steven Saunders, age 85 of East Orange, NJ, passed away April 16, 2015. He was born in Princes Town, Trinidad to Abel and Adrianna Saunders. In Trinidad, he attended Fifth Company Baptist School and Naparima Boys College. Upon graduating, he began a teaching career. In 1954, he travelled to London, England to pursue a business degree at the London Polytechnic. In 1956, on a chance meeting at the West Indian Student Center in London, he met Ashbelle Victoria Maloney who he married two years later. Their marriage produced four children. In 1972, Shelton and Ashbelle moved their family to Kingston, Jamaica where he worked as an auditor for the Jamaican government. The Saunders family became residents of the United States in November of 1979. In 1980, he began working for the State of New Jersey's Board of Public Utilities in Newark. After twenty eight years there, he retired as an Administrative Analyst.

Shelton is survived by his beloved wife, Ashbelle Victoria Saunders (nee Maloney), their four children: Carol Ann Sonia Saunders-Corbin with her husband Kenneth, Steven Anthony Michael Saunders with his wife Lisa Mary, Jacqueline Kay Beverley Saunders, Yvonne Fay Valerie Saunders, two sisters Beryl Saunders and Muriel Saunders-Sampson, and seven grandchildren: Michelle Renee Saunders, Grace Noel Saunders, Michael Andrew Saunders, Christopher Steven Saunders, David Anthony Saunders, Cierra Ashley Corbin and Jaden Steven White. Shelton is predeceased by his parents, Abel Zachariah Saunders and Adrianna Dean Saunders (nee Ransome), and four

brothers: Jeremiah McDonald Saunders, Sylvester Saunders, Cyril Saunders and Cecil Saunders. Shelton was a devoted husband and father who loved being surrounded by family, going for walks with his wife Ashbelle, gardening, singing hymns and old calypso songs, traveling abroad, discussing politics, current events and history, and watching sports and western movies.

Visitation will be held on Friday, May 1, 2015 from 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Van Tassel Funeral Home, 337 Belleville Ave, Bloomfield, NJ. The funeral service will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM at Christ Episcopal Church, 74 Park Ave, Glen Ridge, NJ. The interment will be at Rosedale Cemetery, 409 Orange Rd, Montclair, NJ followed by the repast at 12:30 PM in the Church Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church in memory of Shelton Steven Saunders.

Cemetery Details

Rosedale Cemetery & Crematory

408 Orange Road
Montclair, NJ 07042

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 1. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Van Tassel Funeral Home
337 Belleville Avenue
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
(973) 743-1234 or (973) 743-1761
<https://www.vantasselfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

MAY 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ Episcopal Church
74 Park Ave
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Repast

MAY 2. 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Christ Episcopal Church
74 Park Ave
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Tribute Wall

DI

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mr. Saunders and I began our journey together, I as a new nurse and he as a patient. His journey was not easy but his strength and spirit always kept him positive even during the hardest times. I am very lucky to have met him and your entire family. I have come to learn in my time as a nurse that some patients will stay with you forever. I will never forget his ability to make me smile during his worst times. He was adored and loved not only by his family, but also by us, Nurses would regularly "call dibbs" to have him as a patient. To your whole family, thank you for reminding us what it means to love. You all took amazing care of him throughout his journey and I hope that if ever I am faced with the hardship, my own family will be as strong and loving as you have showed me. To Mr. Saunders, thank you for always smiling. You made our days together, even if they were long, happy. I have learned in recent years that happiness is truly a choice, you were one of the people that taught me that. You always chose to be happy. I am blessed to have cared for you, and eternally grateful for all of the smiles, hope, and love that you showed us during your best and worst.

Dina E.

Nurse on 5pw

Dina - May 01, 2015 at 07:12 PM



Dear Dina,

thank you so much for your kind words. I remember very well the first day that you were assigned as my father's nurse. You looked so young that I must admit that I was a bit nervous. However, my fears were quickly allayed by your kindness, compassion and diligence. I remember that you always had a smile for my father, treated him with the utmost respect and whenever you didn't have the answer, you always found the answer and helped my father and all of us feel at ease. It was such a comfort to see you again as his journey neared the end.

My father was blessed in life with angels who looked after him above and beyond the call of their duties. You are firmly entrenched among them. You always had a smile for him and treated him with such caring that my siblings and I were relieved whenever we knew that you were assigned to him. You looked after him as few other nurses did. You truly cared about him. We knew that we didn't have to worry when you were on duty as his nurse. On behalf of my entire family, I thank you for being such a great, dedicated, compassionate, caring nurse who my father called his friend.

My father was a very kind, strong, warm, loving person. He was the embodiment of the word "father". I even witnessed him giving fatherly advice and encouragement to the nurses. Most importantly, he taught us the meaning of unconditional love. He lived it every single day. His smile and capacity for love were contagious. I never found out who wrote "We love you" on the notice board in my father's room either the morning or evening before he passed away. Please let me know if you do happen to find out.

Hopefully I will see you at the memorial service at 6 PM on July 23rd at HUMC where I'll be able to thank you again in person. If not, I wish you all the best in life, the utmost happiness and success. You were a blessing to our father and our family. We will NEVER forget you!!! As Daddy smiles down from heaven, I don't doubt that he is smiling at you too. God bless you!!!

Sincerely,

Yvonne Saunders

Yvonne - July 20, 2015 at 11:05 PM

BD

“ Jacqueline, (Jackie)

Our deepest sympathies during your time of loss. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers..

We miss you....and so do your students. (but don't worry....they are in good hands)

With Love,

Bassam Dairi and Brick Avon Academy family

B. Dairi - May 01, 2015 at 10:24 AM

FD

“ Faith Davis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.



Faith Davis - May 01, 2015 at 08:45 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.



April 30, 2015 at 09:27 PM

MC

“ *Michelle Corbin purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.*



Michelle Corbin - April 30, 2015 at 08:11 PM

ML

“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Shelton Steven Saunders for the loss of a true hero. To the family his son Steven Saunders who serves as Assistant Principal at the school I'm employed, O. W. Holmes Middle School in Dallas, Texas. Mr. Saunders is a true man of God and I know this is because his father taught him well. Keep your head up family and know that to be absent with the body is to be present with the Lord. My continued prayer for your strength during this time. God bless you. Rev. Maria McGee Lockett, teacher & minister of the Gospel.*

Maria Lockett - April 29, 2015 at 12:25 PM

DA

“ *Diane Coyne ABP purchased the Basket of Joy for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.*



Diane Coyne ABP - April 28, 2015 at 01:54 PM

LP

“ Dear Yvonne, I send my sympathy to you and your family at this difficult and sad time. I did not know your father but heard much about him in our conversations and know he was a wonderful man. He brought you up to share his values of respect, responsibility, caring and loving for others. Because of you, I know he was a fine and gentle man. God bless his soul and his family. Much love, Lillian Paratore



Lillian Paratore - April 28, 2015 at 12:56 PM

TF

“ The Moore Small Group Friends purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.



The Moore Small Group Friends - April 27, 2015 at 12:55 PM

LH

“ Steven,
You and your family are in my prayers. Can't wait to meet your Dad in Glory! I know he was a wonderful man because of who you are. May His Peace keep you and may He continue to wrap you in His unfathomable love. Blessings and strength to you.

*Lajuanda Holder
Red Oak, Texas*

Lajuanda Holder - April 26, 2015 at 10:34 PM

VH

“ Vivien Liner and Family O. W. Holmes purchased the Sympathy Fruits Abound for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.



Vivien Liner and Family O. W. Holmes - April 26, 2015 at 10:23 AM

VL

“ I was so sorry to hear about your father. Remember these words: Grief will last a little while, but memories will last a life time. Think about the memories when you become sad. May God bless you and your family.
Sincerely, Vivien Liner and Family

Vivien Liner - April 26, 2015 at 09:14 AM

SM

“ Hi Yvonne,
Just wanted to send my condolences to your and your family. You're in my thoughts and prayers.

Sabrina

Sabrina Miranda - April 24, 2015 at 05:25 PM

CB

“ Steve, please express our heartfelt condolences to the rest of your family as you walk through this time together. You will be in our prayers. We love you.
Charles and Vickie

Charles and Vickie Blair - April 24, 2015 at 04:24 PM

JN

Steve we've loved you so much ,but just can't believe you've gone

Jamila (granddaughter of Norma) - April 26, 2015 at 10:36 AM

KC

With comforting love to my family. Let our tears fall, I weep but celebrate uncle Steve's life. Uncle Steve's tenderness and smile will always warm our hearts. His sparkle and Godly, unconditional love helped to shape my life too. Uncle was a loving father and a role model whilst we grew up with cousins Carol, Junior, Jacqui and Yvonne in Jamaica. He was devoted to aunt Belle who I love so much. Please get some quiet rest knowing that uncle Steve is in God's arms. Mum and are are here, any time you need us. Blessings with fond memories. Lloyd, Aunty Claire, Kaye and our children Imani and Jamila "May the God of all GRACE...after you have suffered a while,....strengthen and settle you" 1 Peter 5:10

Kaye Christopher-Grant - April 26, 2015 at 11:05 AM

CL

“ *I know he was a wonderful father and example as evident by the example we see in Steven Saunders. "Now is your time to grieve, but I will see you again and you will rejoice and no one will take away your joy." John 16:22*
Cynthia Lubben, Dallas ISD

Cynthia Lubben - April 24, 2015 at 04:15 PM

JH

“ *Jeffrey H. purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.*



Jeffrey H. - April 24, 2015 at 03:55 PM

OD

“ You don't get over it, you just get through it. You don't get by it, because you can't get around it. It doesn't 'get better'; it just gets different. Everyday... Grief puts on a new face.... -Wendy Feireisen

Mr. Saunders, As hard as it seems, you will get through this difficult time and emerge stronger. We are praying for you and your family.....and will be here to help you through this trying period. Safe Travels on your return. See you soon!!!

OW Holmes Special Education Department - April 24, 2015 at 12:21 PM

OD

Oliver Wendell Holmes that is!!! lol

OW Holmes Special Education Department - April 24, 2015 at 12:23 PM

YS

“ Your Cousin, Pearl Saunders Scott purchased the Mrs. Fields Nibblers® Sympathy Basket for the family of Shelton Steven Saunders.



Your Cousin, Pearl Saunders Scott - April 24, 2015 at 06:56 AM

FG

“ I send my condolences and sympathy to Shelton's family. I have so many wonderful memories of him. He truly was a very considerate and helpful colleague in the Newark offices of the BPU. In my almost 30 years in Newark I found him to be professional, supportive and committed to doing his very best in all of his varied duties. Good bye old friend! Very proud to have worked with him in State service.

Fred S. Grygiel

Fred S. Grygiel - April 23, 2015 at 05:23 PM

JS

“ *Mr. Saunders, may the peace of God be with you and your family. While this is a difficult time for you and your family, know that God does all things well. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Draw on HIS strength. He does all things well. Have a safe return as your family here in Dallas awaits you.*

Jen Span

Jennifer Span - April 23, 2015 at 02:10 PM

SD

“ *Mr. Stevens Sanders: My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May God continue to give you strength each day!*

Susan Dale - April 23, 2015 at 01:26 PM

KT

“ *Mr. Saunders is such a beautiful beautiful soul. I'm thankful for the beautiful life he lived and the beautiful and wonderful wife he married and same for the children and grandchildren he birthed. Jacqueline his daughter has been such a good good friend to me for many years. In the past when I would go to the Saunders house, Mr. Saunders was so very kind and sweet. I will miss him being on this earth. My prayers, blessings and love are with the entire family. I'm sorry that due to finances I can't make the funeral but my love and heart is there for you all.*

Keysha Turner - April 23, 2015 at 11:30 AM

CG

“ Shelton was a kind and gentle soul, I remember when I started in 2002 I had a file cabinet that was locked everyone said go see Sheldon he has the keys, well not only did he have the key he had all the keys for everything at the board if it wasn't on his key ring it was in a drawer he called the safe. My condolences to his wife and family he was a pleasant person to know and work with.



Cynthia Graham - April 22, 2015 at 01:30 PM

JJ

“ The man that is described is truly the man I remember Shelton to be. He loved his BPU family. I can say nothing but kind things about him. I had the pleasure of working very closely with Shelton making sure Purchase Orders were processed. We talked about family, He provided me with great advice. He is a man that will never be forgotten. Our Prayers are with the family always. Joyce D. Washington-Joseph.

Joyce D. Joseph - April 22, 2015 at 12:58 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Van Tassel Funeral Home - April 21, 2015 at 10:57 PM

VM

“ *Shelton was such a sweet, kind person. I can just remember how he always went above and beyond to help me with anything I ever needed. I was so saddend to hear of his passing, but I am very fortunate to have known and worked with him for so many years. Rest in Peace dear friend. with loving memories,*

Valerie Maita.

Valerie Maita - April 21, 2015 at 11:02 AM

IV

“ *Psalm 121*

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Izabela VanTassel - April 21, 2015 at 10:07 AM

ND

Mr. Saunders, I've been praying for you and your family to find peace during this very difficult time. May God bless you and yours today and always.

Nancy Dansby - April 23, 2015 at 04:28 PM

LS

Shelton was one of the nicest co-workers one could have. He was always courteous, kind and accommodating. I am thankful to have been blessed by his presence in my days at the BPU. We were a real family in the day and Shelton was like a brother who took care of us in the workplace. He did it with style and grace! Peace be unto you Saunders family in your time of sorrow.

Lyda Singleton

Lyda Singleton - April 24, 2015 at 07:48 AM

LM

Mr. Saunders, My thoughts and prayers are with you. May the good LORD bless and keep you & your family doing this difficult time. Lawanda Mitchell Computer Teacher O. W. Holmes Middle School Dallas, Texas.

Lawanda Mitchell - April 27, 2015 at 01:24 PM