

Celebrating The Life,
Legacy & Service of

Samuel

ROY ELLISON

Sunrise: June 10, 1938 - Sunset: June 11, 2024

Funeral Service
MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024
Viewing: 9:00 a.m. — Mass: 11:00 a.m.

The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
(founded, 1792 – The First Black Episcopal Church in the USA)
6361 Lancaster Avenue | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19151

*Requiem Mass of the Resurrection
in Thanksgiving for the Life of Samuel Roy Ellison*

The Very Rev. Canon Martin Shaw, Rector / Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Fr. Daren E. Evans, Associate Rector / Assisting



Organ Prelude..... Music Ministry
The Book of Common Prayer - The Burial Office: Rite Two

The Opening Burial Sentences BCP 491
The Opening Hymn — “When We All Get To Heaven” LEVAS # 20
The Collect

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Old Testament Lesson — Isaiah 25:6-9..... Kezia Ellison, MD
Psalm 23 Shelby Perry
The New Testament Lesson — Revelation 21:2-7..... Jerome McLeod
The Gradual Hymn — “It Is Well” (vs. 1-2) LEVAS # 188
The Holy Gospel — John 14:1-6 Father Evans
Homily Hymn — “It Is Well” (vs. 3-4)..... LEVAS #188
The Homily..... Father Shaw
The Apostles’ Creed BCP 496
The Prayers of The People BCP 497

THE PEACE

Reflections (*two minutes please*) Ashley Hines, Bobby Tillman
Wick Savage, Shawn McLeod and Samuel Ellison

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory Sentence
The Offertory Musical Selection — “The Lord is My Light” .LEVAS #58
The Great Thanksgiving..... BCP 361
The Prayer of Consecration
The Lord’s Prayer

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
(*All baptized persons are invited to receive communion*)

The Distribution of Holy Communion
Communion Musical Selections — “Taste and See” Patricia Akins
The Post Communion Prayer BCP 498

THE COMMENDATION (BCP 499)

The Blessing and Dismissal
The Closing Hymn — “When The Saints Go Marching In”
Organ Postlude Music Ministry

Interment

ROLLING GREEN MEMORIAL PARK
1008 West Chester Pike
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19382

Life REFLECTIONS



SAMUEL ROY ELLISON was born in Manchester, Georgia on June 10, 1938 as the fourth of eight children to Robert Ellison and Flora Owens Ellison. He was raised in Georgia and then the family moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and then to South, New Jersey settling in Atco.

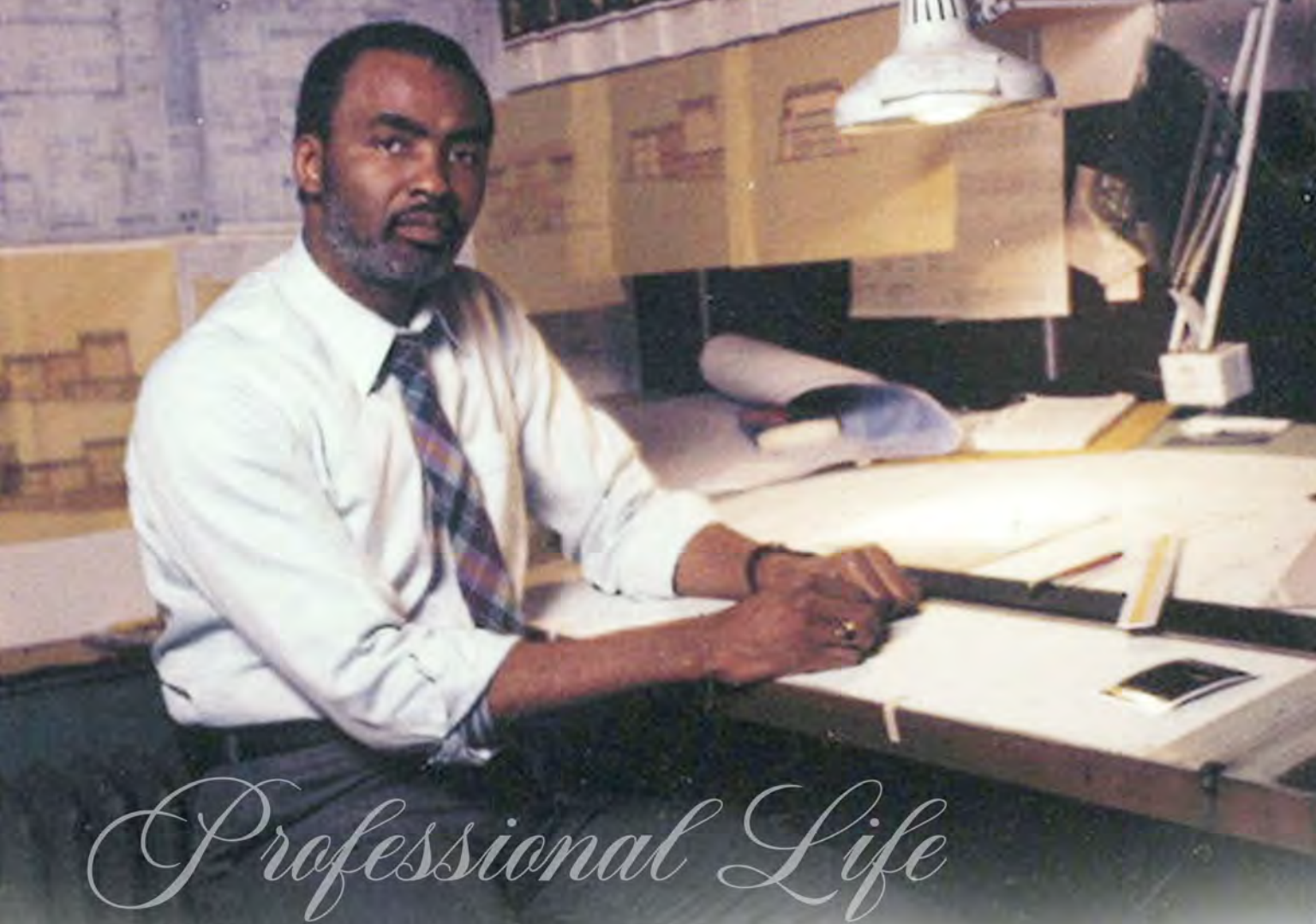
During his childhood, Roy helped to support his family by doing contract work with his father. Roy was educated in the Atco school system, graduating from Atco High School. As a high school student, he competed in three varsity sports: football, wrestling, and track/field. Roy was also a State Champion in Wrestling.

Roy enrolled at New York University where he earned the first of his multiple degrees. He was drafted out of college, and deployed during the American invasion of Vietnam, serving two tours as a Captain and Artillery Officer in Vietnam. He did his Basic Combat Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he later became a Mason, and continued his Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

After returning from military service, he completed his education and graduated from New York University (NYU) with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Arts/Industrial Relations. Soon after graduation, Roy moved back to the Philadelphia area and later married Delores Ellison and had his first children, Shawn and Shelby. He became a member of the Darby Township School Board of Delaware County, Pennsylvania. He also taught Middle School, High School, and Vocational Educational School in Chester and Delaware County.

Roy then completed his Master's of Arts in Architecture at The University of Pennsylvania School of Fine Arts/Architects Workshop. Soon afterwards, he secured his Associates degree in Business Administration from Temple University School of Business.





Professional Life

After completing his education, he worked for several large internationally known majority firms in the Philadelphia area; Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson (H2L2) where he developed his skills while working on many national and international projects, such as: the Hershey Medical Center and Animal Research Facility, Hershey, Pennsylvania; the Girard Point (double decker) Bridge, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the final phases of the Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; planning for the PECO building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Hetzel Union Building (HUB), East Halls Dorms (first and second additions); Nittany Lion Inn, Pennsylvania State University; Social Sciences Building, University of Pennsylvania; the original Children's Hospital

which provided the footprint for the new existing CHOP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; also Keystone Concrete Contractors, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Foundations for Centre Square office complex, the AT&T Technology Center; McCluskey & Company Builders; as well as various other projects starting with the United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the William J. Green, Jr. Federal Building & Courthouse, the PNB Building at 5th and Market Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the new Baltimore Post Office and Maintenance Facility, Baltimore, Maryland; and the Gwynedd Green Apartments, North Wales, Pennsylvania.

Later on, Roy branched out on his own as an entrepreneur. He was the President and Founder of

Ujima Design Development Group LTD, an architectural, planning, engineering, and real estate developers organization. Mr. Ellison was also the Founder and Managing Principal of Ujima Architects, LLC., an Architectural and Interior Design Firm. He served as a co-founder of The Minority Architects, and Engineers Alliance, LLP, (MAEA) and National Organization of Minority Architects, Inc. (NOMA). His firm completed several major transit projects in the Philadelphia area amounting to approximately \$28 million for the Elmwood Transportation Facility, located at Island Road and Elmwood Avenues, the Woodland Avenue Heavy Maintenance Facility, and in partnership with Johnson and Jones Architects & Planners, PC in New Jersey, an additional \$106 million in Transit Projects for South Eastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA) and New Jersey Transit Authority (NJTA).

He became a member of The Viking Group, LLC in 2016, serving as Senior Vice President in charge of professional services, and overseeing the technical aspects of all projects, as well as interfacing with other professionals as the various projects required. He also directed planning, development, architectural, and engineering requirements for each project.

Roy led the newly formed DLW, Development Corporation, LLC as the Chairman of the Board of Directors, also serving the development of Family Entertainment Centers in the Northeast US, the cost of construction ranging from \$18-\$50 million dollars. He also worked on and facilitated the development of the Class A Ivy Hill Road Medical Office Complexes, with projected construction costs of \$25-\$45 million.

Roy had extensive national and international experience in many disciplines, through his firm, ECCO Engineering Services, LLC, including Architecture, Engineering, Construction and Program Management Services, Inspections, Small Contractor Development, Real Estate Development, Valuation, and Management Consulting Services. He had also taught Real Estate Development at the college level in Nigeria, West Africa while working

with his Nigerian partner in Estate Planning and Valuation for 68,000 hectares of land, which ultimately comprised the New Nigerian State Capital, Abuja, Nigeria, West Africa. His further work took him through the East Coast of Africa, Europe, and Asia.

Roy, while in association with Thacker Engineering and Gaston Thacker General Contractors, Birmingham, Alabama, provided General Construction and Program Management services for the restoration of: 37 Police Precincts in New York City and 4 PS high schools; the addition to Harlem Hospital and Medical Facility, New York, New York; a \$53.5 million high school project in Miami, Florida, along with an \$18.5 million elementary, middle and high school, with their athletic complex, in Charles City, Virginia.

While relocating to the Gulf after the massive devastation of Hurricane Katrina, he spent over five years in New Orleans, Louisiana from 2005 - 2010, working on the rebuilding effort and assisting the many disadvantaged families in recovering claims damages for their properties. His firm, SREA Associates, LTD. provided Forensic Engineering, Construction and Program Management Services.



Love

ROY met Patricia Karen Walker-Ellison in the late '70s and they were together for nearly a decade before marrying in 1987 they had two children, Simone and Samuel, in 1991 and 1992, respectively. They purchased a home in Dresher, Pennsylvania in Montgomery County where the Ellison Family still resides.



Church



ROY then joined the church community of the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas in Philadelphia. He was active in many ministries including the Edward Muse Photography Ministry, the Men's Ministry and Fellowship, additionally he was Chair of the annual Church Outing Track & Field events, as well as youth programs as a mentor to college students.

After many years of solo greeting, he founded the Monarch Greeters Ministry with founding members, Ashley Hines and Larry Farmby. He spent countless Sundays welcoming and assisting his church family into the church. He loved engaging with everyone as they came up the front walkway, especially the children, and also made sure that all seniors could safely get in and out of their vehicles, and assisted them in navigating their entrance via steps, ramp or chairlift.





Roy's family was always very important to him and even though he traveled a lot for work, he always made time for family events, including birthdays, school programs, graduations, sport competitions and championships, especially the annual Penn Relays, where his son Samuel competed for many years from high school, college and elite levels which included sponsorship by Adidas. He was always on the infield taking photos at the finish line and while cheering for Samuel and Samuel's teammates, they would often ask Samuel, "Sam, how does your Dad get out here on the infield?" Sam said "That's my Dad!!"

Roy loved to travel and took the family on many road trips over the years to his places of peace and serenity, and golfing, including the beaches of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, Hilton Head, South Carolina, Ocean City, Maryland, and Florida; as well as traveling worldwide to Africa, Europe, the Far East,

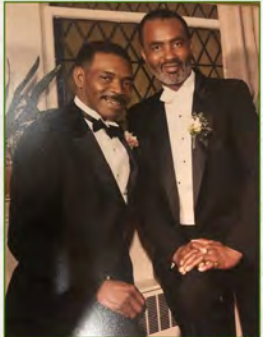
Mexico, and the Caribbean Islands. He and Patty started off their marriage with a honeymoon trip of a lifetime to Japan, Hong Kong, Macau, China, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ellison; his sister, Robbie Mae Ellison, who died during infancy; brothers, Arthur Lee Ellison, Thomas Ellison and Charles Ellison; sisters, Allean Johnson and Annie Ruth Hart; niece, Diane Johnson; and his first wife, Delores Ellison.

Among those who are left to cherish this extraordinary gentleman are: his loving and caring wife of thirty-seven years, Patricia Walker-Ellison; his children, Simone Ellison, Samuel Ellison, Shawn McLeod, Shelby Perry (Timothy), and Kezia Ellison, M.D. (Willie Wongus); grandchildren, Jerome McLeod, DeShawn McLeod, Timothy Perry, Jr., and Nylah Perry; brother, Eugene Ellison; cousin, Josephine Pressley; a host of nieces and nephews including, Diane Johnson, Anita Murray-Jackson, Jeannette Johnson, Arlene Ahlar-akwe, Vanessa Worley, Carmella Johnson, Carrie Johnson, Pastor Tamika Johnson (Apostle John Wiggins), William H. Hart (Davida), and Denise Freeman (the late Stanley Freeman); a host of grand-nieces and nephews, great-grand-nieces and nephews; and many lifelong devoted friends.



Memories







"Don't let the rocking chair hit you..." — Ciao





Active Pallbearers

- John Pierre Griffin
- Gregory Hayes
- Maurice Hayes
- Ashley Hines
- Bobby Johnson
- Jerome McLeod
- Gregory Naylor

Honorary Pallbearers

- J.R. Brockman
- Solomon Cropper
- Larry Farmbry
- John Gaines
- Daniel Kenny
- Wick Savage
- Arthur Sudler



God's Garden

God looked around His garden
and found an empty place,
He then looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain.

He knew that you would never
get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
and the hills were hard to climb.
So He closed your weary eyelids
and whispered, "Peace be thine".
It broke our hearts to lose you
but you didn't go alone,
for part of us went with you
the day God called you home.

Acknowledgment

The Family of the late SAMUEL ROY ELLISON, acknowledges with deep appreciation, all acts of kindness so warmly received during the illness and passing of our loved one. May God bless and keep each of you in His tender, loving care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: The Jesse F. Anderson, Sr. Scholarship Fund, African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19151 (or) The Greater Philadelphia Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen International, P.O. Box 18966, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119.



Professional Services Entrusted to:
WOOD FUNERAL HOME, INC.
 Clarence M. Wood and Geraldine B. Wood, Founders
 Cynthia E. Wood, President Wanda A. Wood, Supervisor
 5537-39 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19131 • 215-878-5416 • www.cwoodfh.com
 Family Owned and Operated Since 1959