



**Howard Lloyd Graves**

*Celebration of Life*

**May 15, 2021 at 11:00 am**

Mount Pocono  
United Methodist Church

## **Entrance**

**Musical Prelude** Mahalia Jackson's Precious Lord, Take My Hand

## **Covid 19 announcements**

## **Call to Worship**

## **Gathering**

## **The Word of Grace**

## **Greeting**

## **Hymn**

Foster Triplets' This is is What Heaven Means to Me

## **A Prayer of invocation**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and glory forever. Amen.

## **\*Psalm 23, NLB (Melissa Morgan—niece)**

Because the Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need!

He lets me rest in the meadow grass and leads me beside the quiet streams. He gives me new strength. He helps me do what honors him the most.

Even when walking through the dark valley of death I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me, guarding, guiding all the way.

You provide delicious food for me in the presence of my enemies. You have welcomed me as your guest; blessings overflow!

Your goodness and unfailing kindness shall be with me all of my life, and afterwards I will live with you forever in your home.

**Hymn:** Aretha Franklin's God Will Take Care of You

**Remembering Howard Lloyd Graves**

- Eulogy: Sandra Graves Morgan, sister

Remembrances by his children:

- Jonathan Graves
- Anayancy Stephens
- Danielle Graves-Smith

More Remembrances:

- Donovan Smellie
- Michelle DePass-Paulson
- William Thompson, Jr.
- Rolland Harris
- Sue Sempier
- Michael Bellinger

**Hymn:** Ray Charles' Amazing Grace

**First reading** Ecclesiastes 3:1-22 (**Reader: Calvin Smith, III**)

**Song:** Testify

**Second reading** John 14:1-6, (**Reader: Alicia Graves**)

**Meditation** (Pastor Dianne)

**\*Hymn**

Jennifer Hudson's Jesus Promised Me a Place for Me Over There

**Benediction**

**Postlude** Aretha Franklin's, God Will Take Care of You

# Obituary

**Howard Lloyd Graves** was born on April 5, 1953 to Aston Lloyd Graves and Vernice Dahlia Graves, nee Vernice Dahlia DePass in Jamaica, West Indies. He died on March 27, 2021. Howard is survived by his wife, Maria Angelica Graves, nee Maria Angelica Vega. They have three children, Anayancy, Jonathan and Danielle. He is the older brother of Sandra Denise Graves-Morgan and uncle to Christina and Melissa.

Howard Graves came to the United States in 1960. He attended High School at the Loomis- Chaffee Preparatory School in Windsor, Connecticut. He later went on to graduate from Tufts University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics.

Howard started his career in investment banking with Weedon and Company. He became one of the first Black stockbrokers on Wall Street at Kidder Peabody. He expanded his career by opening up his own investment banking firm, Graves and Associates.

Howard and Maria resided in Kinnelon NJ with their family for over 20 years before moving to the Poconos. Apart from close, lasting relationships made in prep school and college, young Howard had some of his best memories and friendships formed while playing rugby. He also enjoyed playing bid whist with college friends and family. In Howard's free time, he enjoyed playing golf and watching sports, especially his beloved football team, The Jets, as well as western and action movies.

Howard deeply loved his grandchildren. He lit up whenever any of his grandchildren were around. Darren, Alijah, Imani, Ali, Avery, Anaiya, Sophia "Sophie", Isabella and Kinley will forever hold their "Papa" in their hearts.

Howard Lloyd Graves is survived by his mother, two uncles, Rupert DePass and Harold Glave, his wife, children, grandchildren, two additional stepsons, Alexander and Alvin, his sister and her husband, Ishmael, nieces, and many cousins and friends. He was loved and will be missed.