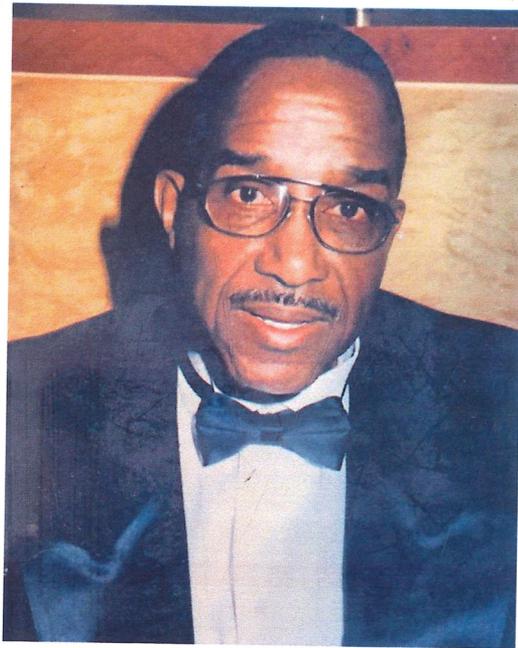


# *Celebration of Life*

*Deacon William Edward Butler*



***Sunrise: September 17, 1935***  
***Sunset: September 5, 2023***

***Joseph H. Brown, Jr. Funeral Home***  
*2140 N. Fulton Avenue*  
*Baltimore, Maryland 21217*

## Obituary

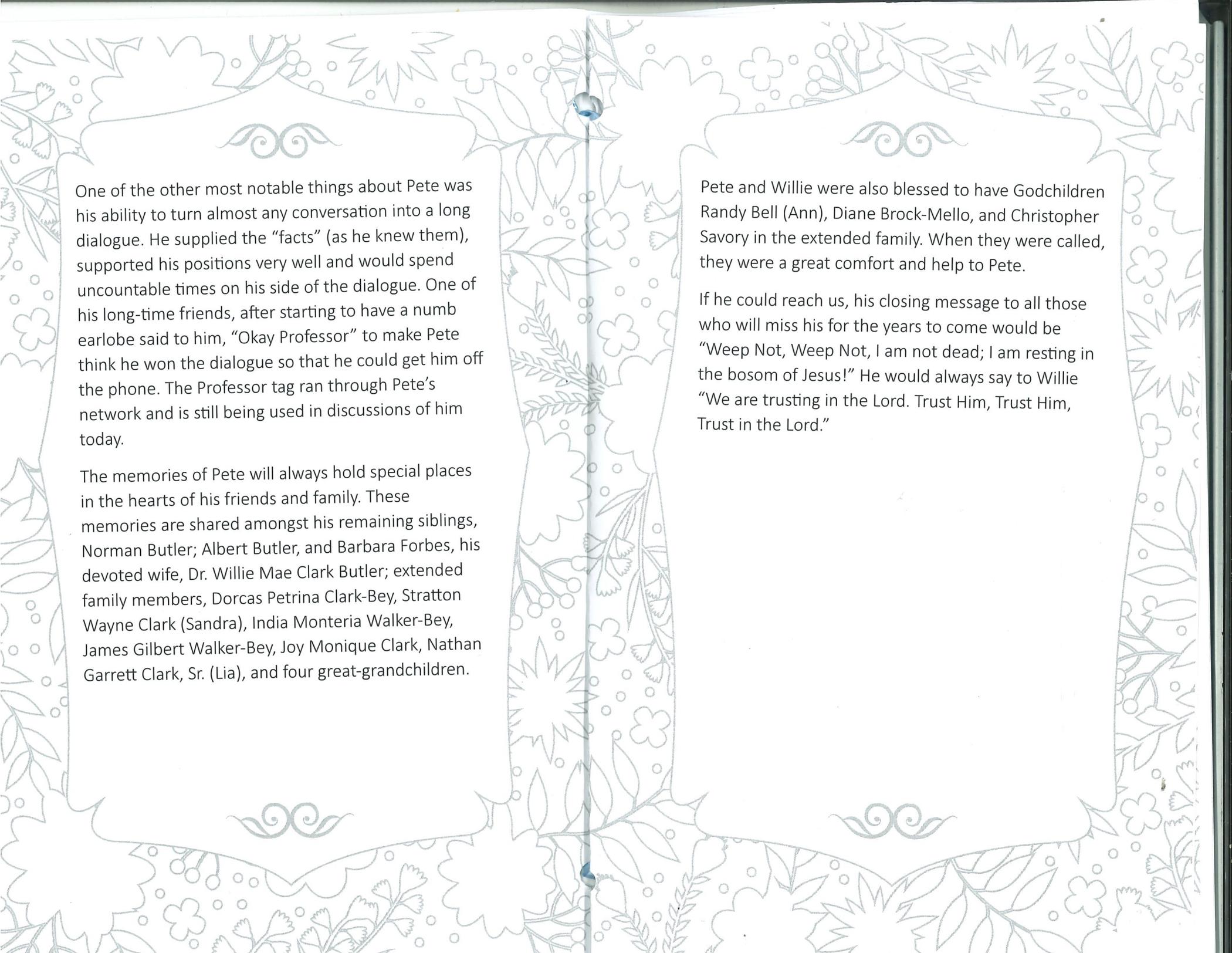
William Edward Butler, son of the late Nathaniel Butler, Sr., and Mary Elizabeth Diggs-Butler, was born on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1935 in Baltimore, Maryland. He was the third of the six children reared by his parents. "Pete" as he became known to all of those in his network, grew into a very dedicated worker in God's vineyard both in his duties there and in his personal life. Following over a year of illnesses and years of commitment to God, his families, and all those who knew him, God looked down upon him and said, "Well done, my good and Faithful Servant," and sent an Angel to bring him Home on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Pete received his early education in Baltimore City Public Schools and was a graduate of Frederick Douglas High School in 1953. His years of employment include three years of Honorable Military Service in the Army from 1953 to 1956; nine years of service as a Policeman with the Baltimore City Police Department from 1957 to 1966 where he retired as a Detective. He owned two night clubs offering live music, was a bookkeeper, a driver for SunCab Company, and worked as a Certified Nursing Assistance licensed by the State of Maryland.

He was married twice. His second marriage to Willie Mae Clark Butler began on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1984 in Newton, North Carolina. In addition to his many other accomplishments, Pete was ordained as a Deacon at Rising Sun First Baptist Church in 1985. He trained many other Deacons in and around Baltimore. His wife Willie received a Doctoral degree in Ministry and Christian Counseling. She and Pete founded a Personal Care Ministry that rendered various services to the elderly.

Pete was a great tenor and he often rendered all the musical selections required during morning worship. Two of his favorite songs were "I can't even walk without you holding my hand" and "I trust in God." He provided other services at his most recent place of worship, Lighthouse Ministries Inc.. He was also very involved in the Deacon's Ministry there.

Deacon Butler loved his network of family, friends, and friends of friends and would do anything that he could to lend assistance in their times of need. This level of caring even carried through the early period of his illnesses.

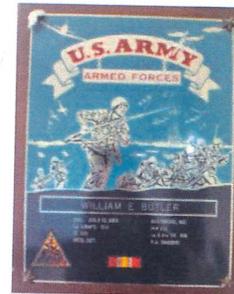
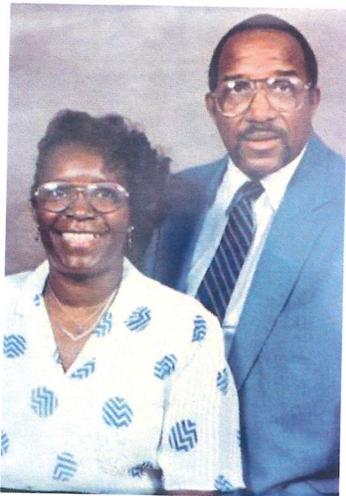
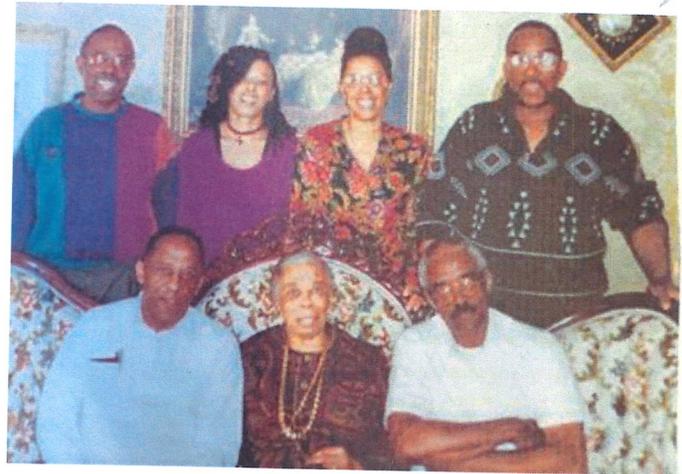
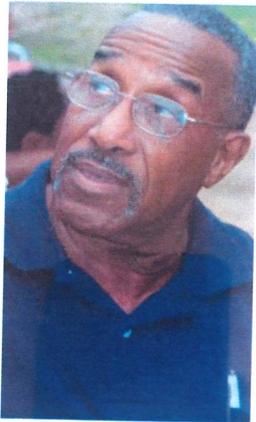


One of the other most notable things about Pete was his ability to turn almost any conversation into a long dialogue. He supplied the “facts” (as he knew them), supported his positions very well and would spend uncountable times on his side of the dialogue. One of his long-time friends, after starting to have a numb earlobe said to him, “Okay Professor” to make Pete think he won the dialogue so that he could get him off the phone. The Professor tag ran through Pete’s network and is still being used in discussions of him today.

The memories of Pete will always hold special places in the hearts of his friends and family. These memories are shared amongst his remaining siblings, Norman Butler; Albert Butler, and Barbara Forbes, his devoted wife, Dr. Willie Mae Clark Butler; extended family members, Dorcas Petrina Clark-Bey, Stratton Wayne Clark (Sandra), India Monteria Walker-Bey, James Gilbert Walker-Bey, Joy Monique Clark, Nathan Garrett Clark, Sr. (Lia), and four great-grandchildren.

Pete and Willie were also blessed to have Godchildren Randy Bell (Ann), Diane Brock-Mello, and Christopher Savory in the extended family. When they were called, they were a great comfort and help to Pete.

If he could reach us, his closing message to all those who will miss his for the years to come would be “Weep Not, Weep Not, I am not dead; I am resting in the bosom of Jesus!” He would always say to Willie “We are trusting in the Lord. Trust Him, Trust Him, Trust in the Lord.”



## Order of Service

*Dr. Brenda J. Harrison, Presiding Pastor*

- Processional* ..... *Ministers and Family*
- Opening Hymn* ..... *"Blessed Assurance"*
- Scripture Reading*  
*"Old Testament Psalm 121"* .....  
❖ *Sister Alice P. Lloyd*
- Scripture Reading*  
*"New Testament I Thessalonians 4:13-18"* .....  
❖ *Reverend Willie Hilton*
- Prayer of Comfort* .....  
❖ *Reverend Jerald Hilton*
- Musical Selection* .....  
❖ *Deacon Christopher Savory*
- Words of Comfort* .....  
❖ *Brother Joseph Smith,  
Frederick Douglass Class of  
1953*

*Words of Comfort continued* .....

- ❖ *Sister Inez A. Watson,  
Praisercise Calvary Baptist  
Church*
  - ❖ *Norman Butler (brother)*
  - ❖ *Pastor Vernell S. Murphy,  
Colorado Springs, Colorado*
  - ❖ *Dr. Rayfield Hamrick of Greene  
Bethel Baptist Church,  
Spartanburg South Carolina*
  - ❖ *Representative of Light House  
Ministries*
- Acknowledgments & Obituary*.....  
❖ *Sister Frances Mohorn*
- Musical Selection*.....  
❖ *Deacon Vernon McClean*
- Eulogy* .....  
❖ *Dr. Gary F. Harrison, Senior  
Pastor of Lighthouse Ministries*
- Recessional*.....



**Professional Services Entrusted to:**  
*Joseph H. Brown, Jr. Funeral Home, P.A.*  
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Baltimore, Maryland 21217  
410-383-2700  
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