

Nathaniel Bookman, Jr.

May 24, 1952 - February 12, 2025

Memorial Service

Saturday, March 15, 2025 – 10:00 AM

**The Historical Hutchinson
U.A.M.E. Memorial Church**

**825 East Chestnut Street | Coatesville, PA
Rev. Jeffrey A. Miller, Sr., Pastor**





*When peace like a river
attended my way
When sorrows
like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot,
Thou has taught me to say
It is well, it is well,
with my soul.*



Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

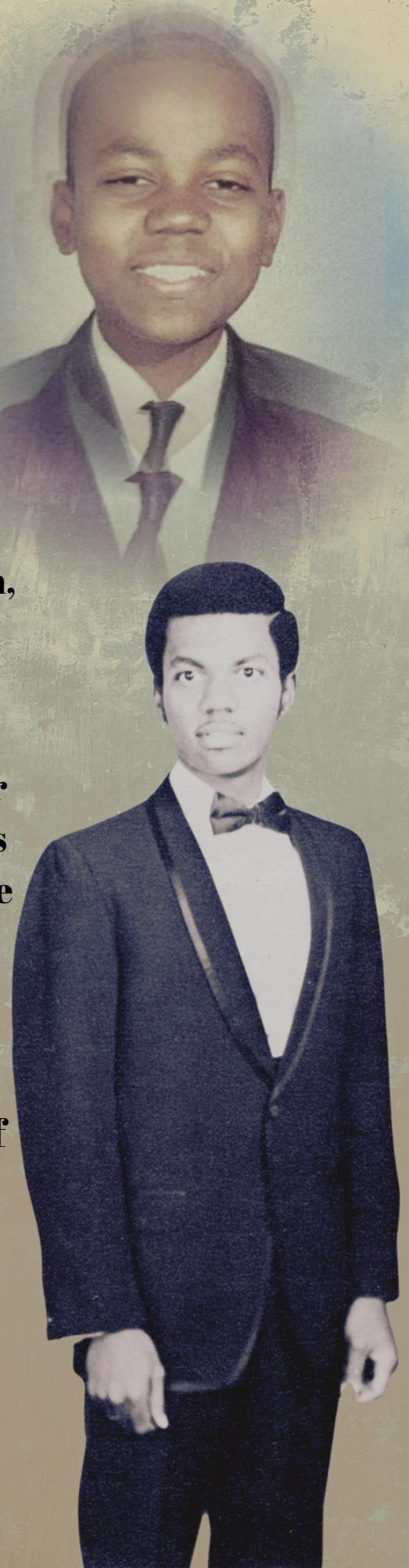
Colossians 3:16

Life Story

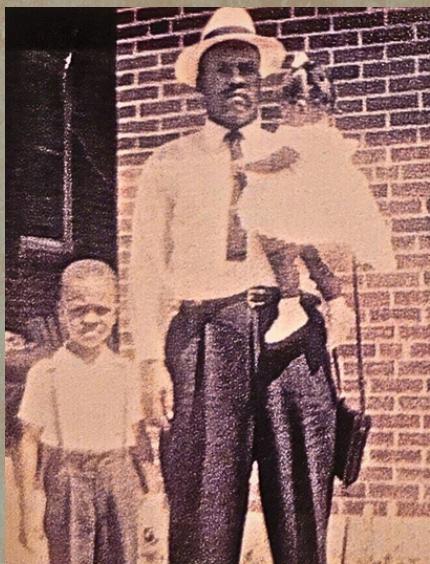
Nathaniel Bookman, Jr. was born in Coatesville, PA on May 24, 1952. He was the son of the late Nathaniel Bookman, Sr. and Louise Bookman.

From a young age, Nate was a talented musician. While receiving his early education, Nate was a member of the Redmen Choir in both junior and senior years. He was also in District and Regional Chorus, All-State Chorus and Band during his junior and senior years. He was a member of the Meistersingers where he served as vice president and became the honor soloist in 1969. Nate graduated from Coatesville Area Senior High School in 1970.

After sometime, Nate relocated to the stage of Georgia. Throughout the years, he played for several churches including: Miracle Revival Temple, Friendship Baptist Church, Mt. Liberty Baptist, Galilee Baptist (Gadsden), Mission Baptist (Gadsden), and several churches in Georgia and Birmingham, AL to name a few.



His final music post and Minister of Music position was at the Oak Ridge Baptist Church in Hobson City, AL. In the 1990s and early 2000s, Nate played for the Baptist association entitled the Snow Creek Youth Department. This group was noted throughout Anniston and surrounding areas. At the height of this group, there were over 120 youth in this choir. Also, this group sang some original songs that he had written. They completed a live recording featuring those songs. Being an educator (teacher) by profession, he always was involved with youth, and they were drawn to him. He just had a way to get youth to do whatever he asked them, and they had total respect for him. Bookman also worked with the Youth for Christ Rally every year. This organization was non-denominational and worked with youth all over the city to steer them in the right direction and to provide foundational Christian principles for them. Nate was also a part of the Annual Community Gospel Workshop sponsored by the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church every August for the church and surrounding communities. He was there and served as a clinician from the very inception of the workshop. This group has been going strong for 25 years. Some other notable groups that he served as a musician for included Bookman and Company and Praize.



Minister Nathaniel Bookman was a blessing to the greater Calhoun County Alabama area (Anniston, Gadsden, and Surrounding areas). He was commonly called Bookman mostly not out of disrespect but because of familiarity and closeness. He was always well-received by the local church community and helped with any church function that he could. Bookman never met strangers because he was personable with everyone that he came into contact with.

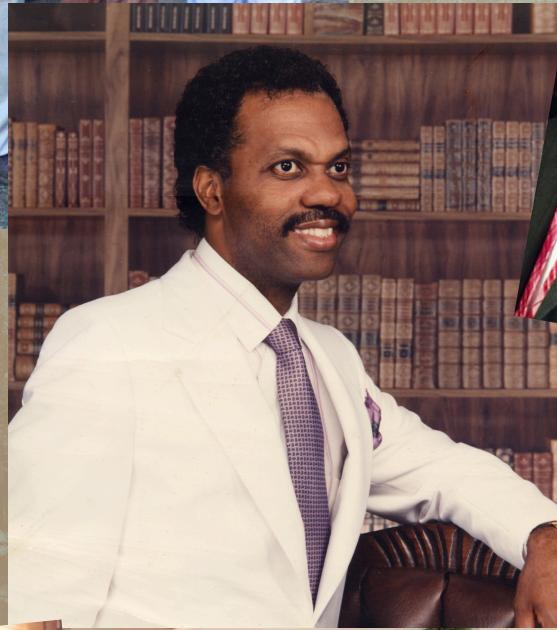
Music was his life, and he taught choirs and other groups with every ounce of energy that the Lord gave him. His gift was dedicated to the glory of God, and it could be seen through his work. From the 1970's until recently, Bookman accompanied many groups and served and Minister of Music, Director of Music, Clinician, lecturer, and advocate for Christian music. He loved hymns, gospel, traditional, contemporary, and urban music. He believed in being well-rounded.

On Wednesday, February 12, 2025, Nate passed away at Anniston Health & Rehab Center in Anniston, Alabama.

Nate leaves cherished memories to his sister, Iris Thomas, of Coatesville; nieces and nephews, grandchildren, Eric L. Bookman, Michelle L. Bookman, Michael L. Bookman, Miriam L. Williams Robinson and Marshay R. Williams and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

Nathaniel Bookman's life was a blessing to the body of Christ. He will truly be missed, however, his music and spirit will live on in the lives of people that he touched throughout the years.





Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found that peace at the close of the day
If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Ah, yes, these things I too will miss
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow
My life has been full, I've savored much
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief
Lift up your heart and share with me
God wanted me now, He set me free!

A Note of Thanks

We, the family, extend our gratitude to all who have supported us with your prayers and helped give Nate a beautiful celebration of life. May God continue to bless you.

Arrangements by

Wright Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc.
725 Merchant Street, Coatesville, PA 19320
610-384-0341

Ventnor T. Wright - Funeral Director, Supervisor
www.wrightfuneralservices.com