Celebration of Life

Hiram Lee Tanner, Jr., P.E.

Sunrise: January 21, 1948 ~ Sunset: February 20, 2023

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023
Viewing: 10:00 A.M. | Service: 11:00 A.M.
www.shilohbaptist.org/livestream

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
1500 Ninth Street, NW | Washington, DC 20001
The Reverend Wallace Charles Smith, DMin, Senior Minister
OBITUARY

Hiram Lee Tanner, Jr., P.E. was born on January 21, 1948 (on his father’s birthday) in Columbus, Ohio, the older of two children of the late Hiram L. Tanner, Sr., and Inez (Mays) Tanner. He resigned from his earthly position to be with the Lord on Monday, February 20, 2023.

He loved the Lord and gave his life to Christ at an early age while attending First AME Zion Church in Columbus, Ohio, with his family. Hiram received his early education from Columbus City Public Schools. In 1966, he graduated with distinction from West High School, where he excelled both academically and athletically. Thereafter, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Ohio Northern University.

While serving as a groomsman in the wedding of his best friend Artie Wilson, Hiram met a gorgeous, vivacious wedding-crashing law-student, Gloria Johnson. The two wed in 1974. The young couple moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where Hiram earned his Master’s in Business Administration from Wharton Graduate School, while simultaneously earning his Masters of Science in Materials Science & Civil Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania in an 18-month period.

To their union, three children were born: Hiram, III, Knia and Morgan Robert Tanner. Family and community were cherished by Hiram. He spent many hours transporting his sons and their Fort DuPont Cannons teammates to ice hockey practice and games; as well as actively accompanying his children to music lessons with the D.C. Youth Orchestra and other activities. The neighborhood children were always welcomed in his home. He adored his grandchildren Ava and Hiram IV and enjoyed spending time with them.

Hiram served as a faithful member of the Shiloh Baptist Church Usher Unit #1. On October 24, 2020, he received the Distinguished Service Award for twenty years of service as an usher. In addition, he cheerfully served as a board member of the Henry C. Gregory Family Life Center of Shiloh Baptist Church and the Ward 8 Tennis Council. He was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Hiram’s professional career spanned over 50 years. He worked in a variety of industries including Finance (Citibank/Wall Street), Food Processing Plant development and expansions (McCormick), Civil Engineering, Cartography, Bridge
Design (Greiner Engineering), Consulting (Advanced Engineering) and Wastewater Treatment.

Hiram served as Manager, Sewer Pumping Division for District of Columbia Water & Sewer Authority. For a short span in the early 1980’s he served as adjunct professor in the Howard University Department of Civil Engineering. Hiram proudly served as President of the Chesapeake Water Environment Association, as well as a delegate to the Water Environment Federation and Chaired the City of Baltimore Pretreatment Advisory Committee. Hiram was very proud of his work and his children fondly recall he took his young family on vacation to see the Blue Stone bridge he designed in West Virginia.

After retiring, he continued various professional endeavors. In addition to becoming a certified mediator and actively serving in that role under appointments from FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority), he was the founding and managing partner of National Employment Practices, a firm that handled mediations and investigations under contracts throughout the Federal government. Later, he founded and served as president of BioClean Engineering. In August 2021, Hiram was nominated by State Senator Ronald Watson and appointed by Governor Hogan to the State Board of Directors of Maryland Environmental Service where he was actively involved in policy decisions on statewide measures.

Hiram leaves to remember him with love and adoration his devoted wife Gloria Johnson, Esq.; his three children: Hiram III, a Federal Sector Manager at EPA; Knia, a Utilities Attorney; and Morgan, a Civil Engineer in the water industry like his father; daughter-in-law, Yara; beloved grandchildren, Ava and Hiram IV; sister, Cynthia Scott; brothers-in-law, Jesse Scott and Robert Johnson, Jr.; nephew, Marcus Scott (wife, Chanie) and their four sons (Aurelias, Nehemiah, Julius and Solomon); a devoted cousin, Alfred King who called him daily; and a host of other relatives and myriad friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Family Life Center Foundation. Earmark your donations for the Hiram Tanner Scholarship for Summer Enrichment Programs.
Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Procession of Clergy and Church Officials

Call to Worship and Invocation......................... Rev. Dr. Wallace Charles Smith

Hymn of Praise...................................................... “Blessed Assurance”

Reading of Scriptures .................................Rev. Larry Thompson, Pastor

Upper Room Worship Center, Parkville, MD

Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4
New Testament: II Timothy 4:7-8

Prayer of Comfort ........................................ Rev. George E. Mensah, Sr.

Prayer Response: “Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

Silent Reading of Obituary

Musical Selection.............................................. “Order My Steps”, Judy C. Williams

Special Tribute .................................................... Family Life Center Foundation

Rev. Dr. Crystal A. Kuykendall, Esq., Chair, Board of Directors

Acknowledgment of Condolences .........................Sharon Parker, Ph.D.

Expressions of Comfort (please limit remarks to 2 minutes)

Mary Bates Washington, Leader, Fellowship Circle

The Honorable Lisa Hall Johnson
Judge, Prince George’s County District Court

Keith A. Anderson, Esq., General Usher Board, Unit 1 Captain
Dr. Charles Glass, P.E., Director, Maryland Environmental Service  
The Honorable Wala Blegay, Vice Chair and District Six (6) Representative  
Prince George’s County Council  
Merrick Malone and Bruce Williams  
Ohio Northern University, College Friends

Musical Tribute.......................................................... “It is Well with My Soul”  
Saxophonist, Brian Cunningham

Eulogy ................................................................. Rev. Marcus Scott, Nephew  
Pastor, First A.M.E. Zion, Columbus, OH

Musical Selection.......................................................... “Come, Ye Disconsolate”  
Nicole Parsons and Lillian Epps

Final Blessing / Benediction

Recessional ...................................................................... “Goin’ Up Yonder”

Musical Postlude  
SHILOH MUSIC MINISTRY  
Dr. Thomas Dixon Tyler, Director/Accompanist
PALLBEARERS
Malcolm Davis Carlos Perry
Chris Gibson Jevon Salaam
Ray Johnson Maurice Taylor
Antoine Minor Larry Thompson

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
The family wishes to express deep and sincere gratitude for all the kind expressions of sympathy and loving concern shown to us during this difficult time. May God bless each of you in a special way.

REPAST
Following entombment, the family and friends are invited to participate in fellowship and repast at the Country Club at Woodmore.

Arrangements by
GRACE MURRAY FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES
5635 Eads Street, NE
Washington, DC 20019

INTERMENT
Arbutus Memorial Park
1101 Sulphur Spring Road
Baltimore, MD 21227