

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE Organist Mrs. Jacqueline P. Robinson
CALL TO WORSHIP
PROCESSIONAL
HYMN NO. 280 *"Amazing Grace, How Sweet The Sound"*
INVOCATION
HYMN NO. 467 *"How Great Thou Art"*
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalms 100
SOLO *"His Eyes Are On The Sparrow"* Mrs. Jocelyn P. Thompson
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON I Corinthians 13: 1-8
MUSIC *"God So Loved The World"* The Chancel Choir
TRIBUTE Ronald Kent Gray, M.D.
EULOGY The Reverend Dr. Edward B. Newberry
HYMN NO. 359 *"More Love To Thee, O Christ"*
RECESSIONAL
POSTLUDE
INTERMENT Oaklawn Cemetery
BENEDICTION

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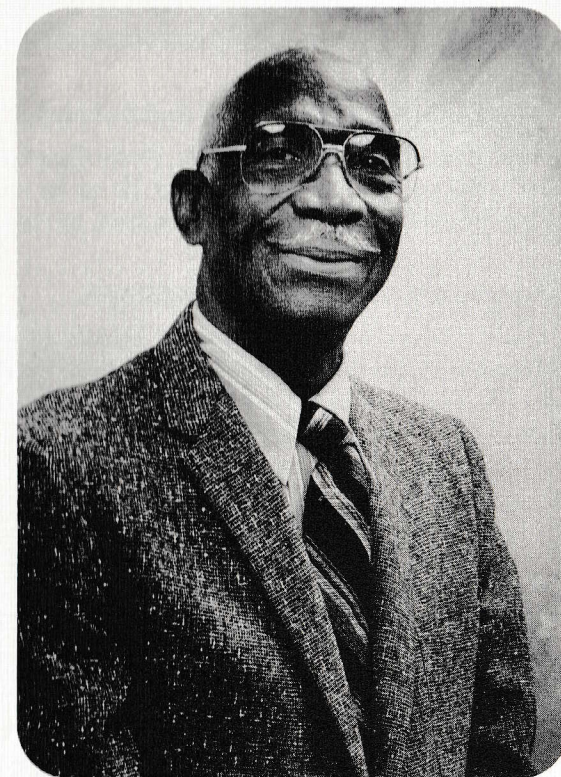
The Family is deeply appreciative of all prayers, communications, food and flowers. God bless us in the memory of John's powerfully optimistic and honest life and in the comfort you have brought us.

The Family

FUNERAL SERVICE

FOR

MR. JOHN WILLIAM GRAY, JR.



Friday, March 20, 1992

3:00 P. M.

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Reverend Dr. Edward B. Newberry, Pastor/Officiating



OBITUARY

MR. JOHN WILLIAM GRAY, JR., a man of honesty and integrity, promoted love and understanding wherever he went. He was a man who believed in the one human race of people, harboring no bitterness towards any man. He had a special way of reaching anyone with his magnetic personality, as he walked and talked with nobleman and others, never losing the common touch.

John's motto was **"The World Is Yours . . . Live And Be Happy."**

From his birth on December 18, 1915, in Charlotte, North Carolina, until his death on March 16, 1992, John Gray was happy. He enjoyed life to its fullest. He shared his happiness with everyone he met. And to everyone he met, he was known fondly and simply as **"Johnnie"**.

Johnnie was a 1932 graduate of Second Ward High School.

From childhood, Johnnie was always a hard worker. he was dependable in whatever task or job he was assigned - from paper boy in his youth to adult church work as a Trustee, Deacon, Elder of Session or member of the Church's Stewardship Committee. He was an active member of the Young at Heart Senior Citizens' Club, Jack and Jill Club of America, Bridgeteers' Club, and a Boy Friend of the Charlotte Chapter of Girl Friends.

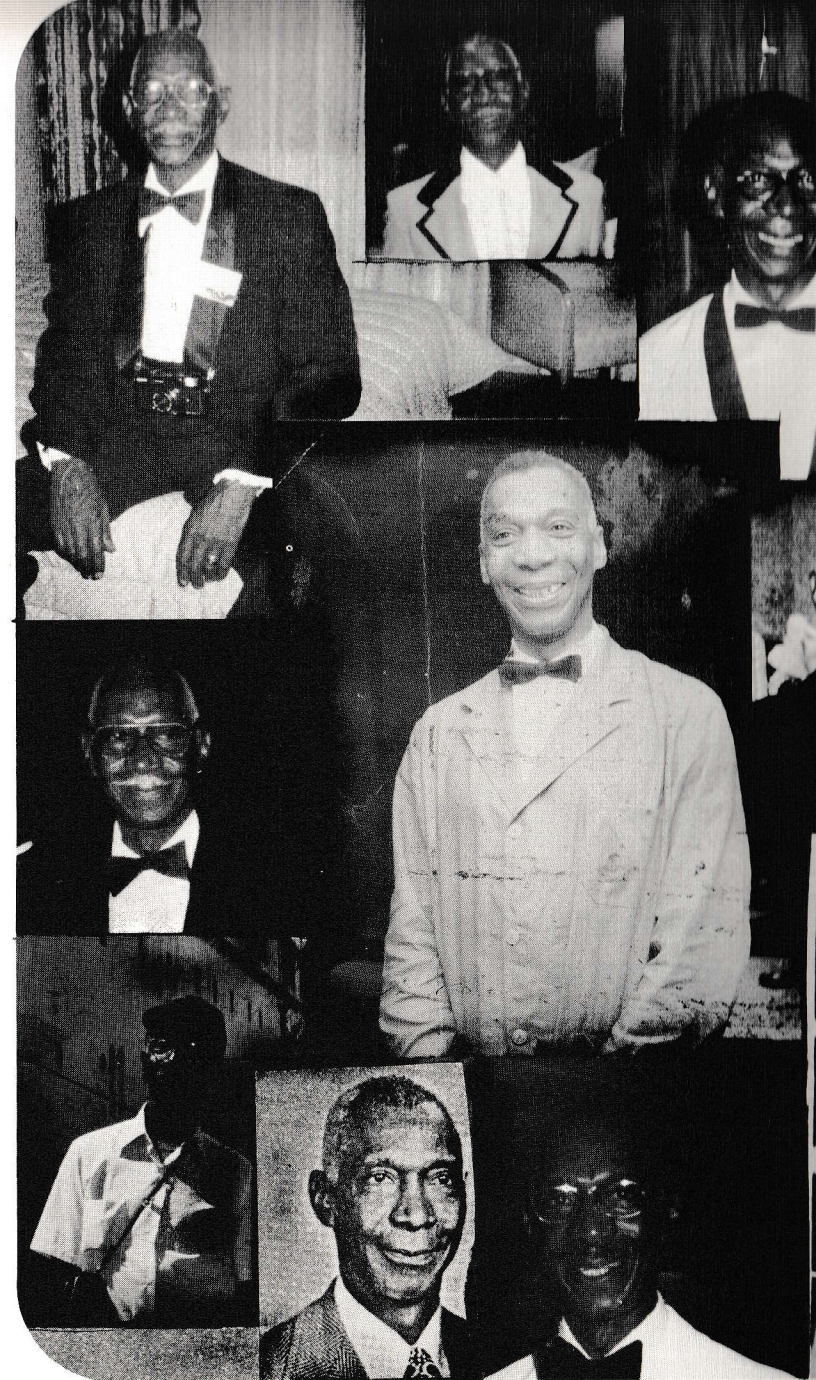
In 1982, he retired from the Southern Railroad after 39 years of exemplary service.

Johnnie often said that his wife of 47 years, Ophelia **"Kitty"** Carson Gray, was the inspiration that motivated him, and their son, Ronald, a Baltimore physician had been their pride and joy. Ronald remembers that Johnnie and Kitty were inseparable.

"I was drawn to Johnnie by his musical ability", says Kitty. "But I soon found out about his genuine sense of caring, his love for others". He gave lots of love--it was a part of him, she reflects.

Johnnie and Kitty opened their home to shelter college students and other young adults trying to make a start in life. He donated food, clothing and money to charities helping the poor and needy. Johnnie insisted on sharing his blessings with others. Johnnie lived up to his motto through his hobbies, bridge, music and traveling. He loved every hand, every song and every trip.

In failing health, Johnnie whispered assuredly to Kitty; Ronald and his two grandchildren, Melanie and Reginald- "I'll be alright and I love You". This assurance he leaves to his daughter, Audrey E. Dunlap of Burkley, California; four surviving brothers, Issac Gray of Lenior, North Carolina, Nathaniel Gray of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Andrew Gray and Samuel Gray both of Charlotte, North Carolina; his only sister, Zenobia Gray Hagans of Charlotte, North Carolina; his many nephews, nieces, other relatives and many friends.



"Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, neither has it been revealed unto man what God has in store for them that love Him."



You are invited to the Old Country Buffet at 6506 Route 40 West at the Sports Authority for a luncheon and fellowship, with the family of Mrs. Ophelia C. "Kitty" Gray, following the service.

Contributions can be made to the building fund of Memorial Presbyterian Church, c/o The Reverend Dr. Edward Newberry
2600 Beatties Ford Road,
Charlotte, North Carolina
28216

A Celebration of Life For Ophelia Carson Gray



Sunrise – April 3, 1910

Sunset – December 30, 2000

*Thursday, January 4, 2001
10:30 A.M.*

*Nutter Funeral Home, Inc.
2501 Gwynns Falls Parkway
Baltimore, Maryland 21216*

The Reverend Father Enrique Brown Officiating



Obituary

Mrs. Ollie Ophelia "Kitty" Carson Gray peacefully departed this life at the St. Agnes Hospital, in Baltimore, Maryland, on Saturday, December 30, 2000.

Kitty and her five sisters and five brothers, were born to the beloved Lynn and Ollie Carson in Tryon, North Carolina. She was devoted to all of them, who preceded her in death.

From childhood, Kitty was always an assiduous worker, and she continued to express an abiding commitment to her immediate and extended families. She cultivated an optimistic life, bestowing her spiritual, educational, and social influences along the avenues of the local, state, and national genre. One of her numerous interests was in "others" and as an example, her life was reflected through the opening of her home to shelter college students and other young adults who were trying to make a start in life.

Kitty always shared her blessings with others, through direct prayer with the sick and shut-in and through donations of food, clothing, and money to assist others. Kitty loved people, and many individuals complimented her role-modeling attributes, characterized by honesty, compassion, independence, creativity, stylish dressing, positive energy level, and her agape love. She loved teaching and encouraged others to be their best. She believed that music was the "salvation of our nation." She immersed herself in activities which enrich the mind, spirit, and soul.

In 1975, Mrs. Gray was praised as "one of Charlotte's best loved teachers," when she retired from the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System after forty-one interesting years.

Kitty was a past and very active member to the Jack and Jill of America, Inc. She was an avid participant in the Girl Friends, Inc., Alpha Lambda Omega Chapter of AKA Sorority, Inc., and the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. She has been the recipient of numerous honors, awards, and citations. Kitty was a devoted wife to Johnny Gray for forty-seven years. Their love of family and friends was evident by their gracious hospitality. They were blessed to have gone on cruises and trips around the world, before the advent of death. Johnny was buried on March 20, 1992.

Prior to becoming ill and moving with her son, a physician, in 1995, she sang on the choir at the Memorial Presbyterian Church, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Kitty will long be remembered by her family and friends. Cherishing her memory are her loving and devoted son, Ronald; daughter-in-law, Jewel; grandchildren, Melanie and Reginald; nieces, Barbara, Patricia, and Cherry; nephew, David; and a host of friends and other relatives.

The Order of Service



The Organ Prelude -----Mr. Norman Ross

The Hymn of Praise -----Ronald K. Gray, M.D

A Prayer of Consolation -----Father Enrique Brown

A Musical Selection -----Ronald K. Gray, M.D

Special Expressions -----Mr. Reginald Kent Gray
Mrs. Barbara Carson Mason
Ronald Kent Gray, M.D.

A Medley of Tunes -----Mr. Norman Ross

The Eulogy -----Father Enrique Brown

The Organ Postlude -----Mr. Norman Ross

*You may review the assembled collage and scrapbook
before or after the service.*

Memorial Service — Memorial Presbyterian Church
Interment — Oaklawn Avenue Cemetery
Charlotte, North Carolina
March 20, 2001