

*A Celebration for the  
Life and Spirit  
Of*



*Alpha*  
*March 25, 1949*

*Omega*  
*January 12, 2024*

*Friday ~ January 19, 2024 ~ 11:00 AM*

*Grant AME Worship Center*

*1701 Kramer Lane Austin, Texas 78758*

*Reverend Agnes J. Habbit, Eulogist*

*Reverend Dr. Sylvester D. Patton, III, Officiant*



## Obituary ~ the steps of a good man...

*I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, 'Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.'*

~Revelation 21:3-4 NLT

Jesse Roy ("Bitty") Powell was born, March 25, 1949 in Austin, Texas to Richard Luther Powell, Sr. and Eleanor Elizabeth Brown. He was the fourth son born to this union. This bundle of joy was the life focus of the family since he was born with Cerebral Palsy. Because of his condition, his mother opened the first private Black Nursery School so she could look after him and other children with special needs. Through the efforts of the Austin Cerebral Palsy Center, Jesse learned to walk and communicate very well. During his lifetime, Jesse defied all the odds which included: being able to walk, to talk, to attend public school and graduate, to be gainfully employed and to marry. Jesse did all of this despite his limited abilities.

Jesse was a member for many years at Grant Chapel AME Church, where he acknowledged and accepted Christ in his formative years. As a young adult, he served on the Steward Board at Grant Chapel and was an avid Sunday School attendee as he enjoyed driving his Mother to worship every Sunday.

He was educated in the Austin Public Schools and graduated from the "old" L.C. Anderson High School. He was employed at the Steck Building for many years before being employed at Bergstrom Air Force Base. It was during his employment at Bergstrom that he was awarded a certificate of Achievement as Employee of the Month. Jesse was a conscientious worker wherever he was employed.

Jesse met and married his first love, Jacklyne Davidson Hill and they were inseparable until her death in February of 2022. No children were born to this union but they shared their love for Jacklyne's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jesse was the consummate uncle to his only niece that lived in Austin, KasSaundra. He often picked her up from school, dance classes as needed. He taught KasSaundra how to drive and they shared a special bond.

Jesse was preceded in death by his father Richard Luther Powell, Sr. his mother, Elizabeth, step-father Arvan Washington, his older brothers Richard Luther Powell, Jr. Henry Lewis Powell, Willie B. Powell and two sisters Anne Elizabeth Powell and Martha Earlene Powell. Those left to cherish his memory are his sister Reverend Bunnie Stark (Eugene); Sister In-Law Lanier Powell of Chula Vista, California. His nieces: Diane Powell and Elizabeth Marie Alexander of Atlanta, Georgia and his "special bond" niece KasSaundra Stark-Ringer (Lloyd) of Marietta, Georgia; nephews Edmond, Edric and Erick of San Diego, California; and a host of relatives and friends

Now his work is ended, and he is laid to rest,  
I seem to hear him whisper,  
O'Lord I've done my best!  
Well done My faithful servant;  
I know you've struggled hard  
That's why I thought to call you  
From labor to rest...



# ***Safely Home***

*I am home in heaven,*

*Oh, so happy and so bright!*

*There is perfect joy and beauty in this everlasting light.*

*All the pain and grief are over, every restless tossing passed;*

*I am now at peace forever.*

*Safely home in heaven at last...*

*We are together....*





## *Tribute To My Brother*

Not perfect, he's my Brother.

Rich in love, he's my Brother.

Not heavy, he's my Brother.

You were not here by chance,  
but by God's choosing.

His hand formed you and  
made you the person you were.

You were definitely one of a kind.

He allowed you to be here at this time in history to  
fulfill His special purpose for this generation.

How thankful I am

He allowed me to be here  
at the same time you were.

You will be missed by each of us.

Me, Eugene, KasSaundra and Lloyd

We will forever love you,

My Little Brother, "Bitty"



*Gone but Not Forgotten...*



# ***Celebration Service***

## ***Officiant***

Reverend Dr. Sylvester Delaney Patton, III

## ***Processional***

Hymn of Celebration

## ***Prayer***

Reverend Martha Favors  
*Grant AME Worship Center*

## ***Scriptures***

Old Testament – Psalm 23:1-6

Reverend Gregory Crayton  
*Grant AME Worship Center*

New Testament – II Corinthians 5:1-4

Reverend Cecilia Ann Mack –Pastor  
*Center Union AME Church – Cedar Creek, Texas*

## ***Song***

“I Shall Wear Crown”  
Sister Joy Moore

## ***Remarks***

Reverend Dr. Sylvester Delaney Patton, III – Clergy  
Sister Shirley Alexander – Friend

## ***Song***

“Down by the Riverside”  
Sister Joy Moore

## ***Eulogy***

Reverend Agnes J. Habbit  
Associate Pastor – St. Annie AME Church, Austin

## ***Recessional***

“Glory, Glory, Hallelujah”



## *Serving with Grace and Honor as Casket Bearers*

Curley Alexander  
Charles King  
Morris Mack  
Corey Arnold  
Emmitt Fairconeture

## *Acknowledgment*

The family of Jesse "Bitty" has been honored and blessed by his life. We want to thank each of you for sharing in this worship experience. Your kind words, presence, thoughtful visitation, and inspirations will always be treasured. Special thanks to the church that has served as our spiritual foundation and teaching, Grant AME Worship Center. Very special thanks to the Onion Creek Nursing and Rehabilitation Center staff and volunteers, the doctors and staff of Dell Seton Medical Center Cardiologists, nurses, and staff for the care and attention extended to Jesse and their family.

*~ Powell and Stark Families*

## *Interment*

Evergreen Cemetery

3310 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78721



**ELGIN** | 712 N. Ave C  
FUNERAL HOME | 512-281-5697  
elginfuneralhome.net

*Service and Compassion from a Family that Genuinely Cares*

We are deeply mindful of the confidence you have placed in us, and we sincerely hope that our services have been satisfactory and comforting to you.

Most Respectfully,

Josh and Jamie Hausladen and the Staff

[info@elginfuneralhome.net](mailto:info@elginfuneralhome.net)