

FIRST SDA CHURCH OF WHITE PLAINS
180 JUNIPER HILL ROAD, WHITE PLAINS, NY 10607
PASTOR SEAN DOWDING, OFFICIANT



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Algie Alton Gregory

SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

Obituary

Algie A. Gregory of White Plains, New York, passed away on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at the age of 68, after a long battle with lymphoma. He died peacefully at home with his beloved wife of 41 years, Dr. Winsome Gregory, by his side.

Algie was born in Springfield, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, to parents Evan Gregory and Daisy Bromley. At the age of 17, Algie left Jamaica for the United States with his sister Blossom Gregory. After arriving in the United States and reuniting with his mother, Algie attended Yorktown High School and the Northern Westchester Technical Center – where he specialized in Computer Programming. Upon graduation from high school, he continued his education at Westchester Community College, where he earned an Associate's Degree.

Throughout his life, he went on to work numerous jobs; however, three stand out. His work with students at Hawthorne Cedar Knolls, City Bank, and his longest at GHI where he was the manager of the Data Operations Center.

Algie was a treasured employee and beloved by his coworkers; however, he would tell you that his greatest accomplishment and primary focus was his family. He met his wife Winsome at a cricket game in Westchester. Winsome was the secretary of the Westbury Cricket Club in Long Island. When her team played against his team, Algie would be there, gazing at her from across the field. At some point, he worked up the nerve to talk to her, and they began dating. Eventually, Algie wrote to Winsome's father in Jamaica requesting permission to marry her. Winsome's father wrote back in support of the union. On August 16, 1980, they were married at the Yorktown Presbyterian Church. After their marriage, they raised two loving children and surrounded themselves with extended family and friends.

Throughout his life, Algie was deeply committed to helping children learn to read, and in the last years of his life, he spent time volunteering at local schools and the Greenburgh Public library. In the summer of 2007, he suffered a stroke that impacted his mobility but not his spirit. Before the stroke, he was also an avid runner and gardener. After his stroke, he found peace in his church, speaking to his loved ones and sitting outside enjoying the beauty of the flowers, his favorite being sunflowers, and red roses. He was a man of humor and honor who loved a good joke but never a mean-spirited one. In the last weeks of his life, he was surrounded by his family, who will miss him dearly.

Algie was predeceased by his father Evan Gregory and his step-father, Charles Haynes. He is survived by his loving wife, Winsome; children, Dwaine Gregory and Anjelica Bader (husband, Faraj); his grandson, Laith Bader; his mother Daisy Haynes; his three siblings, Blossom Gregory, Andrea Letifi (husband, Hicham), and Patrick Haynes (wife, Christine); five step-sisters and brothers; his aunt, Thelma Reynolds; his uncle, Lascelles Bromley, and a host of loving family and friends, too numerous to name.

May the blessings of the incredibly good life he lived follow him into the great beyond, and may he rest in peace.

A funeral is planned for Friday, August 27, 2021, which will be streamed online. All are invited to attend.

Those wishing to send flowers can do so c/o Lee's Funeral home or donate to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 3 International Drive, Suite 200, Rye Brook, NY 10573.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Algie Alton Gregory

SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

ORDER OF SERVICE

Friday, August 27, 2021

PRIVATE VIEWING | 9:00am - 10:00am

WAKE | 10:00am - 10:30am

SERVICE | 10:00am

Moderator: **Pastor Sean Dowding**

Processional.....	Officiating Ministers
Invocation.....	Elder Robert Webb
Opening Hymn: <i>Oh What A Fellowship</i>	Audley Jackson
Scripture Reading: <i>1 Corinthians 15:50-58</i>	Pastor Steven Siciliano, <i>Hartsdale SDA Church</i>
Opening Prayer.....	Pastor Steven Siciliano, <i>Hartsdale SDA Church</i>
Special Selection: <i>I Come to the Garden Alone</i>	Audley Jackson

Tributes

Pastor Steven Siciliano, Hartsdale SDA Church
 Keith Blake, Atlanta Shiloh SDA Church (Neville)
 Ann Roberts
 Words from the Children

Acknowledgments.....	Delores Clarke
Eulogy & Special Music, <i>I Won't Complain</i>	Bishop James Thorpe
A Wife's Tribute.....	Silent Reading
Special Music, <i>Amazing Grace</i>	Lorraine Davidson
Homily.....	Pastor Sean Dowding, <i>First SDA Church of White Plains</i>
Prayer of Comfort.....	Elder Robert Webb
Closing Hymn, <i>Redeemed</i>	Audley Jackson
Benediction.....	Pastor Sean Dowding, <i>First SDA Church of White Plains</i>
Instructions.....	Funeral Director

Recessional



Internment

Officiating: **Pastor Sean Dowding, *First SDA Church of White Plains***

Scripture Reading
 Committal and Pronouncement
 Benediction
 Song: Audley Jackson

A Gift of 41 Years



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Algie Alton Gregory
SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

A Wife's Tribute

"Is it okay to hold your hand?"

Such a simple question, but it did for me what no great declaration of love could do. It told me that this man saw me, I mattered, and he would never do anything to harm me. There was a serenity and calm about him that I instinctively trusted. That calm and patient spirit spoke to me and immediately provided this young, female immigrant, vulnerable and alone in this country, a sense of assurance and respect that he would share with me from then on.

Forty-three years later, August 16th, it was I holding his hand, willing him to keep holding on to mine. After he said goodbye to his baby girl, our son, and his mother and sisters, he turned to me and said in a soft whisper, "Honey, I have to leave you too."

In the end, because he was so tired, because he could feel his body breaking down, his mind getting confused, and his vision blurring, I had to let him go, assuring him against my will that we would be okay. In writing this tribute, I so very much want to capture for you the essence of this man who has been the 'wind beneath my wings' for so long. But I find my words cannot do justice to all that Algie was. So I speak, using imperfect words and shadowy picture paintings. And hope it conveys the fundamental truth that those of us who were lucky enough to have made his acquaintance walked away being better off for having known him.

He was my rock. I remember trying to apologize because we agreed when we joined our lives that we would be there to help each other achieve our career goals, yet it was only I who got to do so. In that hospital bed, he took my hands and said, "honey, you need to understand that was my role, that was the role I chose, and I loved it! I have no regrets."

When the snow days came, I would walk out to my car only to find that he woke up ahead of me, shoveled the driveway, chipped the ice off my car, and left it warming for me. He chose to work twelve-hour days, three days per week, so he could be there for our children as much as possible. He passed up many lucrative promotions, always counting the cost and the impact on our children.

Reliable, supportive, predictable. His word was his bond.

My Algie had a heart of compassion. He would see beyond the things my impatience missed. And in his humble, calm, quiet, and dogged way – with no desire for fanfare or to be in the limelight, he supported whomever he thought needed it.

Family. Being present. Showing up consistently no matter what, these are the things that mattered to him. Spend time with your children. Be there for the big and small events. He was there for the track meets, the soccer and basketball games, and most important, dinner. He lived his creed.

Love

Eat

Talk

And do it again. And again. Predictable rituals that shout each time they are performed, "You can count on me. Always."

A standard-bearer

A leader

A role model

"Algie could not be tempted to do drugs or alcohol," says a friend he met in school. "He lived a clean and healthy lifestyle from way back then." He was never going to be one of those 'stereotypic men' who abandoned his family or ran around with other women.

When I think back on the pictures of us, the images that come to mind... I see him waking up with me every time our baby son woke. I hear him encouraging me to pump extra milk, not because I had to, but because he wanted bonding time with our son, and so I would get a break. He suggested we sleep in shifts so that one of us could be there for this child, who insisted on waking up every 30 minutes as if there's a party he was missing.

Another picture is of our annual Thanksgiving dinners. I did the Jamaican food, and he did the turkey (I suspect because he feared I would choke our guests by making it too dry). It was a time of total togetherness, true partnership, he and I in the kitchen working together to make this 'joy-bringing-event' a success. I will miss that teamwork, that partner who saw I needed a towel or a knife and would pass it to me even before I asked. We worked so well together.

I see the times when we talked about the toll of doing my doctorate. It was such a sacrifice of family time, but in the end, he said, "Honey, it's important to you so, we will find a way." My Algie remained the firm foundation for our children and me. The support he provided and the sacrifices he made are evident in his legacy—two wonderfully grounded children and a bubbly grandson ready to take on the world. His light will shine on through them forever.

I remember the years we worked together as house-parents for 'abused, neglected, and run-away' children who had histories that would break your heart. I hear him giving me pointers, including "never let the table be empty." I didn't understand at the time, but when he explained, especially when the boys kept taking the food we left to hoard it in their rooms, that food on the table is a visible sign that there will always be another meal coming. He told me, "kids need to know they have a safe place to come to."

Talking,

Laughing,

Eating, breaking down walls, sharing, disclosing... this man I married was my teacher. He knew so much about the condition of the human heart.

I fell in love with him because he shared my values. He was practical. He treated me with love and respect. He wanted to be with me. And because he showed me why we made sense together. He was the kindest, most decent human being I had the opportunity to know.

I see the times when we talked about the toll of doing my doctorate. It was such a sacrifice of family time, but in the end, he said, "Honey, it's important to you so, we will find a way." My Algie remained the firm foundation for our children and me. The support he provided and the sacrifices he made are evident in his legacy—two wonderfully grounded children and a bubbly grandson ready to take on the world. His light will shine on through them forever.

His love never wavered. He kept his promise when he told me many years ago, "You will always be safe with me." I miss him. I already miss his steady support. I miss my best friend – the wind under my wings. How will I fly on without him?

So I found this poem that captures what he would say. I read it and take heart.

Don't Grieve For Me

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 his call,
I turned around 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've found that peace at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joys.
A family shared, a laugh, a kiss
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good family, good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seem all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee.
God wanted me now; He set me free.

Unknown

Is it okay to hold your hand? That's the question he asked me. I'm so glad, so very glad I said Yes.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Algie Alton Gregory

SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

A Son's Tribute

Hey dad... I haven't been able to find the right words to describe how good of a parent you were to me but we'll give this a shot. Everything you did, every move you made, any action you took revolved around the betterment of your children. Every basketball game, band performance, track meet, soccer match, and we could go on and on but regardless of what it was, I knew you would be there right front and center to support me. Growing up I didn't know any other life from what you and mom provided. Being an adult now and having my own life experiences has just put me in awe of what you overcame to create a family dynamic that you only see in 90's sitcoms. Your job choices were centered around being there for Anjelica and I. When we came home, we knew you would be there with food on the table and your full attention for whatever the evening held.

No matter what day of the week, whether I was doing something great or messing up royally, and all the way to your last breath you always gave me even-keeled advice to set me on the right path. It's still unbelievable to think that I will never get those check-in calls anymore.

Dad... I love and miss you sooo much. Life will never be the same. Just know that you did an amazing job and you don't have to worry about me. You set your son up for success and I promise not to let you down.

-Dwaine



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Algie Alton Gregory

SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

Mother's Tribute



The loss of a child is something I could have never prepare for. Even during the past weeks, under insurmountable odds, I refused to prepare myself. I wasn't ready. He had so much more life to live.

As a child, Algie was a very loving, quite and well behaved boy and as a man, I am so very proud of his accomplishments to include a wonderful loving son, great husband and father to his two children, Anjelica and Dwaine. He's brought great kindness and a helping hand to everyone he meets. I loved you very much and you will be missed. May you rest in peace.

Brother's Tribute

My Brother Algie was a mentor of how to be a good and positive person. He always had a positive attitude in any situation. I will never forget how much fun we had on the holidays, watching football on Thanksgiving and watching the Knicks lose on Christmas Day. Those memories will always be with me.

There was a time when I was getting into music, and I remember him playing some music that I wasn't familiar with then, but I really started to like it. That was one of my first encounters with jazz. Jazz is now my favorite genre of music ever.

Algie was a teacher to me in so many ways; he would tell me little things about cars or a house that I never knew or thought of. I'm so blessed to have had Algie as a big brother. In more ways than one, he helped me be the person I am today. I know it is heartbreaking, but he is in a better place now, a place where there is no pain, just peace.

-Patrick



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Algie Alton Gregory

SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

Sisters' Tribute

As I begin to reach out for the right words to express my thoughts about my brother Algie, I remembered the many valued and meaningful roles that he played throughout his life.

First and foremost, As a brother, I have such fond memories of you specifically at my wedding and the kind words of encouragement you said to me as you walk me down the aisle. Those words and the role you played that day was greatly appreciated and will never be forgotten.

However, the role that means the most to him and the one that he was truly successful at stood out has being a great role model as a family man. He loved his family profoundly and was a devoted husband, son, father, uncle, brother and friend and a great example of a dad to his children, Anjelica and Dwaine. Looking back, he was always a family man. His devotion to his family was the foundation of his actions - the anchor that defined and shape is life.

Algie, it is very hard to say goodbye, you were loved and we all will miss you very much and may you rest in peace.

-Andrea



As your older sister, we were attached to the hips our entire life. Words cannot express how much my heart is broken. My brother Algie was a good and kind man especially to me. We have been through so much our entire life, the good and the bad. As kids growing together and as adults, I always known you to have my back and I could always depend on you no matter what.

Algie, no second will be the same, another minute won't pass without thinking of your passing away, an hour would be too long for me to to without thinking of you, a single day would be an eternity without you in my life. My brother, you were the one that was always there for me, it breaks my heart that you have passed away. I love you and miss you forever, until we meet again, rest in peace.

-Blossom



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Algie Alton Gregory
SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

Wright's Family Tribute

Uncle Al, as he is fondly called, was more of a big brother than a brother-in-law. He was even-tempered (I have never seen him angry), patient, courteous, humble, witty, and had a sharp memory. He was unselfish, a true gentleman, fiercely committed to family, and commanded the respect of his household. Algie always showed his care and concern about the welfare of others, frequently over his interests. He was always inquiring about school, work, the kids and gave thoughtful suggestions where necessary.

Algie knew just when to give much-needed encouragement. He taught himself and kept abreast of current affairs, politics, business, and real estate and freely shared the information with others. As a result, we have had some hearty discussions about the current situations in our states, usually ending with a prayer for more favorable outcomes for our society.

Al never complained! Even while facing his long illnesses, he never complained! Instead, he downplayed his circumstances and would inquire about others and seek to make sure they are well. He would end each conversation with just such a wish, and God Bless, man. Stay well.

We have lost a true friend, an exceptional soldier of humanity who we cannot replace. One of life's truly great characters with his ever calming, reassuring voice and quiet personality, Algie has left an indelible mark on all he came in contact. We will miss him dearly.

In the end, he said to me, "Neville, I am going to sleep. I'll see you when I wake up in the morning." Sweet rest, my brother, my friend.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Algie Alton Gregory

SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

Best Man's Tribute



Algie and I met in 1972 and we became fast friends because of our similar culture and what we shared. He gravitated towards the Ossining Jamaican community as there were few Jamaicans in Yorktown where he lived at that time. The Jamaican Community was growing in Westchester County and Members of the Episcopal Church in Ossining formed the Jamaican Cricket Club. Algie joined us and we lobbied Father George Ardnt from Sri Lanka (another country like Jamaica where cricket is a well-known sport) to provide space for us to have our meetings. Although Algie did not play the game, he was a full participant in these efforts. He attended cricket matches; he prepped the field and made contributions wherever needed. It was hanging around those cricket matches where he met his bride Winsome, so the sport contributed to his life in very significant ways.

Algie came to Ossining after High School frequently to attend meetings and to visit my home where he bonded with my parents and six siblings and he became a part of our family.

It has been said the Measure of a Man is how well he treats his family and Algie was a family man to the end. This is reflected in his love for his wife and children. He was somewhat reserved but we shared a love of sports, politics and family and we had many spirited conversations.

He will be sadly missed and he is gone way too soon!

-Winston

Bader Family Tribute

We first met Algie at Thanksgiving in 2016 and immediately felt like family. He welcomed us warmly into the Gregory Thanksgiving. It was such a pleasure to share in their family traditions such as goat stew and fish fritters served alongside his delicious turkey recipe. We are fortunate to have known him, grateful for the time we had with him, and will miss him dearly.

-Beverly



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Algie Alton Gregory
SEPTEMBER 19, 1952 - AUGUST 18, 2021

Tribute from GHI/Emblemhealth

On behalf of Algie Gregory's GHI/Emblemhealth Friends and Family, we wish to extend our sincere and deepest condolences to his mother, wife, daughter, son, brothers, sisters, and other family members. To us, Algie (Mr. G, Al Green, Alginal) was more than a colleague, he was a friend and brother to all. We had a bond that was very special and unique to say the least. We are a circle of work friends with Algie as our captain. Today, we celebrate him and the enormous life he lived.

Algie worked at GHI/Emblemhealth for many years. He was that person that kept all of us grounded. He was gifted with the right words to say and effectively get the correct message across to all. He was a mentor and motivator to many; he provided encouragement to get us all to the next level in our career and personal lives. Algie was the person we can count on and trusted him 100% of the time; he worked through challenges and always suggested a way for us to follow.

When Algie became sick over 14+ years ago, not having his presence in the office created a void and it was felt immensely by all; we were so devastated and heartbroken. To make sure Algie was aware of our love and feelings for him, we started to visit him annually for the last 10 years up until 2019. The circle of friends and family are a diverse group; we traveled from near and far with the same goal in mind, being there for Algie and his family through his challenges. We came together for good conversations, lots of laughter, exchange of our cultural foods, reminiscing of the old days and just being with Algie and his family and friends. We had a downright good time making lots of memories each year. During these annual gatherings, Algie made sure to speak with each of us personally. He wanted to find out what we are doing in our lives, and he gave us his inspiring and encourage words each time.

Algie was a fighter, he was full of courage that made all of us hopeful about life in general. Algie taught us what perseverance and faithfulness look like when you are faced with challenges. We learned from Algie never to give up and to keep fighting until the end. He fought, but God needed an angel. So, Algie is now our angel looking over us like he did on earth. We will continue to remember his words and feel his presence in our hearts. We will cherish our memories forever. Rest In Eternal Peace, our Friend and Brother, Algie, Mr. G, Al Green, Alginal.

To Algie's family and friends, He loved all of you unconditionally. Stay strong and keep the faith because that is what Algie will expect all of us to do. We are here for you and will continue to get together when we can in honor of our captain, Algie.

Sincerely,

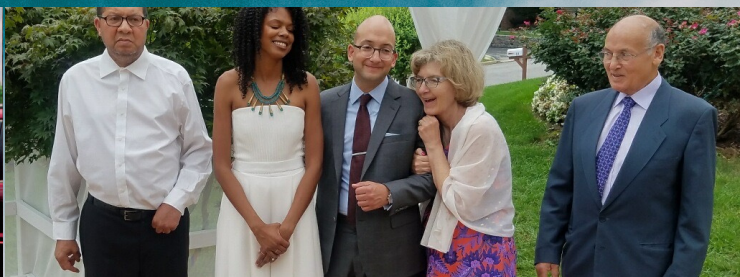
Algie Gregory's GHI/Emblemhealth Circle of Friends & Family

Ann Roberts & Family; Michele Barton & Family; James Gao & Family; George Giglietto; Winston & Jennie Shung; Art Louise; Neil Facci; Fran Weed; Alan Seebol & Family; Janice Cafiero & Family; Joanne & Tom Crane; Mike Brenner; Wanda Rodriguez; Geza Szentmiklosy; Eugenia Alleyne; John Eve; Hon Lam & Family; Pok-Sang Tam & Family; Tim Ye; Sandra Pemberton



Memories





Acknowledgments

The Gregory Family would like to express our sincere gratitude to all our incredibly loving and supportive family, church family, friends and loved ones who have lent their assistance, or sent thoughts and prayers to us during our time of loss. Our deepest thanks for encircling us with your love.



Pall Bearers

Dwaine Gregory
Patrick Haynes
Neville Wright
Livingstone Wright
John Reynolds
Faraj Bader



Interment

Sleepy Hollow Cemetery
540 N Broadway
Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591
(914)631-0081



Arrangements

Lee's Funeral Home
160 Fisher Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606
914-949-0372