

Obituary

Steve King, Jr., born May 1, 1929, in Pensacola, Florida, was an only child in 1937, he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior at the Morning Star Baptist Church in Pensacola under the pastorate of Rev. S.L. Leggett. In 1939, he moved to Birmingham, Alabama, where he joined Zion Spring Baptist Church in 1942, under the pastorate of the Late Rev. Dr. E.J. Minnefield. He was educated in the public school system of Birmingham. He dropped out of high school to enlist in the United States Marine Corps.

In 1952, while on leave in New York, he met and later married his devoted wife of 55 years, Juanita Watts King. To this union one child, Sheree B. King was born.

Overseas assignments while in the Marine Corps included a two-year stint in Hawaii and two tours of Duty served in Korea, the first of which was in 1950. Upon his return to the United States, he was hospitalized at the Jacksonville, Florida Naval Base, and later became the first Black Marine to be stationed there. In 1955, he again went Korea his second tour of duty.*

On his first tour, he was among the Marines that were surrounded by 100,000 Chinese troops at the Chosin Reservoir, where he suffered frostbite. Other tours of duty include a stint in Okinawa, Japan and Mt. Fuji, Japan. Survivors of the Chosin Reservoir battle were later organized as the Chosin Few, and Rev. King was Chaplain of the New York Chapter. He also served as Chaplain of the New York Chapter of the Montford Point Marine Association, and for four years. He also served as National Chaplain of the Organization. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1966 after serving 20 years.

While in the Marine Corps, he went back to school and received his GED. Later, he became a graduate of Tabernacle Bible Institute and Bethel Bible School, both in Queens, New York.

In 1968, under the pastorate of Rev. Arnett Clark, he was ordained a Deacon at Tiberian Baptist Church. He was licensed to preach on March 14, 1982, by Rev. Winfred O. Quimby, Pastor of Christ's Gospel Baptist Church.

Rev. King was ordained in 1992 to be Christ's Gospel's first Assistant Pastor, and served in that capacity for five years, until Pastor Quimby retired. When God called him home, he was serving as Associate Minister, Chaplain and Treasurer of the Scholarship Committee under the pastorate of Rev. Clarence Price, Jr.

Other ministries included Sgt. of Affairs for the Baptist Ministers Conference of Queens and 1.iitinOr. He served as a volunteer for 30 years at the St. Albans Naval Hospital and later the Extended Care Center.

Rev. King was preceded in death by his Mother, Hattie; his Father, Steve King, Sr.; and a beloved Step-Father, William Glen Griffin.

He leaves to cherish his memory- : his Wife, Juanita; a Daughter, Sheree Bernadette; along with seven sisters-in-law; one brother-in-law; a host of nieces, great nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

"...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

Psalms 30:5