

Press



Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2014

Montford Point Congressional Gold Medal Dr. Joseph Ginyard, Pastor

Philadelphia, PA--



Dr. Joseph Ginyard, 89, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the widower of Cecelia M. Ginyard, quietly passed away on May 12, 2014 at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospice. Pastor Ginyard was one of the founding elders of Calvary Gospel Chapel along with the late Dr. B. Sam Hart and Danny Stone.

Born September 18, 1924 in Philadelphia, PA to Mortie Ginyard and Bessie McMichael Ginyard, “Brother Joe” as he was lovingly known was the third oldest of six siblings, five brothers and one sister. His mother passed away at an early age and he was raised by his father.

In 1948, Bro. Joe married Cecelia M. Jackson. Through this union they celebrated four children, Dr. Jo-Ann Hayward, Martin Ginyard (deceased), Elaine Barley and Reverend Philip Ginyard. He was blessed to have seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Pastor Ginyard graduated from Northeast High School and joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was one of the first African American Marines (Montford Point Marine). Upon honorary discharge, Bro Joe was employed with the U.S. Postal Service. He also attended Philadelphia Naval Electronic School, Pennsylvania Business & Technical, Manna Bible Institute, Philadelphia College of Bible and Pastoral Counseling-Dr. Clyde Navamore Association. He received an “Honorary Doctorate” in Theology from Manna Bible College (Chapel Hill North Carolina).

On June 28, 2012, Bro Joe along with 400 Montford Point Marines received the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civil award given by Congress.

Brother Joe had achieved insurmountable milestones throughout his lifetime and with Calvary Gospel Chapel non-profit organization Wise Choice Transitional Home which was later renamed, Wise Choice Ministries. He served as a chaplain and board member on national and local organizations but always with the intent to serve Jesus first. He loved serving in short-term missions throughout the years. He lived out the great commission not only in America but also in Europe and East Kenya Africa in partnership with Word of Life Fellowship.

Dr. Ginyard indeed received numerous awards and honors over his lifetime but his greatest achievement he would say was in guiding and instructing young people to be Godly, responsible and productive human beings. The work of discipleship in his later years was an everyday concern for him. Not only did he use his gift and talents as a pastor to minister to his congregation but to the world at large, seven days a week and beyond the church doors. He was humble in spirit but was grace in action.

Pastor Joseph Ginyard has left behind a legacy that abounds with faith and grace. He ran for Jesus and never stopped running.

A viewing will be held on Sunday, May 18, 2014 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at Calvary Gospel Chapel 4121 West Girard Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19104. Funeral Services are scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2014 at Christian Stronghold Church 4701 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131. Viewing 9:00 to 10:00am.

II. Timothy 4:7 - I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

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