

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR
THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF
THE LATE

Warren
L E M O R N
Seymour

BORN: SEPTEMBER 8TH 1936

DIED: JUNE 3RD 2024

AGE: 87 YEARS

SERVICE HELD AT

Holy Spirit Anglican Church

#18 Howard Street, Chippingham, Nassau, N.P. Bahamas

THURSDAY, JUNE 20TH 2024 | 10:00AM

OFFICIATED BY:

The Rt Rev'd Laish Z Boyd

Bishop of The Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands

ASSISTED BY:

Rev'd Fr Neil G Nairn

Rev'd Canon Crosley Walkine

Rev'd Canon S Sebastian Campbell

Rev'd Fr John Kabiga

ORGANIST:

Mr. David Rahming

R.I.P.

FATHER IN THY GRACIOUS KEEPING
LEAVE WE NOW THY SERVANT SLEEPING

INTERMENT

Woodlawn Gardens



Order of Service

Jesus said, I am the Resurrection and Life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die.

ST. JOHN 11: 25-26

RECEPTION OF BODY AND OPENING SENTENCES

The Celebrant meets the body in the church and says:

With faith in Jesus Christ, we receive the body of our brother Warren for burial. Our brother was washed in Holy Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore, with confidence, pray to God our Heavenly Father, the Giver of Life, that He will raise Him to perfection in the company of the Saints.

V: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

V: Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before You this day our brother Warren. We thank You for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In Your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by Your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

V: Jesus said, I am the resurrection, and I am the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and who ever lives and believes in me shall never die. *John 11:25-26*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His compassion never fails: every morning they are renewed. *Lamentations 3:22-23*

Jesus said, Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. *John 14:1*

I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8:38-39*

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. *Romans 14:8-9*

We brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out. The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away; Blessed be the name of the Lord. *Job 1:21*

The eternal God is our refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. *Deuteronomy 33:27*

TRIBUTE.....Dr. Juliette Storr (Family Friend)

SELECTION.....Christian Justilien (Son-in-law)

INTROIT HYMNHE WHO WOULD VALIANT BE

He who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster,
let him in constancy
follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound—
his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
though he with giants fight;
he will make good his right
to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, Thou dost defend
us with Thy Spirit,
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, flee away!
I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labor night and day
to be a pilgrim.

COLLECT FOR THE DEPARTED:

CELEBRANT: Almighty God, we remember before you today your faithful servant WARREN SEYMOUR and we pray that, having opened to HIM the gate of larger life, you will receive HIM more and more into your joyful service, that, with all who have served you in the past, HE may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord; Who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit; one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**First Lesson.....THE OLD TESTAMENT WISDOM 3:1-9
Read By Ayoka Seymour (Granddaughter)**

Reader: A Reading from the word of God written in the Book of Wisdom, chapter 3, verses 1 to 9

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

AT THE END OF THE READING: The Word of the Lord
ALL: Thanks be to God

Psalms 91.....Read by Andrea Moultrie (Granddaughter)

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
He shall say to the LORD, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."
He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter and from the deadly pestilence.
He shall cover you with his pinions, and you shall find refuge under his wings; his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day;
Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.
A thousand shall fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come near you.
Your eyes have only to behold to see the reward of the wicked.

Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,
There shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the lion and adder; you shall trample the young lion and the serpent
under your feet.

Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

V. Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord
R. And let light perpetual shine upon him.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON.....1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18
Read by Dylan Miles (Grandson)

Reader: A Reading from the word of God written in the Book of 1 Thessalonians chapter 4, verses 13 to 18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

READER: The Word of the Lord
ALL: Thanks be to God

In preparation for the proclamation of the Holy Gospel, the Gradual Hymn is sung. The People stand.

The Gradual Hymn..... OH GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Beneath the shadow of Thy throne,
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home!

GOSPELOR: The Lord be with you

ALL: And also with you

GOSPELOR: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John the 11th Chapter, beginning at the 21st verse.

ALL: Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

At the end of the proclamation

GOSPELOR: The Gospel of Christ

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord

Sermon..... CANON S SEBASTIAN CAMPBELL

THE CREED

PRESIDENT: Let us with confidence and hope confess the faith into which we were baptized, as we say,

ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Intercessions..... Led by Jahzara Seymour (Granddaughter)

LEADER: For our **brother Warren**, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life".

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: Lord, You consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for our **brother Warren** and dry the tears of those who weep.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: You raised the dead to life; give our **brother Warren** eternal life.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our **brother Warren** to the joys of heaven.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: Our **brother Warren** was washed in baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him fellowship with all your saints.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our **brother Warren**. Let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

LEADER: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our **brother Warren** who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way, and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

ACT OF PENITENCE

CELEBRANT: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A period of silence shall be kept

CELEBRANT: Let us therefore confess our sins.

ALL: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You and one another; in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

CELEBRANT: Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

THE GREETING OF THE PEACE

CELEBRANT: We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL: Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

CELEBRANT: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Hymn.....**HIGHER GROUND**

I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day
Still praying as I'm onward bound
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground".

My heart has not desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Tho' some may dwell where these abound
My pray'r, my aim, is higher ground.

*Lord, lift me up and let me stand
By faith on heaven's table land;
A higher plane than I have found,
Lord plant my feet on higher ground*

I want to live above the world,
Tho' Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught the joyful sound,
The song of saints on higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height
And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found
"Lord, lead me on to higher Ground".

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

CELEBRANT: Through your goodness, Lord, we have this bread and wine to offer, the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands. They will become our spiritual food.

ALL: All things come from you, O Lord, and of your own do we give you. Blessed be God for ever. Amen

Hymn....."HARK! MY SOUL IT IS THE LORD"

HARK, my soul! it is the Lord;
'Tis thy Saviour, hear His Word;
Jesus speaks, and speaks to thee,
"Say, poor sinner, lovest thou Me?"

"Can a woman's tender care
Cease towards the child she bare?
Yes, she may forgetful be,
Yet will I remember thee.

"Thou shalt see My glory soon,
When the work of grace is done;
Partner of My Throne shalt be;
Say, poor sinner, lovest thou Me?"

"I delivered thee when bound,
And, when bleeding, healed thy wound;
Sought thee wandering, set thee right,
Turned thy darkness into light.

"Mine is an unchanging love,
Higher than the heights above,
Deeper than the depths beneath,
Free and faithful, strong as death.

Lord, it is my chief complaint
That my love is weak and faint;
Yet I love Thee, and adore;
O for grace to love Thee more.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

CELEBRANT: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CELEBRANT: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

CELEBRANT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

ALL: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

CELEBRANT: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give You thanks, Father Almighty, Everlasting God: through Jesus Christ our Lord; Who rose victorious from the dead; and comforts us with the blessed hope of life eternal. For to your faithful people, Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name.

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

CELEBRANT: Sovereign Lord and Father, to you be glory and praise for ever. In your boundless wisdom you brought creation into being; In your great love you fashioned us in your image; In your tender compassion you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour, to share our human nature; In the power of the Holy Spirit, He overcame the power of sin and death and brought your people to new birth as first fruits of your new creation.

On the night He was betrayed, He took bread, and when He had given thanks to you, He broke it and gave it to his disciples and said: "Take this and eat it; This is My Body which is given for you, Do this for the remembrance of me". After supper He took the cup of wine and when He had given thanks He gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you This is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins, whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me".

CELEBRANT: Therefore, Father according to the command of your dearly beloved Son

ALL: We remember His death
We proclaim His resurrection
We await His coming in glory

CELEBRANT: And we offer You, Father, our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son, Jesus, our Lord and Redeemer. As we partake of this holy food of new and unending life, may your Holy Spirit establish us as a royal priesthood with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Agnes, St. John The Baptist and all your sons and daughters who share in Your eternal inheritance; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. With Him and in Him and through Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship You, Father Almighty, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, in songs of everlasting praise:

ALL: Blessing and honour and glory and power, be yours forever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CELEBRANT: As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name; your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CELEBRANT: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

ALL: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

THE INVITATION

CELEBRANT: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ALL: Our Souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.

THE AGNUS DEI

ALL: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant HIM rest.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world: grant HIM rest.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant HIM rest eternal.

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

BREATHE ON ME BREATH OF GOD

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine;
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure;
Until with Thee I will one will
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee.
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee.
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall tearless be.

O Light that follows all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee.
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee.
I lay in dust, life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red,
life that shall endless be.

IMMORTAL INVISIBLE GOD ONLY WISE

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee

MY GOD, HOW WONDERFUL THOU ART

My God, how wonderful thou art'
thy majesty how bright,
how beautiful thy mercy-seat,
in depths of burning light!

How wonderful, how beautiful,
the sight of thee must be,
thine endless wisdom, boundless power,
and awful purity!

How dread are thine eternal years,
O everlasting Lord,
by prostrate spirits day and night
incessantly adored!

Oh, how I fear thee, Living God,
with deepest, tenderest fears,
and worship thee with trembling hope,
and penitential tears!

Yet I may love thee too, O Lord,
almighty as thou art,
for thou hast stooped to ask of me
the love of my poor heart.

No earthly father loves like thee,
no mother, e'er so mild,
bears and forbears as thou hast done
with me thy sinful child.

Father of Jesus, love's reward,
what rapture will it be,
prostrate before thy throne to lie,
and gaze and gaze on Thee.

DEVOTIONAL: O JESU BLESSED LORD TO THEE

O Jesu, blessèd Lord, to thee my heartfelt thanks for ever be, who hast so lovingly bestowed on me thy body and thy blood .

Break forth, my soul, for joy, and say, 'What wealth is come to me today! My Saviour dwells within me now; how blest am I! How good art thou!'

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

CELEBRANT: Almighty God,
ALL: We thank You that in Your great love You have fed us with the Spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of Your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of Your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow, nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all Your saints, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Hymn FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Faith of our fathers, living still
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword,
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!

Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,
Were still in heart and conscience free;
And blest would be their children's fate,
If they, Like them, should die for thee!

*Faith of our fathers, Holy faith,
We will be true to Thee till death!*

Faith of our fathers! God's great power
Shall soon all nations win for thee;
And through the truth that comes from God
Mankind shall then indeed be free.

Faith of our fathers! We will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife;
And preach thee too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life.

THE COMMENDATION

As the smoke ascends so do our prayers. And another angel came and stood at the door with a golden censer; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints.... And the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God. Revelation 8:3-4

CELEBRANT: Give rest, O Christ, to Your servant WARREN with Your saints.
ALL: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

CELEBRANT: You only are immortal, the Creator and Maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth and to the earth shall we return. For so did You ordain when You created me,

saying, "You are dust and to dust shall You return". All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL: Give rest, O Christ, to Your servant Warren with Your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord have mercy. Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name; your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

V: Blessed be God our Father.
R: The Creator and Preserver of all life.

V: Blessed be Jesus Christ:
R: The Saviour and Redeemer of mankind.

V: Blessed be the Holy Spirit:
R: The Enabler and Sustainer of those who seek for grace.

The Celebrant facing the body says:

CELEBRANT: Let us commend our BROTHER WARREN to the mercy of God our Maker and Redeemer. Deliver Your servant, WARREN Sovereign Lord Christ, from all evil and set him free from every bond, that he may rest with all Your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT: Into Your hands, O merciful Saviour we commend Your servant WARREN. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech You, a sheep of Your own fold, a lamb of Your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT: Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord;
ALL: And let light perpetual shine upon him.

CELEBRANT: May HE and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT: Let us go forth in the Name of Christ
ALL: Thanks be to God

Recessional Hymn.....IT'S ALRIGHT NOW

There was a time I travelled
A lonely sinful road,
Beneath a heavy burden, bending low;
But now all things are different,
For Jesus took my load,
It's alright now, I'm his I know.

A-down a lonely pathway,
without a friend to guide,
I walked in sin and sorrow all alone.
'Till Jesus came and found me,
And drew me to his side,
It's alright now, for I'm his own.

*It's alright now, for I am in my Saviour's care,
It's alright now,
My Saviour hears and answers prayer;
He'll walk beside me 'till I climb the heavenly stair,
And everything is alright now.*

No more in sin I wander,
No more in darkness roam,
The Lord has placed my feet on higher ground,
Each day new heights I'm gaining,
My soul is nearing home,
It's alright now, I'm heaven bound.

Graveside Hymns

GLAD REUNION DAY

There will be a happy meeting in heaven I know,
When we see the many loved ones we've known here below;
Gather on the blessed hilltops with hearts all aglow,
That will be a glad reunion day.

*Glad (That will be a happy day) day, Yes, a wonderful day,
Glad (That will be a happy day) day, Yes, a glorious day,
There with all the holy angels and loved ones to stay,
That will be a glad reunion day.*

There within the holy city we'll sing and rejoice,
Praising Christ the blessed Savior with heart and with voice;
Tell Him how we came to love Him and make Him our choice,
That will be a glad reunion day.

When we live a million years in that wonderful place,
Basking in the love of Jesus, beholding His face,
It will seem but just a moment of praising His grace,
That will be a glad reunion day.

AND CAN IT BE

AND can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mercy all! The immortal dies:
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first born seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds enquire no more.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds enquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Him-self of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O My God, it found out me
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O My God, it found out me

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread,
I am my Lord's and He is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine.
Bold I approach th' eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Bold I approach th' eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

A BEAUTIFUL LIFE

Each day I'll do a golden deed,
By helping those who are in need;
My life on earth is but a span,
And so I'll do the best I can.

To be a child of God each day,
My light must shine along the way;
I'll sing His praise while ages roll,
And strive to help some troubled soul.

*Life's evening sun is sinking low,
A few more days, and I must go
To meet the deeds that I have done,
Where there will be no setting sun.*

The only life that will endure,
Is one that's kind and good and pure;
And so for God I'll take my stand,
Each day I'll lend a helping hand.

I'll help someone in time of need,
And journey on with rapid speed;
I'll help the sick and poor and weak,
And words of kindness to them speak.

While going down life's weary road,
I'll try to lift some trav'ler's load;
I'll try to turn the night to day,
Make flowers bloom along the way.

IT IS WELL

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

*It is well, (It is well)
With my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, It is well with my soul.*

My sin, O, the bliss of this glorious tho't
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
The trump shall re-sound and the Lord shall descend,
"Even so", it is well with my soul.

Obituary

"The only thing that counts is faith working through love." - Galatians 5:6

AN ISLAND BOY

Warren Lemorn Seymour was born in the settlement of Tea Bay, Cat Island on September 8 1936 to Beatrice Maggie Bannister ('Mama Mag'), a midwife called "Doc" due to her vast knowledge of traditional bush medicines, and Lamond Seymour, a fisherman and farmer who later worked in a supervisory role at the East Hill Club in New Providence. Warren, who was remembered by his siblings as a quiet, studious, but mischievous child, was quite spoiled by his mother. Mama Mag understandably pampered him after he contracted polio in his youth and had to learn to walk again. Warren was a small boy when a major hurricane battered Cat Island and forced families in his tiny settlement to take shelter in a cave. His siblings recalled that Warren was so impacted by the experience that he did not speak for months following his emergence from the cave.

However, he rarely stopped speaking once the trauma wore off! The adult Warren, who was known for being quite loquacious and acerbically witty, would send his immediate family into gales of laughter when recounting his childhood stories. A family favourite was the one about him being coerced by his older brother, Leland, into enjoying the paw paws (papayas) from fields they passed on their miles-long walk home in the blazing sun, after working Mama Mag's field. Apparently the rascals would pierce the skin of the fruits with a hollow stem and extract the flesh by sucking it out. Then they blew the deflated paw paws back up and plugged them, so that the field-owners would not immediately detect their prank. Young Warren was adept at barking coconuts, and also climbed down wells to retrieve water, so he must have been quite agile - despite being a portly youngster with a "witch baby" shape, which is how he later described himself at that age.

Always in the background was Warren's stern and loving great-grandmother, Mary Romer ('Mamie'), who helped Maggie and others to mould him into manhood. Warren was awed by her depth of knowledge and claimed that she was instrumental in shaping the man whom he became. Wielding a switch to drive home her lessons, Mamie instilled in Warren core values, such as faith in God, fairness, integrity, commitment and community. She frequently selected him as the grandchild who was responsible for bringing home fish to be cooked for dinner - often the "sore mout" (red-lipped) grunts. This was a task the young Warren mastered, making his way down to the bay to a secret spot where he cast his baited line into the water and pulled up fish after fish.

During adolescence Warren learnt carpentry skills from the adult males in the settlement, many of them boatbuilders and sailors. He was good! Angles were cut with precision. (Some twenty years later, he skillfully crafted all of the shelves in the library/study at Eden Street in Chippingham, his family homestead. Those shelves are still standing firm today.)

A YOUNG STUDENT - OF LIFE

Warren was always a brilliant scholar. He was first educated at Knowles' Public School, to which he walked 3 miles each school day and then trudged 3 miles back home. On their journeys to and from school, he and the other Tea Bay students entertained one another with tales of "sperrits" and Ber Booki and Ber Rabbi. They also sang and chanted riddles. Upon their arrival at home, they studied by oil lamp and candlelight.



It was at Knowles' Public School that Warren was tutored and mentored by Leslie A. Armbrister, son of Jephthah Armbrister ('Jep' later became his father-in-law). Warren told his children that the dashing young headmaster would explain the theories of mathematics and the manipulations of algebra in such a way that he easily understood them, and he first fell in love with the field of mathematics.

After obtaining his Cambridge Junior School Certificate, Warren was selected to attend school with Rodney E. Bain, the principal of the Arthur's Town All Age School. Warren was one of a few students from Cat Island who sat the entrance examination for "thee" Government High School in New Providence. He passed the examination, but because there was limited space for Family Island students, and because the school charged an entrance fee that was prohibitive for Family Islanders, he was unable to attend. Thankfully, Principal Bain tutored high-achieving students from all over Cat Island so that they could sit the Cambridge Senior School Certificate, just the same as if they had gone to Government High School. Warren successfully obtained his Senior Certificate, and then began working as an educator in Cat Island.

A CLASSIC MAN

To know Warren was to know that he was a man of refined tastes. In addition to mathematics, Warren was a lover of classic and classical literature, art and Latin. He also truly loved music, and could often be found singing in his "mean" tenor, as well as his bass. He came from a musical family - some of his uncles were choirmasters in the church and were able to read music and sing well. Warren's musical affinity deepened through his interactions with L.A. Armbrister, as Warren always referred to him. L.A. guided his students to a true appreciation of music. They sight-read, sang in parts, improvised and learned to play instruments. The lessons young Warren learnt from L.A. before the latter's tragic early death resonated with him for the rest of his life. When he discovered classical music, he was enthralled, and later bought RPM records to be played on the gramophone, listening to Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelsohn, Bach and Tchaikovsky for hours.

Although Warren loved classical music, he was a true Cat Island boy at heart, and couldn't resist the fine art of rake 'n' scrape. He and his age-mates, a group which included Elmore Seymour, Velock Clifford Seymour, Leland Turner, Ronald 'Ronnie' Bannister, Sidney Moncur, Milka Sullivan, Rupert Turner, David Seymour, and Lochinvar 'Locky' Seymour, along with several others, would look forward to opportunities to dance and sing together. At church programmes and school dances, they would dance the quadrille, play the accordion, beat an old tub for a drum, and scrape saws.

A CAT ISLAND LOVE STORY

Warren eventually left Cat Island in 1954 to attend the Bahamas Teachers' Training College in New Providence. However, a young monitor from Arthur's Town named Carnetta had caught his eye, and drew him back home.

While studying under Principal Bain at the Arthur's Town All Age, Warren had met the beautiful Carnetta Armbrister. By this time he had grown from a portly youth into a handsome, fine athlete. Warren and Carnetta playfully competed against each other in their advanced studies while developing a lifelong friendship (Carnetta would laugh heartily when she told her children of the many times she trounced him in Latin!). Their children adored listening to the account of how their parents' love story began. As a fundraiser, female students made and sold Valentine's Day cards in the tiny schoolhouse. Not knowing she had made it, Warren bought Carnetta's lace-trimmed, handmade card and presented it to her. Her beauty, intelligence, and kind nature won him over, and she fell for his quiet confidence and gentlemanly demeanour.

The duo of educators married at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Cat Island, in 1956. "Netta" called him "V". Proving the truth of Tony McKay's song *Gone to Cat Island* in which he declares that a "Cat Island man is a little piece of sweet man", Warren fathered eight children with Carnetta during their union. In a love note presented to his Netta on her eightieth birthday and signed "Your best friend", Warren told her of how much, among other things, he cherished her loving and forgiving spirit, her generous heart, her concern for the underdog and her culinary skills - I "never left anything on the plate", he wrote.

A FAMILY MAN

After their marriage, Warren and Carnetta resided in Cat Island for a time, and then became itinerant teachers, being posted first to Wemyss Bight, Eleuthera. The couple was later transferred to the tiny settlement of Driggs Hill, South Andros, moving there with three young children: Terry, Pam and Marcia. Carnetta gave birth to Antoinette in Nassau and Josephine was born in Driggs Hill.

While in Driggs Hill, Warren gifted his children with RPM records such as Peter and the Wolf, Pinocchio, Hansel and Gretel, the Nutcracker and Oliver! He and Netta read their children to sleep at night (Heidi, Black Beauty, Tom Sawyer, Gulliver's Island, Treasure Island, Aesop's Fables, Grimm's Fairy Tales and so many more), and each time he travelled to New Providence he would return with gifts for them. One time his girls asked for a cow but instead got a turtle, which they kept in a large, deep hole in the yard. He let them stand on his feet and danced them around the room, introduced them to opera, and taught them boxing punches - he loved Rocky Marciano, an American professional world boxing heavyweight champion, and later Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali).

When Warren and Carnetta moved to New Providence, their sons Al and Calvin joined the family. Their last child, an infant girl, passed away a few days after her birth, which devastated the couple. Once the homestead on Eden Street was built, Warren purchased a station wagon in which his family took long drives on Sundays. They'd stop to pick whatever fruit was in season. Carnetta often packed dinner and they'd eat on a beach, sometimes roasting corn on the sand before heading home. Warren took his children to sports meets, to cricket matches, to regattas, to drive-in movies, dropped the teens off at the cinema at night and picked them up - he was a willing chauffeur. He was a member of the Bahamas Association of Certified Officials, took very seriously the task of officiating locally-held track and field meets, and fostered an enthusiasm for track and field and the art of manual recording in several of his children. The girls and later the boys watched basketball, cricket and football with him (he was a die-hard Miami Dolphins fan), as well as operas, boxing, and local and international political elections.

Warren made sure to stay in touch with his wider family after moving to New Providence. They would visit each other's homes, have family reunion meetings, and they continued the tradition of singing together, forming the Moncur Family Reunion Group, which would perform at relatives' funerals as an act of love. Warren cherished his relationships with his fellow Cat Islanders. Of note were his friendships with Patrick Seymour, Justice Joseph Strachan, Granville O'Brien, and Reverend Norris McDonald.

At Eden Street the shelves in the study were stocked with classical and classic literature, medical books and encyclopaedia. Warren bought local newspapers and the Miami Herald, and on Sundays the family sprawled out in the living room and read together, sharing with one another. The children sometimes penned and staged plays for their discreetly-amused parents. When the latter bought a stereo set and a piano, the children spent many evenings singing lustily. He had an eclectic taste in music that his children embraced - classical, soca, calypso, reggae and rake 'n' scrape. And, of course, they learnt chess. Warren never lost a game to them deliberately. When they played against him, they had to handle losing, because he refused to let them win if they didn't deserve it.

Warren was an attentive, supportive father. He and Carnetta invested in their children's education and ensured that they had every opportunity possible to learn and expand their horizons. His children remember their childhood days as glorious ones because, in addition to having an extraordinarily devoted mother, their loving "Daddy" was almost always there, playing a major role in their lives.

GOING ABROAD TO STUDY

There were a few years when their beloved father was not with his children, and that was when Warren travelled abroad to study, first securing a year-long in-service award to Exeter College in England, where he was able to immerse himself in several of his passions - chess, classic literature, cricket and basketball. He was on the Exeter College basketball team. His time at Exeter was followed by a stint at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica.

A DEVOTED EDUCATOR

It was in Wemyss Bight, Eleuthera that Warren honed his skills as a teacher, and where he taught, among others, a teenager named James B. Moultrie. Warren was appointed Wemyss Bight's Headteacher at 21 years of age. Then he and Carnetta were transferred to Driggs Hill, South Andros, where he was both school principal and teacher of the senior students. After that, he taught at Oakes Field Senior High, Highbury High (now R. M. Bailey High), Government High School and C.C. Sweeting Senior High, all in New Providence.

At each school Warren immersed himself in providing his students with a whole education. He devoted his career to moulding the minds and lives of young people. A student from Driggs Hill, at a recent ceremony honouring Warren, credited him with awakening in his and many other keen young minds, a zeal for academic subjects, including mathematics, classic literature and music, as well as athletics and politics. His students at Driggs Hill called him "Teacher" with deep respect, and many of those whom he taught over the years at other schools also look back at their time under his tutelage as being of immense value.

THE "FATHER OF CHESS"

Warren enjoyed playing checkers as a youth in Tea Bay. But it was chess that became his passion. In 1954, at the age of 18, he picked up a book about chess while in a library in New Providence, and that was the beginning of a life-long love for chess. Warren knew nothing about chess and learnt the game from that book. He bought an inexpensive plastic set, taught himself to play, and then went on to teach others.

After going off to Exeter College, Warren's passion for and skill at playing chess deepened as he played against others who were well-rooted in the game's intricacies. When he returned to New Providence he joined a local chess club and became a tournament organiser.

A chance meeting in the 1970s between Warren and Lothar Schmid, a revered German chess grandmaster, led to the formation of the Bahamas Chess Association (now the Bahamas Chess Federation) of which Warren was a founding member. After playing against Warren and a few other local chess players, including Anthony 'Boozie' Rolle, Schmid was impressed enough to recommend they start an official Bahamian chess association, which they did. Warren Seymour was one of only two lifetime members of the now Bahamas Chess Federation, and he was so committed to its success that he kept the organisation afloat, financially and as a monthly tournament director, for a number of years.

Over the decades, Warren's "chess ministry" saw him instructing hundreds of students in government and independent primary and high schools across New Providence and Cat Island, as well as COB and UB students "under the tree", and prison inmates at Her Majesty's Prison - in sickness and in health, and at no charge. He wore his ubiquitous bush jacket to indoor or outdoor tutoring sessions and clinics. At home, anyone who knocked on the door at Eden Street for a game was warmly welcomed. Warren firmly believed that chess was not just a game, but was a tool that could be wielded to develop young people's cognitive abilities as well as teach them valuable lessons about life. For much of his lifetime, he gave his heart and mind to the nation, through his teaching and promotion of the 'Game of Kings', 'King of All Games' and 'Game of Life' - chess.

A MAN OF FAITH

While in Andros, Warren was appointed to be a catechist at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. In New Providence, he remained a devoted member of Holy Spirit Anglican Church, where, pre-pandemic, he served as layperson, choir member, and chess clinic instructor. During and after the Covid-19 pandemic, he and Carnetta attended a weekly online Sunday morning service with their children, grands and great-grands, with his pastor son Calvin



delivering the message as often as he could. Also a Diocesan Choir member, Warren enjoyed lively discussion about Christian theology, read voraciously on the subject and was sometimes rather frustrated by those who were not as interested in debate as he was.

HIS TWILIGHT YEARS

After retiring as a teacher with the Department of Education, aside from chess and time spent with family, Warren enjoyed travelling abroad with Netta. They were both blessed with years far beyond the promised "three score and ten". Warren held on to life fiercely and he was a decades-long prostate cancer survivor under the competent care of Dr. Joseph Evans.

In the twilight years of his life, Warren was a devoted husband, chauffeuring his wife everywhere and entertaining her with old-time stories that she laughingly accused him of embellishing. He washed dishes nightly, and if there were swine in the backyard, no doubt he would have fed them. On weekly drives to their children's homes, Warren would help Carnetta find and cut "top", which she would use to plait straw. Together they worked on difficult word puzzles to keep their minds sharp, and would do at-home workouts in their living room (he still practised the boxing punches of his younger days, up until his last week on this Earth).

Warren kept busy with chess games "under the tree" and the occasional work or school pick-up and drop-off - his children and grandchildren knew that they only had to ask, and he would answer. Somehow, despite frequent minor driving mishaps (Warren drove extremely slowly and felt that he and his passengers should maintain eye contact while he drove), and arguments with police officers ("Do you know the meaning of 'crime'? Shouldn't you be confronting criminals?"), he always avoided getting into an accident and being arrested.

For the last few years of his life, and even while he battled Alzheimer's, Warren enjoyed the great loves of his life - Carnetta (who predeceased him by two years), classical music, singing in his prized tenor and bass vocal ranges, and chess. If his daytime caregivers did not play chess, his daughter Antoinette made sure that they were taught the game!

Generous to a fault, this sterling educator touched the lives of thousands throughout the archipelago and beyond, quietly, humbly and without seeking praise. He was one of the founding members of the Teachers & Salaried Workers Co-operative Credit Union, and belonged to the Bahamas Union of Teachers, sometimes standing as a lone protester in front of the school at which he was posted, advocating for the rights of his fellow educators. He abhorred the colonial mindset, was fiercely patriotic and believed in fighting against injustice and corruption. Warren encouraged his children to be critical thinkers, to be proud of their African and Cat Island heritage, and to give back to the community. He, along with his beloved wife Carnetta, tutored, nurtured and cherished so many.

After a short stay in hospital, Warren Lemorn Seymour passed away on June 3, 2024, at his home on Eden Street. He will be sorely missed by his family members and by all those whose lives he impacted. Near and far, he instilled solid values in others and gave a lifetime of unwavering commitment. His legacy is a Cat Island one of excellence and "faith working through love".

Warren is predeceased by his:

Parents: Lamond Seymour and Beatrice Maggie Bannister

Wife: Carnetta Seymour

Daughter: Diandria Stacey Seymour

Brothers: Leland Turner, Eric Turner, and Lesley Seymour

Sisters: Ezrena Turner, Marion Hepburn, and Hilda Gaitor

Left to cherish loving memories are his:

Children: Maria 'Terry' Seymour, Pamela Moultrie, Marcia and Elystan Miles, Antoinette Seymour, Josephine and Christian Justilien, Al Seymour, and Warren Calvin and Sekera 'Honey' Seymour

Grandchildren: Andrea Moultrie, Najah Plakaris, Nicole Miles, Dylan Miles, Spenser Plakaris, Ayoka Seymour, Jahzara Seymour, Salarah Seymour, and Sakaria Seymour

Great Grandchildren: Sage Plakaris-Knight and Amara Lightbourn

Brothers: Earl Seymour and Eric Seymour

Sisters: Iva Strachan and Earlean Seymour

Brother-in-law: Reginald Gaitor

Sisters-in-law: Carolyn Seymour, Ruthmae Seymour, Leona Turner, Mildred Turner, Daisy Armbrister, J.P.

Nieces and Nephews: Derosset Turner Gibson and Bonita Turner; Leona Armbrister, Carolyn Johnson, Carol Hepburn, Francena Butler, Garnett Hepburn, Glendina Louissant, Annabelle Hepburn, and Ezrena Hepburn; Ingrid Jones, Nguyen Payne, Ricardo Turner, Craig Turner, Alarie Turner, and Juan Turner; Godfrey Cunningham, Keith McDonald, and Brian McDonald; Annmarie Maycock; Stewart Curtis, Bridgette Sweeting, Darryl Pyfrom, Wendy Pearson, and Rae Russell; Vernencha Gaitor-Adderley, Wayne Gaitor, and Ashley Gaitor; Earla Rahming, Cara Collie, and Corrie Hanna; Romeo Seymour, Julian Seymour, Jermaine Seymour, Marvin Seymour, Erica Seymour, Daphanie Seymour-Williams and Donerique Seymour-Collie; Harcourt Miller, Philip Knowles, Paul "Pablo" Knowles, and Loretta Munroe; Patricia Cooper, Alvin O'Brien, Glenn and Ernestine King, Prince, Troy, and Barron Thurston; and the children of the late Leslie and Everette Armbrister.

Many other relatives and friends, including and not limited to: Joseph Strachan, Patrick Seymour, Velock Clifford Seymour, Melvin Seymour and other members of the Seymour Family; The Deveaux Family; The Bannister Family; The Turner Family; the Moncur Family and the Moncur Family Heritage Association; The Middleton Family; the Pratt Family; Desmond, Jackie, HE Ellison and other members of the Greenslade family; The Tea Bay, Cat Island Family; the wider Cat Island community; the Boyd Subdivision and Oakes Field communities, especially Arthel Gibson and family, Judy Lafleur Francis and family, the Butler family, and the Rolle family; Members of Holy Spirit Anglican Church, especially the Anglican Church Men (ACM) and the Holy Spirit Choir; members of the Bahamas Chess Federation; Bahamas Prison Chess programme facilitators and other chess advocates, including Justice of Appeal Milton Evans, Nathaniel Higgs, Edmund Deal, Frank Gibson, Dr. Harry Munnings, Hatchala Robinson Sr., Clive Stuart, Anthony "Boozie" Rolle, Dr. David Sands, Dr. Keith Watson, Valentine Cox, Norman Pestaina, Kean Smith, Byron Small, Kenny Knowles, Dr. Joseph Ferguson, Granville Collie and Michael Fraser; members of the Bahamas Teachers' Union; members of the Teachers & Salaried Workers Co-operative Credit Union; the Ministry and Department of Education and the former administrators, staff, and students of the Wemyss Bight (Eleuthera) All-Age, Driggs Hill (South Andros) All-Age, Oakes Field Senior High, Highbury High (now R. M. Bailey Senior High), C.C. Sweeting High and the Government High Schools; Fr. James Moultrie, Franklyn Moultrie and the Moultrie Family; Dr. Juliette Storr and the Storr Family of Rock Crusher; Christopher Plakaris and the Plakaris family; Dr. Dawn Wilson and the Wilson family; Daphne Sawyer and Larissa Burrows; the Young Women's Christian Association; Rev'd Fr. John Kabiga and members of St. James Anglican Church; Rev'd Fr. Andrew Toppin; Pastor Arlington D. Moss and members of Temple Baptist Church.

Special Thanks to: Dr. Joseph Evans and Staff; Dr. Keith Rivers and Staff, Nurses and Staff of the Princess Margaret Hospital ward - Male Medical II, especially Nurse Hernandez; Vernencha 'Dee-Dee' Gaitor-Adderley, RN; Jacquelyn Knowles, PCT.

In Memory of Warren L. Seymour

Who will parse line after line from his favourite hymns and mine now, Daddy? Who??? Should your paths cross, Daddy, please tell Mummy there is no end...

- Maria Seymour

I remember. My memories begin with Cat Island, then Eleuthera, and then Andros where, at play outside, I'd look up or down the unpaved road and see you in the distance returning home, your face indistinguishable - but I knew your gait. I'd race to meet you over rocky terrain and you'd swing me up in your arms, and then we'd walk home side by side, with me listening to your rumbling voice.

I hold close the wealth of memories of life in New Providence, where you and Mummy protected me, thankfully did not shirk from disciplining me, revealed to me that to live is to learn, and modelled for me sacrifice, the beauty of hard work, courage and humility.

I remember your last day on Earth, only a few weeks ago, when I raced to be at your side, this time driving to your home on Eden Street to which you'd just returned. The day before, you'd whispered to the daughters standing around your hospital bed that you had so many treasured memories. And I remember that, as I sped, I urged you to hold on.

You did not, my precious daddy. Yet I have faith that I will see you, see Mummy, see all my departed family again. On that glorious day this old body will not run to meet you; there will be no bodies. But surely we will remember each other, and the holy warmth of that mysterious moment will stretch into eternity.

- Pamela Seymour-Moultrie

Thanks for the beautiful childhood and the steadfast support throughout the years, Daddy. Thanks for sharing your knowledge, your wicked sense of humour and your love of the classics in both music and literature. Peter and the Wolf, the Nutcracker Suite, the Miller of the Dee, Widecombe Fair - you have given me beautiful memories that will remain with me forever. With you and Mummy as parents, not a day went by that I wasn't confident that I was loved - thank you!

- Marcia Miles

Daddy, yes, you arrived at life's Checkmate but I can just imagine you 'Ruy Lopez-ing' it all day long in the Great Beyond *smile*. Rest and rise. With eternal love, Antoinette

- Antoinette Seymour

Rest in perfect peace, Daddy. You were a great father, my humble yet not always so easy daddy. I pray our lives honour your love and sacrifice for the rest of our natural existence.

- *Josephine Justilien*

Daddy, when I look in the mirror, I see our physical similarities. And I try, each day, to be a mirror of the values and principles you set for me. In a nutshell, after OUR FATHER above, there's you, with no replacement or comparison.

- *Al Seymour*

Attributes of a Good Father -- A Proverbs 20 Man

Industrious: vs4 says the lazy man will not plow because of Winter. He will beg during harvest and have nothing. Our Patriarch was never lazy, working through all seasons. Never having to beg during harvest. Always sacrificing so that we will never experience lack.

*Verse 5 says "Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water,
But a man of understanding will draw it out.*

*6 Most men will proclaim each his own goodness,
But who can find a faithful man?*

7 The righteous man walks in his integrity;

His children are blessed after him. But a man of understanding will draw it out.

Understanding: Warren Seymour had the unique ability to draw out godly or goodly advice that will prove to be profitable in the immediate or distant future. Whether it be from an old folk story, from literature, from the Bible, from personal experiences, or most importantly, from the heart. One thing is certain, that our Patriarch would often draw understanding from the well of counsel in his heart.

Humility: The A Clause of verse 6 says that most men will brag of their own goodness. Our Patriarch always dressed himself in humility, despite the many great qualities, gifts, knowledge, and talents he possessed. Most men would indeed brag should they possess the same. But Warren Lamorn Seymour remained humble.

Faithfulness: The 'B' Clause of Verse 6 asks, "Who can find a faithful man?" I'll be the first to raise my hand and declare, "I have!" Today, we celebrate the faithfulness of our Patriarch. He was faithful in every aspect of his life. Faithful to his God, faithful to his spouse, faithful to his children and their children, even unto the fourth generation. He'd been faithful to those before him and faithful to his parents, siblings and extended family. He'd been faithful to his career, his church, his community and his country. He was the Father of Chess and was a stalwart in its advancement, from the school system to the prison system; to the community, to the country, to the world. And if given the opportunity, he will teach chess under the juniper tree in Heaven. Our Patriarch was faithful indeed.

Finally, Verse 7 says "The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him". Our Patriarch lived a life that was both upright and honourable. He walked in his integrity. The greatest gift a father can give to his children is an example of godliness and goodness. An example that will be a blessing to his children for generations after him.

Conclusion: Our Patriarch boldly, yet gracefully responded to the call of fatherhood, with Industriousness, Understanding, Humility, Wisdom, Faithfulness and Integrity. He used the power of this call to shape, guide and transform the lives of his children for success, for purpose and for the fulfilment of his children's divine destiny; and his children's children, and their children; with a legacy that will extend even to a thousand generations. His sons are good fathers because they've seen a great one. His daughters are strong because of his love and example. His children are blessed as a result of his priesthood, his protection, his provision, his personality, and his prowess. Today, we salute the Patriarch of the Seymour clan, Warren Lemorn Seymour. Long live the king!

- *Calvin Seymour*

Although I never quite liked chess, and never ever came close to learning the rules of cricket, your sayings, which I've heard maybe thousands of times, will stay with me forever. Sometimes I find myself saying, 'I think I'll have a drop of that!' And, 'I can feel it working already'. And, 'I thought it were opaque'!

What made even more of an impression on my life have been your teachings, through example. From you I've witnessed up close and have tried to emulate your true humility, the emphasis you placed on nation-building, critical thinking, and being unafraid to forge your own path. Oh - I can't forget that 'the cream will always rise to the top'!

Thank you for always being there for your family, no matter what.

Your ship has finally come in, Granddaddy.

Farewell, fella.

- *Andrea Moultrie*

I hope I never forget the twinkle in your eyes as you found the slightest opportunity to segue from normal conversation to risible folktales and anecdotes. There's never enough time for what once seemed like a neverending reservoir of tales. The stories all become so much more precious as they get harder to tell.

Love always,
Nikki

- *Nicole Miles*

Hi, Granddaddy. Wanted to say how I miss you, again. How I've loved the fantastical tales and the spontaneous history and literature lectures. How I miss your singing, and the tangents you would take in conversation, and the funny anecdotes, and your practical advice for absolutely anything and especially the miserable weather.

I miss being able to phone you just to say hello, Granddaddy. I love you.

Good night, Granddaddy.

- *Najah Plakaris*

To my grandfather,

I fondly remember the times you would pick me up from my after-school Religious Education Studies (BJC) class, often with a friend in tow. One particular car ride stands out in my memory. You began sharing one of your stories. However, I must apologize, as I regretfully missed most of that tale. I was too preoccupied trying to wake my friend from a deep slumber beside me. I hope you didn't notice. Your presence and stories have always meant so much to me, and I carry them with me always.

- *Spenser Plakaris*

Granddaddy,

I'll hope to meet you in, "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns." Maybe there I'll teach you to spell my name.

- Azhara ;)

- *Jahzara Seymour*

We are very proud to have had you as a grandfather. The wisdom and intelligence you passed through this family is something we love and appreciate very much. Even though we both didn't meet you often, your love for us was clear with every call and every conversation. We will love and remember you always.

Love, Salarah & Ria

- *Salarah & Sakaria Seymour*

Hello, Granddaddy.

When I think of you, I think of chess and books, and I think of all of your stories and the way you told them.

I think of your voice, and you and Gram teaching me so many songs and the way your voices were perfect together.

I think of "the chicken who forgot to fly". How you would end our conversations always encouraging me.

I'll remember to always fly.

We will see each other again someday.

I love you

- *Sage Plakaris-Knight*

Mr. Seymour was a soft spoken giant of a man. I've witnessed nothing but positive emotion from him as a "father" to so many in the community. He will be missed. May his gentle soul rest in eternal peace.

- *Christian Justilien*

My dearest Papa. I never once dreamed that my former Math teacher at GHS, the finest Math teacher in the land, would one day become my Father-in-law. And as the years went by, you maintained a display of wisdom and integrity, but were also the source of a good laugh. I will never forget you, my Father-in-love! Until we meet again!

- *Sekera Honey Seymour*

I am happy that, nearly a year before he passed away, I had the opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. Warren Seymour for the kindness he showed my children, especially Kristian. His response touched me deeply. He said he had always believed that in life you gain more by treating people with kindness, and that he knew that I was a caring and proud father, the kind of man whose children would watch him and want to be like him.

I am eternally grateful for the time and effort Mr. Seymour spent teaching chess to Kristian many years ago. The time that Mr. Seymour took out of his life was well spent; his teaching Kristian was not a waste of time. I also believe that what he taught was more than just a game because the training that my son received across the chess board was carried into his everyday life and, for the most part, he has had a good life. He was junior chess champion at one point, he obtained his BGCSE's with very good grades, he earned a degree in engineering, and currently, he has been able to live thousands of miles abroad in a country where he basically has no family and only a strong desire to make it in life and on his own terms. I'm not giving Mr. Seymour all the credit for the aforementioned; however, I would be a liar if I were to say that his impact on Kristian was merely minimal. He was a great teacher.

Further, I am equally grateful that Mr. Warren Seymour was always pleasant towards me as the father of two of his grandchildren, Najah and Spenser, and he was even kinder to Kristian, their brother but not his grandchild. His attitude helped shape my thinking regarding how I interact with others, and the criteria I now use for developing close personal relationships. It was a life lesson well taught.

Additionally, I must elaborate upon his relationship with Najah and Spenser. Mr. Seymour and his predeceased wife, Mrs. Carnetta Seymour, were remarkable grandparents. I know that Najah and Spenser loved him and her without reservation, and that could only have come about because of their grandparents' positive and loving relationship with them.

I thank Mr. Warren Seymour from the bottom of my heart for being such a great teacher of the game of chess and of life. May he rest in peace.

- *Christopher B. Plakaris*

I've known Mr. Warren Seymour for most of my life. He was my teacher in my early years at Wemyss Bight School in Eleuthera where he served as the Headmaster. He was my hero and remained so until his passing. If my memory serves me well, we were both teachers at C.C. Sweeting High School where I was the Vice Principal. He was at my ordination to the Priesthood in 1994. We became close again when I became Rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit in 2000, where he was a faithful member and leader. When I was transferred from Holy Spirit to become Rector of St Matthew's he was very disappointed. I was too. When I became a professor at UB in the early 1990's, he was there to support me.

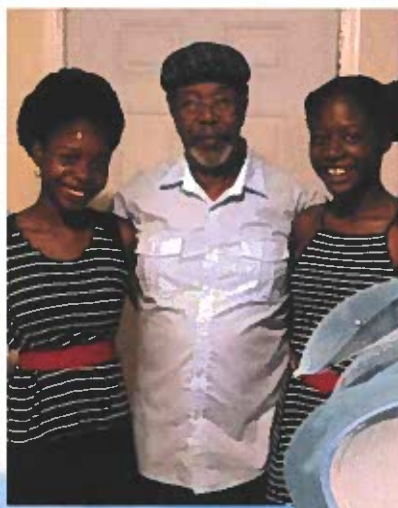
We had many discussions over the years and I am happy that I had the opportunity to tell him how much I admired him and that he was my hero. He was the finest person I knew and wanted to emulate. I hope I came close. When I served as Interim Priest at St. James I became reacquainted with his daughter Pamela who kept me updated about his health. She says of all his thousands of students he remembers me best. We kept in touch through her. I am so sad that my hero has gone to be with the Lord and pray that he will RIP and rise in glory. Please accept our very deepest sympathy, but I am grateful that another nation-builder has gone on to his great reward.

-His Student, Rev'd Dr James B. Moultrie, PhD

The Bahamas Chess Federation is deeply saddened by the passing of Mr. Warren Seymour, a revered chess educator, player, and advocate. His tireless efforts were instrumental in sustaining and growing the chess community in The Bahamas. Mr. Seymour's passion for the game inspired generations, leaving an indelible mark on our nation's chess landscape. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. His legacy will forever be cherished and remembered in the hearts of all who knew him.

- Bahamas Chess Federation





Pallbearers

Christopher Plakaris
Andrew Seymour
Stewart Curtis

Zendal Forbes
Rae Russell
Andrew Moss

Honorary Pallbearers

Eric Seymour
Earl Seymour
Al Seymour
Calvin "Warren" Seymour
Chris Justilien
Dylan Miles
Spenser Plakaris

Joseph Strachan
Patrick Seymour
Velock Clifford Seymour
Melvin Seymour
Desmond Greenslade
Clifford "Dicey" Thurston
Valentine Cox

Thank You

Words cannot express how grateful we are for your generous support and encouraging words.

Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers in our time of need.

Your kindness means so much and will not be forgotten. May God bless you all.

-The Family-

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GENIUS OR CHILD PRODIGY? - Whichever words or group of words are used to describe four-and-a-half-year-old Al Seymour, one certainty is that chess is on the way up in the Bahamas. When the 4th Annual Pan American Junior Cham-