

PALLBEARERS

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Trustee Ministry of The Bethel Church

FLORAL ATTENDANTS

Deacons Ministry of The Bethel Church
Continental Societies, Inc. - Jacksonville Chapter

WORDS OF APPRECIATION

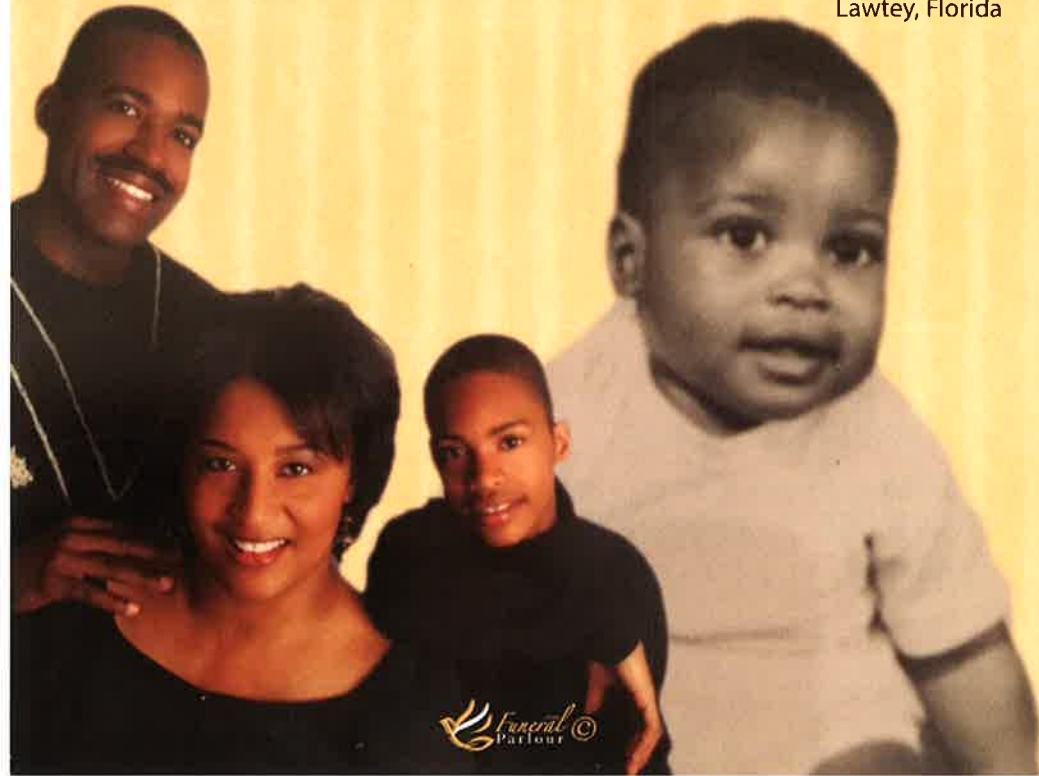
The family of Dr. Anthony J. Franklin acknowledges with sincere gratitude the many prayers, messages, cards, flowers, and every act of kindness to ease our sorrow through the week. May God continue to richly bless you and your families.

REPAST

The Bethel Church
Immediately following the service

INTERMENT

Monday, April 30th at 11:00AM
Lawtey Peetsville Memorial Cemetery
Lawtey, Florida



Celebration of Life for



DR. ANTHONY J. FRANKLIN

Sunrise: October 14, 1959 - Sunset: April 20, 2018

THE BETHEL CHURCH
215 BETHEL BAPTIST STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

BISHOP RUDOLPH W. MCKISSICK, JR., PASTOR
BISHOP RUDOLPH W. MCKISSICK, SR., PASTOR EMERITUS

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018 - 10:00 A.M.

OBITUARY

Dr. Anthony J. Franklin was born on October 14, 1959. He is the beloved son of Robert and Ineater Franklin and resided in Lawtey, Florida as the youngest of seven children. Dr. Franklin routinely attended church service with his family and played piano for many church services.

He attended Bradford High School in Lawtey, Florida and upon graduation, he entered Georgia Southern College. While there, he majored in biology and minored in chemistry in pursuit of attaining a seat in a well-respected dental school. Dr. Franklin attained his goal and attended University of Florida's College of Dentistry where he graduated with a DMD in 1986. A few months after graduation, he began his career as a dentist with the Department of Corrections in 1986.

He married the love of his life, Deidra Yvette Oliver, on September 3, 1988. Their miracle baby, Austin Jordan Franklin, was born on March 24, 1994.

In December 1992, Dr. Franklin opened his first private practice and rendered excellent dental care to thousands of patients in Jacksonville for 25 years. His dedication to providing excellent dentistry coupled with his commitment to serve has been exemplary.

Dr. Franklin was affiliated with several professional organizations. He has been a member of The Bethel Church where he has faithfully served as a Trustee for over 25 years. Dr. Franklin was also a Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. He pledged on the campus of Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, Georgia as a charter member (Xi Tau Chapter - Spring '81). In addition, Dr. Franklin loved to travel with his family.

Dr. Franklin had a heart of generosity. He has provided countless hours and donations to many churches, nonprofit organizations, and community efforts for the betterment of adults and youth.

He is best remembered for his selflessness, so much so that his son Austin reserved a chapter in his book *Wake, Rise, and Smile* entitled, "It's Not About Me" which describes his dad's character even in the midst of life's difficulties.

People would often ask Dr. Franklin, "Would you rather be called Anthony, Doctor, or Tony?" He would often respond, "Just call me a Child of God." This humble, selfless man left a legacy of strong discipline behind: disciplined in relationships, disciplined in giving, disciplined in serving, disciplined in work ethic, and disciplined in his faith.

This faithful "Child of God" is survived by his loving wife of 29 years - Deidra O. Franklin, Son - Austin J. Franklin, Mother - Ineater Franklin, Mother-in-law, Gerlieve Thompson (Ray), brothers and sisters - Helen Smith (Jerome), James Franklin, Sister-in-law Stephanie Franklin, Sylvester Franklin, Henry Franklin (Dimeta), and Benita Saunders, Brother-in-law, J. Eric Oliver, godson Brandon Franklin, several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and a host of other loving family and friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional "Total Praise"

Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Life's Reflections Video

Psalm 46:1-7 Reverend James L. Houston
Bethelonia AME Church
Tallahassee, Florida

Romans 8:31-39 Reverend James Wiggins, Jr.
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Jacksonville, Florida

Prayer Elder Zella Richardson

Ministry of Music Lois Moore Ferguson

Words of Comfort Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Sr.

Ministry of Music Brooks Baptiste

Words of Comfort Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Jr.

Recessional "Every Praise"

SCRIPTURE VERSE

“I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

Psalm 34:1

