



Mr. Henry Charles Adams Jr.

February 13, 1934 - January 25, 2015

The Obituary

Henry Charles Adams Jr.

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“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary;  
and they shall walk, and not faint.”

Isaiah 40:31

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Henry Charles Adams Jr., son of the late Henry Charles Adams and the late Edith Baisden Adams, was born in New York, New York, on Tuesday, February 13, 1934.

When Henry was a child, his family relocated to Pittsburgh, PA, where he received his secondary education in the Pittsburgh Public Schools, graduating from Schenley High School. He earned a B.A. Degree from Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA, and his Juris Doctorate from the University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law.

Henry retired from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with thirty plus years of service as a Personnel Analyst. He is credited with establishing the Commonwealth’s first Bureau of Affirmative Action under Governor Milton J. Shapp.

Henry served honorably in the United States Army and was an avid golfer who was known for wearing the traditional plaid knickers and tam style hat. He never claimed to be proficient, but he was persistent! Another passion was serving his special cuisine each year as a participant in the “Kings Who Cook” feast sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. He was a lifelong learner with an insatiable appetite for history. Reading was a favorite pastime. For over fifty years this erudite, classy gentleman was a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Ever the entrepreneur, Henry achieved the distinction of an Executive Director with the 5LINX organization and also founded the “Ripple Group,” a non-profit focused on Sickle

Cell Trait advocacy. His passion for both organizations was fueled by love for his devoted wife "Ellie" who is a lifelong survivor of Sickle Cell Disease. Henry was a committed caregiver who always put her needs before his own.

Henry, an ordained Deacon, has served the Coptic Orthodox Church since 1978. He served also as a Sunday School Teacher and loved interacting with the many youth of the church. Two of his favorite Biblical passages were Isaiah 40:31 and II Kings 6:8-19.

On Sunday, January 25, 2015, Henry transitioned from labor to reward and is now resting peacefully in the presence of his Creator and Lord. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his only sibling, Michael A. Adams. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, Eleanor D. Adams; son, Charles Whiting Adams, both of Harrisburg, PA; nephew, David A. Adams of Pittsburgh, PA; niece, Lynn Adams of Birmingham, AL; and a host of other relatives and friends.

In All Things, We Give Thanks!

Respectfully Submitted, The Family

Mr. Adams' life will be celebrated at 11 a.m., Tuesday, February 3rd, at his church, 1701 N. State Street, Harrisburg; with viewing from 10 to 11 a.m. Interment will be at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mrs. Henry Adams, 1027 Scenery Drive, Harrisburg, 17109 or to South Central PA Sickle Cell Council, 2000 Linglestown Road, Suite 103, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

Comments



“ I am ever so sad to hear about Henry passing. He was a great man and a great friend to me. I'll never forget the countless hours and days we spent studying in law school until the early morning hours. He talked so proudly of his family and gave me great encouragement when I thought maybe law school wasn't for me. I'll never ever forget Henry and have thought of him literally every single day since I started my law practice. Without a study partner like him I wouldn't have made it through.

Daniel DeMora, Esq
Attorney at Law

Daniel DeMora - August 20, 2015 at 06:59 PM



“ I was shocked and grieved to learn of the death of my friend and fellow entrepreneur, Henry Adams. My family and many others will recall his pioneering work in civil rights and government service; but I recall the cheerful and ambitious businessman who was eager to find new opportunities to help his community and neighbors with products and services, and to advance medical frontiers by supporting sickle cell research. While I, like his family and friends, now mourn his absence, I salute and honor his example and hope that all who knew him will take up his banner, raise it high, and follow the trail he has blazed.

William Cooley, Jr - February 03, 2015 at 08:16 AM