



Mr. George "Toby" Young Jr.

October 13, 1933 - April 5, 2017

George "Toby" Young Jr., 83, Harrisburg, entered eternal life April 5, 2017. Born in Gadsden, Alabama, on October 13, 1933, he was the youngest boy of 5 children of the late George Young Sr. and Olivia Mosley.

A graduate of the former William Penn High School, he served honorably in the U. S. Army, and at 50 years of age, he earned his Master's Degree in Human Services from Lincoln University.

Mr. Young was a lifelong member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and currently a member of Baptist Fellowship Church.

His career path included Harrisburg Glass, OIC and Director, PA State Civil Service Commission where he was instrumental in hiring the highest number of minorities in 5 Governor Annual Reports. An entertainer, entertainer promoter, television and radio icon, Mr. Young produced and hosted "True Gospel," "From Where I Sit," "The Toby Young Show," "Jazz Today" and "Echoes of Glory," his radio ministry which since its inception 42 years ago provided a standard of excellence in transmitting gospel music while sharing relevant and pertinent information.

Mr. Young served as Past Master of Chosen Friends Lodge #43 and Secretary of the Past Masters Club. He was a member of Himyar Temple #17 Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Nimrod Consistory Grand Inspector General, 33rd Degree, and Holy Royal Arch. He was the Director of Public Relations for Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, District Deputy Grand Master of the 5th Masonic District.

Mr. Young was the recipient of over 250 civic, community and church awards in recognition of his tremendous contributions through his radio ministry, fraternal affiliations and professional career. He served with numerous noteworthy organizations including National Progressive Affirmative Action Officers, PA Chapter of the National Association of Radio and TV Artists, Tri-County March of Dimes, Camp Curtin YMCA, American Contract Compliance Association, Congress of Affirmative Action, Persons with Impairments Advisory Committee which he founded, and in 2007, he was inducted into the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Mr. Young was also Founder and President of the Gospel Announcers Guild, member of Central PA Gospel Music Workshop of America and Club Twenty-One.

Surviving are 3 daughters, Dorothy L. Williams (Reginald) of Peachtree City, GA, C. Vernell Miller (Harold) of Pittsburg, CA, and Kathy Ann Young of Atlanta, GA; 3 devoted friends, Ernie P. Davis, George C. Luckette and Gloria L. Hamm, all of Harrisburg; 6 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

William Howard Day Cemetery

Lincoln and Carlisle Streets
Steelton, PA 17113

Previous Events

Flower Delivery

APR 10. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Viewing

APR 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Masonic Service

APR 10. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Viewing

APR 11. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Steelton
1850 S. 19th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104

Service

APR 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Steelton
1850 S. 19th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104

Tribute Wall



“ Here it is:

In 1979, I was an 11-year-old magician performing at the March of Dimes Telethon at Harrisburg East Mall. Before my act, I accidentally locked my doves in a back room in the basement. Panic doesn't begin to describe what that felt like for a kid.

Toby Young didn't hesitate. This big, elegant, important man got down to the level of a frightened little boy, put me on his shoulders, and helped me pop through the ceiling tiles to retrieve those doves. He didn't have to do that. He chose to.

That was 47 years ago. I never forgot it.

What Toby probably never knew is that what he did that day wasn't just about doves. He literally lifted a kid up. A kid who came from a complicated world and needed someone to show him that big people could be gentle people. That important people still had time for small ones.

He raised me up that day in more ways than one.

I've spent 51 years in magic since that moment. I've performed across this country and built a career on the foundation of people like Toby Young who believed a kid was worth their time and their shoulders.

Rest easy, Toby. You were one of the good ones. And this kid never forgot.

— Billy Diamond, Palmyra PA

Billy Diamond - March 08 at 12:56 PM

DM

“ In the early 1960's, we would leave Omaha to spend our teenage summers in Harrisburg. And "Oh, my" I discovered T.Y. on the radio. Toby Young sparked a fire in my soul to become a professional broadcaster. His influence contributed mightily to my successful career as Don Mac in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. We never met; but one day in Glory I will tell him my story. R.I.P. George "Toby" Young, Jr. D.L. McPhaul, Los Angeles, CA 2022

DL McPhaul - November 25, 2022 at 11:17 PM

AS

“ A very friendly and warm person, Toby would always take time to say a greeting to you, always enjoyed his radio show. He was just a good person.

Gus Sullivan Sr

Augustus E. Sullivan Sr. - January 23, 2021 at 11:34 AM

FW

“ Frances Waters lit a candle in memory of Mr. George "Toby" Young Jr.



Frances Waters - November 16, 2017 at 03:21 PM

MI

“ Kathy dear,

May God give you strength as you face the challenges of time. Such an impressive and thoughtful man! I remember his visits to your first grade classroom and the pride and joy he showed as you learned your first words at BF!

Be blessed and know his love for you and family will always warm your heart!

*Your first grade teacher, Ms. Irons
crespi1@comcast.net*

Ms Irons - April 12, 2017 at 02:27 AM

WJ

“ To the Family of George "Toby" Young--

We are so very sorry to hear of the passing of our friend and my work colleague. He had a serious concern about how he could help bring equality to State Civil Service Commission hiring. He also loved the Lord as he testified between spinning gospel songs. We are all better because of his contributions to the Central PA region and to the Commonwealth, as well. "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."

--Iris H. Cooley, Ed D & Rev. Dr. W. Braxton Cooley, Sr.

William Cooley Jr. - April 10, 2017 at 11:49 AM