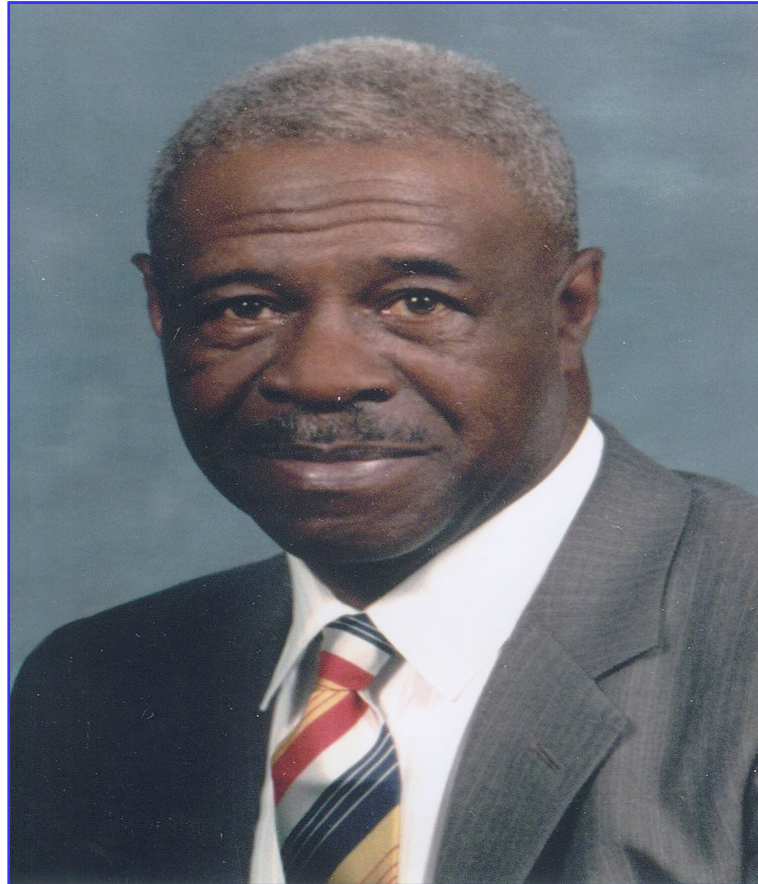


**HOMEGOING CELEBRATION  
FOR THE LIFE OF  
MR. ENOCH GILLISPIE, JR.**



**November 24, 1918 - September 14, 2015**

**St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Richmond, Kentucky**

**Reverend LaVeeshia Pryor, Pastor**

## ENOCK'S TESTIMONY

Enoch Gillispie, Jr., age 96, was born on November 24, 1918, to Enoch Gillispie, Sr. and Bertha (Harris) Gillispie of Garrard County, Kentucky. He was the last surviving and eldest of nine children - five brothers: Edgar, Shelton, Robert, James Huston, William B.; and three sisters: Fannie, Mary Liza, and Loretta.

On March 10, 1946, Enoch married Amie Leavy Frances Huguely, who preceded him to be home with our Heavenly Father on March 18, 2002. He is survived by a daughter, Albirda Frances (Puddin) Gillispie of Richmond, KY, a son and daughter-in-law, Charley Edward and Dr. Delphina Hopkins-Gillispie of Valparaiso, IN and two grandchildren: Christopher Edwin Hopkins-Gillispie, J.D., of Washington, D.C. and Adella Denyse Gillispie, MBA, of Valparaiso, IN. Also, surviving are numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He and Amie reared several foster children in their home, many called him "Daddy June".

Enoch professed his belief in God, accepted Christ at an early age and joined the Flat Woods Baptist Church in Garrard County, KY, where he maintained his membership throughout his life. He attended New Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, in Richmond, KY, with his family after marriage and was a dedicated Christian servant in maintaining the grounds and the church building as a volunteer.

Enoch was a member of the Ashla Lodge No. 49 of the Prince Hall Masonic Order in Richmond, KY. Most recently he was recognized for his dedication to the Lodge for over a half century with a plaque, 50 year pin, and certificate.



*Enoch's Testimony continued*

In 1940 he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and was honorably discharged in 1942 to accept employment in Elgin, FL. Enoch also served in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1949 after achieving the rank of Sergeant Grade III. He served in Germany and received the World War II Victory Medal. In his later years Enoch told many intriguing war stories of his service and experiences in the armed forces.

Enoch returned to the farm in Madison County, KY, after his years serving in the United States Army with war wounds and scars as evidence of his dedication to serve his country. He also worked construction for several years during the 1950s, 60s and 70s. Enoch helped to integrate the construction laborer's trade in central Kentucky during the 50s and 60s.

He was proud to have worked on such building as IBM in Lexington, and buildings on the campuses of University of Kentucky (UK), Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) and Berea College (BC). He was proud to have joined with African Americans who broke the segregation barriers in construction laborers during this period.

Since February 2014 Enoch was a resident of Kenwood Health and Rehabilitation Center, where he shared war stories from his years in the US Army, and entertained many who laughed at stories he shared about the farm and "good old days". After a short illness he departed this world to be with the Heavenly Father on September 14, 2015.



## ORDER OF SERVICE

Presiding: Reverend LaVeeshia Pryor

Prelude

Processional

Final Viewing

Opening Hymn      *We'll Understand It Better By and By*

Scripture	Psalm 23      {Old Testament}	Mrs. Felicia Shearer
	John 4: 1—7      {New Testament}	Mr. Trevon Runyon

Solo	Mrs. Louise Turner
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Prayer

Resolution	Huguely Family Reunion Member
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Tribute to “Grandfather”

Solo	Mrs. Vicki Ballew—Mitchell
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Remarks	Mr. Kenneth Cobb, President, Huguely Family Reunion
	Mrs. Karen Kelly, Community, ReMax Unlimited, Realtor
	Christopher Edwin Hopkins-Gillispie, J.D., <i>Grandson— Washington, DC</i>
	Dr. Delphina Hopkins-Gillispie, <i>Daughter-in-Law—Valparaiso, IN</i>

Acknowledgements	Mrs. Dawn Runyon
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Enoch’s Testimony - Read Silently

Words of Comfort	Minister Michael Runyon, Jr. Youth Minister, Lexington Church
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Solo	Mrs. Sandra Ballew—Barnes
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Recessional

Benediction

Organ/Pianist Postlude	Mr. Dwight Douglas
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~ **Interment** ~

Madison Memorial Gardens  
210 West Rice Lane  
Richmond, Kentucky

December 21, 2012

## Ashlar Lodge honors its two oldest members

By **Bill Robinson**, Register Editor

RICHMOND — The two oldest members of Ashlar Lodge No. 49 of the Prince Hall Masonic Order in Richmond are **Enoch Gillispie**, 95, and Lawrence Shearer, 96.

On Thursday, in recognition of each man's more than half century of service to both lodge and community, local leaders of the organization came to their homes and presented them with 50-year membership pins and certificates from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

Russell Glover, the local lodge's worshipful master, was accompanied by two of its past masters, Charles Hawkins and Marlon Morris, for the formal presentations. Both men have been devoted to the lodge for more than 50 years and are more than worthy of the milestone recognition, Glover said.

In addition to their Masonic and other community roles, both **Gillispie** and Shearer are veterans of World War II and proud of their patriotic service.

**Gillispie**, a native of Garrard County, served in the U.S. Third Army under the command of the legendary Gen. George S. Patton Jr. and has the scars of two wounds to show for it.

When the lodge constructed its building on Francis Street, **Gillispie** provided land on his farm to grow tobacco and raise money to finance the project. In addition to farming, **Gillispie** also did construction work.

Shearer, a Navy veteran, served in the Pacific on board the destroyer USS Clarence K. Bronson, which has the distinction of being the ship that rescued future President George H.W. Bush after he was shot down and spent a night in the ocean. The ship went into battle at multiple locations in both the South and North Pacific theaters.

Hawkins said he had known Shearer all his life and especially remembers him often providing a ride to school after he started first grade. Shearer, born in Kirksville, worked 32 years as custodian for Richmond's First Christian Church. He remains a deacon of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Kirksville.

In addition to honoring its two oldest members, the Richmond lodge also delivered fruit baskets to its widows.

*"It was both an honor and a blessing for us to have the opportunity to recognize members such as **Mr. Gillispie** and **Mr. Shearer**, who not only were doing Masonic work on behalf of the community before I was born," Glover said, who is a Madison County sheriff's deputy, "they have been serving as Masons even before my parents were born."*

## 93 Year Old on Harley—Davidson

**Enoch** Gillispie, husband of the late Amie Frances Huguely Gillispie, father of Charley Edward and Albirda Frances Gillispie, born November 24, 1918, in Flatwood, Kentucky (Garrad County), sports a Harley Davidson motorcycle on the family farm in Madison County, Kentucky. **Enoch**, age 93, still resides in the family home and manages to care for himself with the help of caregivers in the community. He misses Amie (his late wife of 56 years); however, he feels God has kept him here for a reason, and he states, *“When the good Lord get’s ready for me I’ll see Amie up yonder”*.

**Enoch** served in the United States Army and served in World War II, during this time span he tells many stories of travels to Europe, Africa, Asia, as things back then were not like they are today. Civil Rights laws were not in effect, “Separate but not equal” did exist. There were separate armed forces, meaning if you were “Black” or African American you had separate eating quarters, sleeping quarters, even the pilots flew separately (note: The Red Tails).



**Enoch** waves his cap to say, *“You’re never too young to try and broaden your horizon to try new things. The Lord has been good to me, and I feel blessed to be as well as I am. Tell all the Huguely kin folks to pray for me ‘cause I don’t know how long I’ll be here. Of course, none of us do until the good Lord get’s ready for you”*.

*Reprinted from Huguely Reunion Newsletter, August 2012*



Standing, from left, past masters Charles Hawkins and Marlon Morris and Worshipful Master Russell Glover of Ashlar Lodge No. 49 of Prince Hall F&A Masons present **Enoch Gillispie**, 95, with a 50-year Masonic pin and certificate.

## Enoch Gillispie Served as a Combat Engineer under General Patton

**E**noch Gillispie grew up on Flatwoods Road in Garrard County, KY and is proud to say he served with the U.S. Army Combat Engineers during WWII under Gen. George S. Patton Jr. In 1938, Gillispie was working for the Civilian Conservation Corps, a Depression-era program intended to employ young men in public improvement projects. With the CCC, he helped build an air base in Elgin, Florida.

When he enlisted in the Army after the war began, Gillispie trained at Fort Dix in New Jersey. Then he was sent for more than six months to Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, where he helped train soldiers to march. One night, when the men were camped out in pup tents, a heavy snow fell. Covered in snow, the tents resembled a graveyard the next morning. The sergeants had to blow whistles to wake the men from the cold and quiet, he recalls.

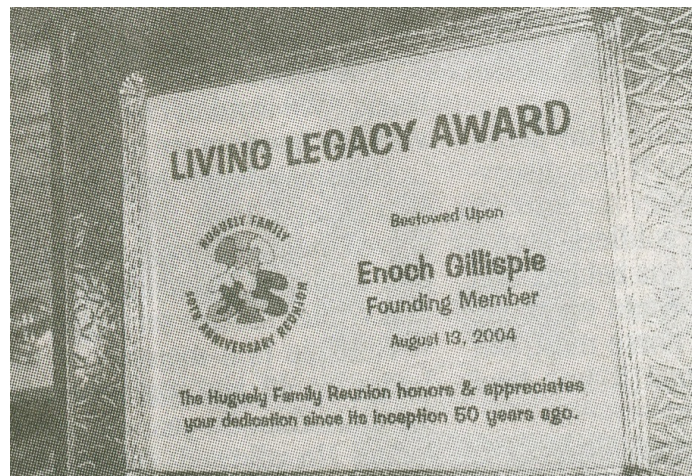
Gillispie was transported to Europe on the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth. However, he remembers one troop transport was torpedoed during the crossing, sinking the ship and killing all the men aboard.

**The Huguely family honored Enoch Gillispie with its Living Legacy Award for his devotion to the family.**

Gillispie's unit served in North Africa, Italy, and Germany and even made its way to Czechoslovakia. Once during their advance, the Germans attempted to prevent the Americans from crossing a river by pouring oil on the water and setting it a fire. After the flames were extinguished, however, the men made their way across.



When his unit ran out of gasoline at the Rhine River, the audacious Patton had some of his men put on police uniforms and seize the fuel for the vehicles. Gillispie's unit had the grim task of burying the victims of a Nazi death camp, digging a mass grave 300 feet long. Jews and other Nazis considered undesirable were loaded onto trucks after being told they were going to work camps, he said. Instead they were taken to camps where they were murdered in gas chambers.



*Enoch Gillispie Served as a Combat Engineer under General Patton continued*

The Army trained **Gillispie** to operate excavating equipment, including bulldozers and steam-powered equipment. On one assignment in France, he was ordered to dig a hole 20 feet wide and 20 feet deep on a farm to bury a crashed Allied airplane so it wouldn't fall into German hands. Useable parts were taken off the plane, and **Gillispie** learned that it was discovered six or seven years after the war. Retreating German soldiers sometimes left their food rations behind, and the American soldiers would eat them. Some of it was labeled horse meat, but the soldiers soon learned it was beef liver. **Gillispie** helped build an air base in Frankfurt, Germany, that is still in use, he said. Part of his job was to construct an earthen bank 100 feet long and 25 feet high to protect fighter planes.

One day, he stopped his bulldozer and paused as he was driving it down a hill. When asked why, he said he stopped because he could hear "my grandmother saying a prayer for me." Later in the war, **Gillispie** was wounded in the lower part of his legs where he still has shrapnel, and was awarded the Purple Heart. He spent more than five years in the service, most of it overseas. Although the war was terrible, he has no regrets about serving his country. If America hasn't helped defeat the Nazis, "We wouldn't be living here today with the freedom we have," he said. **Gillispie's** father had served in World War I, and both his brothers also served their country in the military as he did. **Shelton Gillispie** was in the Army, and **Willie Gillispie** served with the Navy. **Gillispie** is a member of the Ashlar Lodge No. 49, and was honored last year for more than 50 years of service to the lodge. He allowed the lodge to raise tobacco on his land to help finance construction of its building on Francis Street. Although he was trained and experienced in the use of heavy equipment, employers would not hire an African American for that kind of work. So he took a job as a laborer.

**Gillispie** married after leaving the service, and he and his late wife (**Amie**) had two children. His son (**Charley**) lives in Indiana, and his daughter (**Albirta**) in Richmond. He has a grandson (**Chris**) who is a lawyer, and a grand daughter (**Adel**) is a nurse.

Enoch Gillispie in his World War II uniform with his wife Amie.



*Amie Frances & Enoch Gillispie, Jr.*

## Enoch Gillispie, Jr. serving in US Army during World War II



### May I Go

May I Go? May I go now?  
 Do you think the time is right?  
 May I say good-bye to the many  
 Pain-filled days and endless lonely nights?

I've lived my life and done my best,  
 an example I've tried to be,  
 So can I take that final step beyond this life  
 and set my spirit free?

I didn't want to go at first,  
 I fought with all my might.  
 But something seems to draw me now  
 to a warm and loving light.  
 I want to go. I really do.  
 It's difficult to stay.

I tried my best to live just one more day,  
 To give you time to care for me  
 and share your love and fears.  
 I know you're sad and are afraid,  
 Because I saw your tears.

I'll not be far, I promise that,  
 and hope you'll always know  
 that my spirit will be close to you,  
 Wherever you may go.

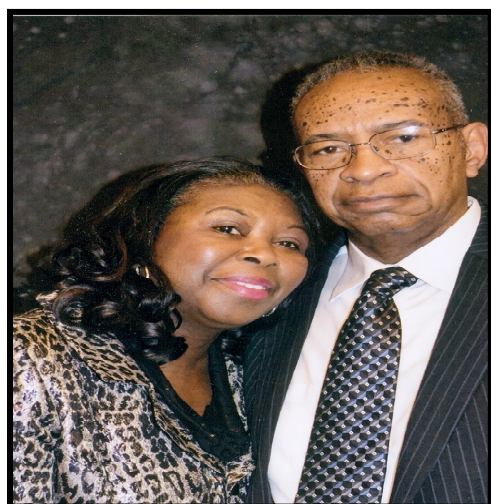
Thank you so for loving me  
 and know that I love you too.  
 That's why it's hard to say goodbye  
 and end this life with you.

So hold me now just one more time  
 and let me hear you say,  
 Because you care so much for me,

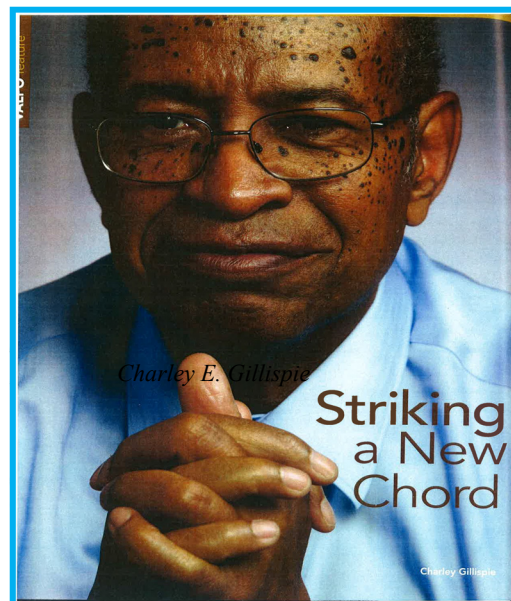
## WE ARE FAMILY—The Gillispie's



*Albirda (Puddin)*



*Delphina (Del) and Charley*



*Charley Edward*



*From L—R Grandson, Attorney Christopher Edwin Hopkins-Gillispie; daughter- in law Dr. Delphina Hopkins-Gillispie; son, Charley Edward Gillispie; and grand daughter Adella Denyse Gillispie*

## *FREE*

*Don't grieve for me, For now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me.*

*I took his hand when I heard his call,  
I turn my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work, or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undo grief.  
Lift up your heart and peace to thee,  
God wanted me now. **He set me free.***

## *The Gillispie Family - Three Generations*



*Albirta (Puddin), Amie, Enoch*



### *A Tribute to Our Grandfather*

*You are not forgotten, loved one,  
Nor will you ever be.  
As long as life and memory last,  
We will remember thee.*

*We will miss you now, our hearts are sore,  
As time goes by, we will miss you more.  
Your loving smile, laughter, gentle face,  
No one can ever fill your place.*

*Grandchildren: Christopher & Adella*

## Amazing Grace

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me,  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my Shield and Portion be,  
As long as life endures.*

*Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.*

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who called me here below,  
Will be forever mine.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.*

*In Loving Memory*

*of*

*Enoch Gillispie, Jr.*

*Our Loved One: Husband, Father, Grandfather,  
Father-in-Law, Community Philanthropist, Caregiver, Solider, Warrior*

*The Best*

*God saw you getting tired*

*And a cure was not to be.*

*So he put His arms around you*

*And whispered "Come to Me".*

*With tearful eyes we watched you,*

*And saw you pass away.*

*Although we loved you dearly,*

*We could not make you stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,*

*Hard working hands at rest.*

*God broke our hearts to prove to us,*

*He only takes the BEST.*



MySpaceGraphics24.com

## PALL BEARERS

Vaughn Gillispie

Lucian Huguely, Jr.

John Shearer

Eddie Tribble

Kenneth Hocker

Michael Runyon, Sr.

Spencer Thomas

James Westenhoefer

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We the family of the late Enoch Gillispie, Jr., acknowledge with deep appreciation the many prayers, comforting messages, floral tributes, and other expressions of kindness shown at this time. When it seemed that our loss was too great to bear, thank God that you, our friends, and loved ones were there to share our loss and Heaven's gain. We also wish to express a sincere thanks to the Kenwood Rehabilitation Center and Hospice staff, nurses, health aides, physical therapists, social workers and ministers, for their dedicated commitment and service over the last few months in caring for "Mr. Enoch Gillispie, Jr." and a special thanks to all his neighbors and friends in Union City, Madison County, KY who provided assistance, friendship, and support in his later years.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Huguely Family Reunion Scholarship Fund (not tax-deductible).

Amie F. Gillispie Memorial

c/o Vicki Mitchell

1173 Briarwood St.

Lexington,

**Services Entrusted to**

Oldham, Roberts, and Powell Funeral Home

1110 Barnes Mill Road

Richmond, Kentucky 40475

(859) 623-2422