

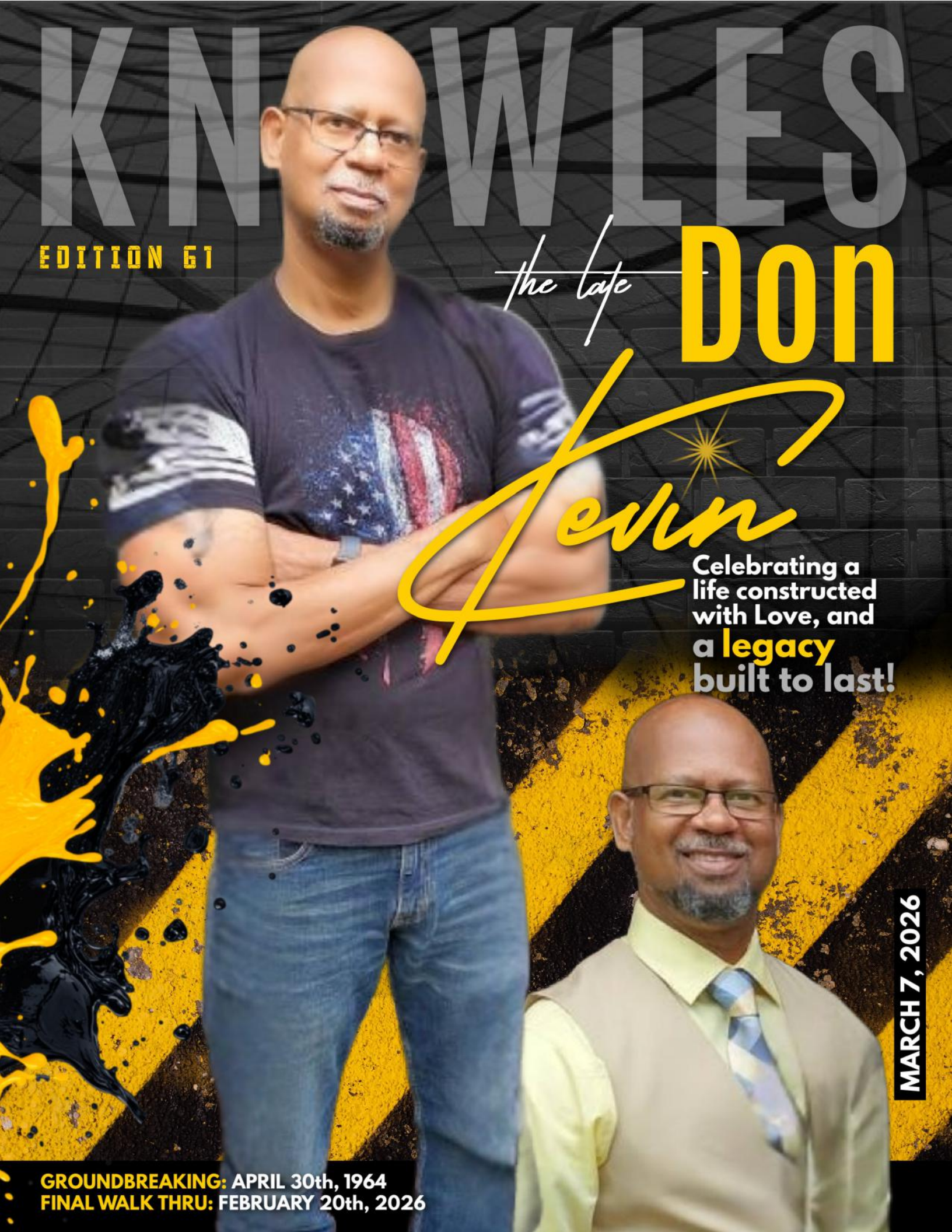
# KNOWLES

EDITION 61

*the life* **Don**

*Kevin*

Celebrating a life constructed with Love, and a **legacy** built to last!



MARCH 7, 2026

**GROUNDBREAKING:** APRIL 30th, 1964  
**FINAL WALK THRU:** FEBRUARY 20th, 2026





Celebrating a life  
constructed with Love,  
and a **legacy** built to last....

*The Life*

**Don**  
*Levin*

**KNOWLES**

1964 - 2026



**Project  
Life:**

## *Obituary*

The life of Don Kevin Knowles was one built with purpose, precision, and love. His story was a blueprint drawn with intention, framed with integrity, and finished with the kind of craftsmanship that stands firm through every season.

Born on April 30, 1964, at Princess Margaret Hospital in Nassau, Bahamas, Kevin was the firstborn of the late Cleophas Knowles Jr. and the late Dorothy Knowles. From the beginning, it was clear that Kevin had a builder's heart and believed every day was an opportunity to improve what stood before him. As the eldest of two children, he grew up in a loving home where the foundation was poured early—faith, family, relentless work ethic, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. These values became the framework of his world: steady, true, and built to last.

Kevin's spiritual foundation was just as strong. He was raised in Kemp Road Ministries (formerly Kemp Road Union Baptist Church), where his grandparents, the late Cleophas and Lucinda Knowles Sr., were founding members. Church was not optional; it was structural. Kevin sang in the Children's and Youth Choirs, served in ministries, and ushered faithfully, following the pattern set by generations before him.

He received his early education at Queen's College, continued at the College of The Bahamas, and expanded his academic footprint across the United States at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan, the University of Alabama Huntsville, and the historic Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, Alabama, where he earned his degree in Civil Engineering. His mind was engineered for problem solving—quick, sharp, and creative—a true architect of ideas.

Upon returning home, Kevin began laying the first professional bricks of his career. He served with distinction at Cox Architectural Firm, later at the Crystal Palace Hotel, and then at the National Insurance Board (NIB), where he oversaw the construction of several clinics throughout The Bahamas. Each project bares his signature hallmarks: excellence, precision, and pride. On every job site and in every season of life, Kevin was the one people trusted to get it right. He never asked anyone to do something he wasn't willing to do himself. He led from the front—hands dirty, boots on, heart all in.

Kevin later met and married the love of his life, Kathy Jarman Knowles, the apple of his eye. Their 32-year union produced two sons, the joy of his life. As a husband, he strengthened the framework of their home with devotion, steadiness, and unwavering love. As a father, he laid deep foundations of wisdom, discipline, joy, and faith, that his sons will stand on for the rest of their lives.

Together, Kevin and Kathy joined the family of Grace Community Church, where Kevin served faithfully in the Men's Ministry, in the choir and on the usher board. He understood that spiritual life requires consistency, humility, and purpose. Through his actions—layer by layer, prayer by prayer—he built a life grounded in faith. Kevin's love for his church was not simply part of his routine—it was the cornerstone of his identity. His faith held him steady and guided his every decision. He lived by the scripture, "Iron sharpeneth iron," forming lifelong bonds in the Men's ministry that strengthened his walk and sharpened his spirit. Kevin believed deeply in being his brother's keeper and was intentional about ensuring that men were spiritually fortified so they could pour into their families with strength and conviction.

Outside of work and ministry, Kevin lived fully and joyfully. He loved a good "smack-talking" game of dominæ, traveling the world,



attending home shows to refine his craft, stretching to maintain health and mobility, and spending time with his family. He was a devoted Junkanoo lover, a longtime judge, and a proud supporter of the Valley Boys. His favorite hymn, "It Is Well With My Soul," reflected the peace he carried even in life's storms.

A defining shift in Kevin's professional blueprint came when his beloved father, "Daddy Cleo," fell ill. Kevin stepped fully into the role of partner and Chief Operating Officer of Knowles & Knowles Construction, carrying forward the legacy, standards, and discipline his father had established. Under Kevin's leadership, the company rose to new heights—always anchored in the principle that Daddy Cleo instilled in every worker: "Do it right the first time."

Kevin often shared how Daddy Cleo would inspect a wall and, if the cinder blocks weren't perfectly level, would knock the entire structure down so it could be rebuilt correctly. For workers paid by the block, the message was unmistakable: excellence was not negotiable. That same uncompromising eye for detail became Kevin's compass. A Knowles Knows—and everyone who worked with him knew it too.

Kevin remained with Knowles & Knowles Construction until relocating with his family to Charlotte, North Carolina, during the COVID 19 pandemic. There, he continued his craft as a business partner and consultant with Vertias Consultants Ltd., still building, still shaping, still contributing.

Kevin's blueprint is now complete. The structure he built—seen and unseen—stands tall and unshakable. He was a Master Contractor, a beloved Husband, Father, Brother, Uncle, and trusted Friend whose workmanship will endure for generations.

He was preceded in death by his Parents, the Late Cleophas Knowles Jr. and Dorothy Knowles.

Left to cherish his life and legacy are: *His Wife:* Kathy Jarman-Knowles; *Sons:* Kristoph and Kameron Knowles; *Sister:* Dawn Karen (Berisford) Forbes; *Sisters in Law:* Cynthia (Anthony) Funderburk and Anya Jarman Davis; *Nieces:* Alyssa Hudson, Christina Davis and Kleo Forbes; *Nephew:* Aaron Funderburk; *Daughter in Love:* Chelsea Williams; *Uncles:* McAllen (Valderine) Knowles, Leslie (Rhonda) Nixon; *Aunts:* Barbara Romer, Sybiline Knowles, Ernestine Williams, Sylvia Nixon, and Pauline King; *Many loving Cousins:* including the Heirs of the late Cleophas and Lucinda Knowles Sr., the Nixon Family; *Friends* to numerous to name Grace Community Church; Pastor Ivan and Dr. Joanne Butler and the Kemp Road Ministries Family; The Kemp Road Community, the Camperdown Community, the staff of Veritas Consultants and the former staff of Knowles & Knowles Construction.

May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory.



# Kev,

# My Sweetie

**Job 23:10 – “But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.”**

My beloved Kevin was truly a gift from God. From the day we met as young sweethearts at Alabama A&M, he loved me with a depth and devotion that shaped every season of my life. His love was not just words, but action - steady, sacrificial, sure, and without hesitation. It was the kind of love that held me up, covered me, and made our home a place of peace. Tears can't begin to express how much I miss you. Every corner of our home holds something you touched, something you fixed, something you built with your own hands. Your craftsmanship wasn't just in wood and nails; it was in the way you loved us, protected us, and shaped our lives with patience.

For 32 years of marriage, Kev, you gave of yourself unselfishly. Even in seasons of sickness, when your body was tired and the road was hard, you carried yourself with the faith of Job—never complaining, never wavering, always trusting God's plan. You endured more than many will ever know, yet you kept your spirit anchored in the Lord until your very last breath.

You taught our two boys everything they needed to know to walk through this life with courage, integrity, and faith. Today, Kristoph and Kameron stand as men shaped by their father's hands, wisdom, and example. They are walking in the legacy you have laid out for them, step by step, beam by beam.

You were my partner, my protector, my laughter, my safe place, and my forever love. To our sons, you were their guide and their hero and a living testimony of God's faithfulness. Though my heart is broken, I am grateful. Grateful for every year, every memory, every prayer, every lesson, and every moment we shared. Although your final project on this earth is complete, the structure you built—our family, our love, our faith—will stand strong for generations.

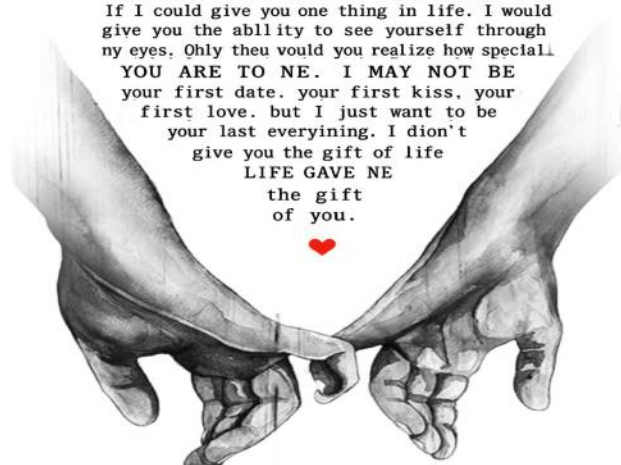
Until we meet again, my love. Your work here is done, and you have finished well.

Kathy

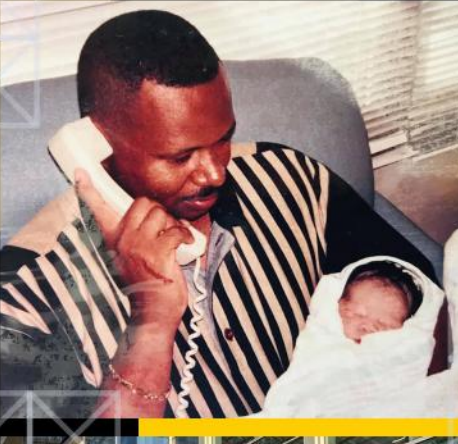
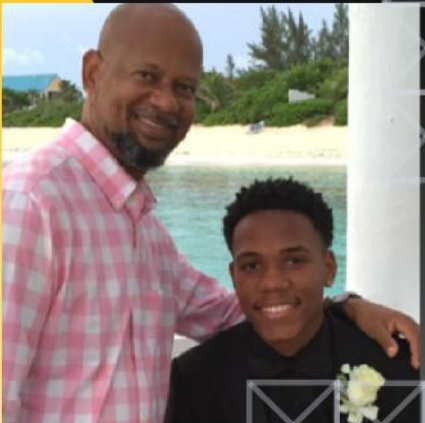


## We're a Team

Never I LOVE YOU. I wish I could turn back the clock. SOONER AND LOVE YOU LONGER. If I could give you one thing in life. I would give you the ability to see yourself through my eyes. Only then would you realize how special YOU ARE TO ME. I MAY NOT BE your first date. your first kiss, your first love. but I just want to be your last everything. I didn't give you the gift of life LIFE GAVE ME the gift of you.









# Kevie,

# My big Brother

**“You have fought a good fight, You have finished the course, You have kept the faith.” — 2 Timothy 4:7**

You were my first friend, my lifelong protector, and the one person who always understood me without explanation. It was just the two of us, and from childhood on, we walked through life side by side. The foundation our parents, the late Cleophas and Dorothy Knowles Jr. laid for us—faith, family, and love, held us together and guided the kind of brother and sister we grew to be. We shared more giggles than we should have—especially when we were supposed to be serious. No matter how grown we became, we still found ourselves laughing like those same two kids who were always slacking off together.

We learned early what it meant to serve. Growing up in church with our parents, standing as ushers, we learned protocol, order, and reverence. Those lessons stayed with us. You carried them with you in everything you did—with humility, strength, and quiet leadership.

As adults, we covered each other in prayer, covered each other's spouses and children, and stayed connected in a way only siblings raised on a strong foundation can. You were there for me, Kevie, in every way that mattered. You were a shining example of perseverance. And thank you for pushing me to reach my personal and professional goals—you believed in me unconditionally.

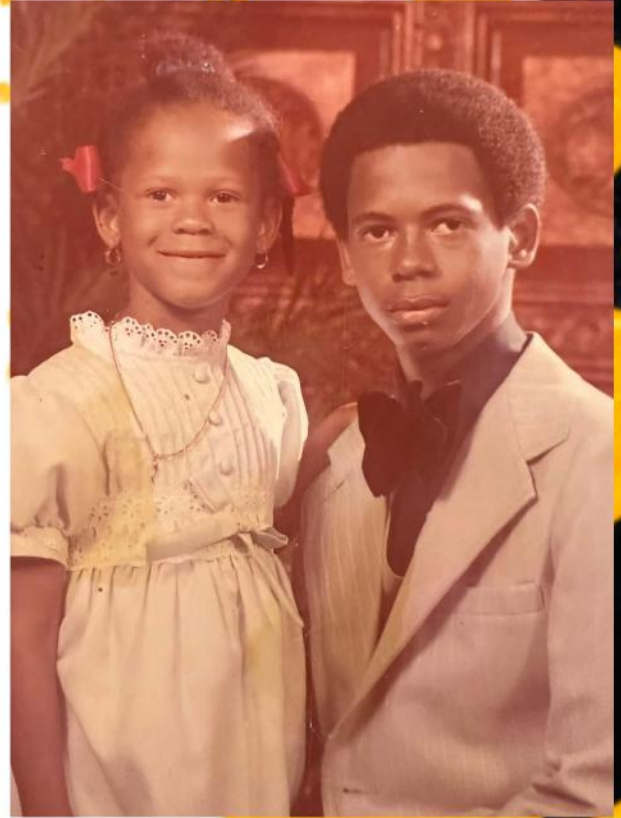
Your work ethic was unmatched. You believed in doing things right, doing them well, and doing them with integrity. Whether you were building something with your hands or building someone up with your words, you gave your best. You were a strong brother to me, a loving uncle, and a man whose presence brought comfort and peace.

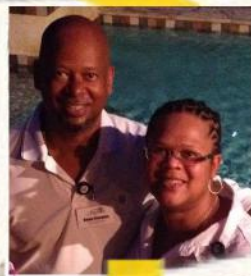
Thank you, Kevie—for everything you poured into me. For loving me, protecting me, praying with me, laughing with me, and walking beside me through every chapter of our lives. Thank you for being the brother every sister dreams of and the steady place my heart could always return to.

A million times I will miss you; a million times we will cry. It broke my heart to lose you, but you didn't go alone. You went to be with the Lord. Your body is healed, and you are resting with the Master.

Kevie, I'll carry you forever.  
I will always love you this much!!

*"Kay"*





Celebrating a life constructed with Love,  
and a legacy built to last.

Remembering the Late,

*Don Kevin Knowles*

Groundbreaking: April 30th, 1964 | Final Walk-Thru: February 20th, 2026

Age 61

**MODERATOR | Pastor Stewart Kelly**, Associate Pastor, Grace Community Church

**ENTRANCE OF THE FAMILY & WORDS OF COMFORT | Pastor Stewart Kelly**

**HYMNS OF ADORATION | Congregation**

"I Will Bless The Lord At All Times" - Joe Pace

Additional lyrics by Pastor Leroy Tinkle Hanna

I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good!  
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good!  
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good!  
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good!

*He's good, so good, real good,  
Each and every day of my life  
I'll bless the Lord for He's good!*

I will sing His praise for evermore, for He's good!  
I will sing His praise for evermore, for He's good!

*He's Great, He shines, He's wonderful,  
Oh my Saviour He is so kind  
I'll sing His Praises, for He's Good!*

I will tell the world that Jesus Saves, for He's good  
He has victory over sin and the grave, yes, He's good!  
Bring the sorrows that trouble your soul, for He's good!  
You'll see His mercy, grace and power unfold,  
For He's good!

*His love, His care, removes, all fear  
There is nothing I cannot bear  
I'll Bless the Lord, for He's good!*

Chant:

*I will bless the Lord, I will bless the Lord  
I will bless the Lord, I will bless the Lord  
I will bless the Lord at all times, for He's good!*

# ORDER OF SERVICE





**HYMNS OF ADORATION cont. | Congregation**

**"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

Additional lyrics by Pastor Leroy Tinkle Hanna

*Verse 1:*

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not  
As thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

*Verse 2:*

Summer and winter, springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

**Chorus:**

*Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me*

*Verse 3:*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

*Verse 4:*

Now face to face with my Lord and Redeemer  
Now in the presence where grace floweth free  
Jesus my Saviour is there with a welcome  
Arms opened wide to receive me

*Chorus*

**INVOCATION | Elder Andy Knowles, Grace Community Church**

**RESPONSE | Congregation**

**"Total Praise"**

GCC Praise Team featuring Dion Turnquest

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills  
Knowing my help is coming from You  
Your peace, You give me  
In time of the storm  
You are the source of my strength  
You are the strength of my life  
I lift my hands in total praise to You

You are the source of my strength  
You are the strength of my life  
I lift my hands in total praise to You

*Amen, Amen,  
Amen  
Amen, Amen,  
Amen  
Amen, Amen!*



*cont.*  
**ORDER OF SERVICE**



/// **Celebrating a life constructed with Love, and a legacy built to last.**

**OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE** | Miss. Kleo Forbes, Niece  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

**MUSICAL SELECTION** | Just Grace Choir

**A SON'S TRIBUTE** | Mr. Kameron Knowles, Son

**NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE** | Mr. John Michael Clarke  
Partner, Veritas Consultants Ltd.  
1 Corinthians 3:10-14

**HYMN** | Congregation

**"Getting Ready to Leave This World"**

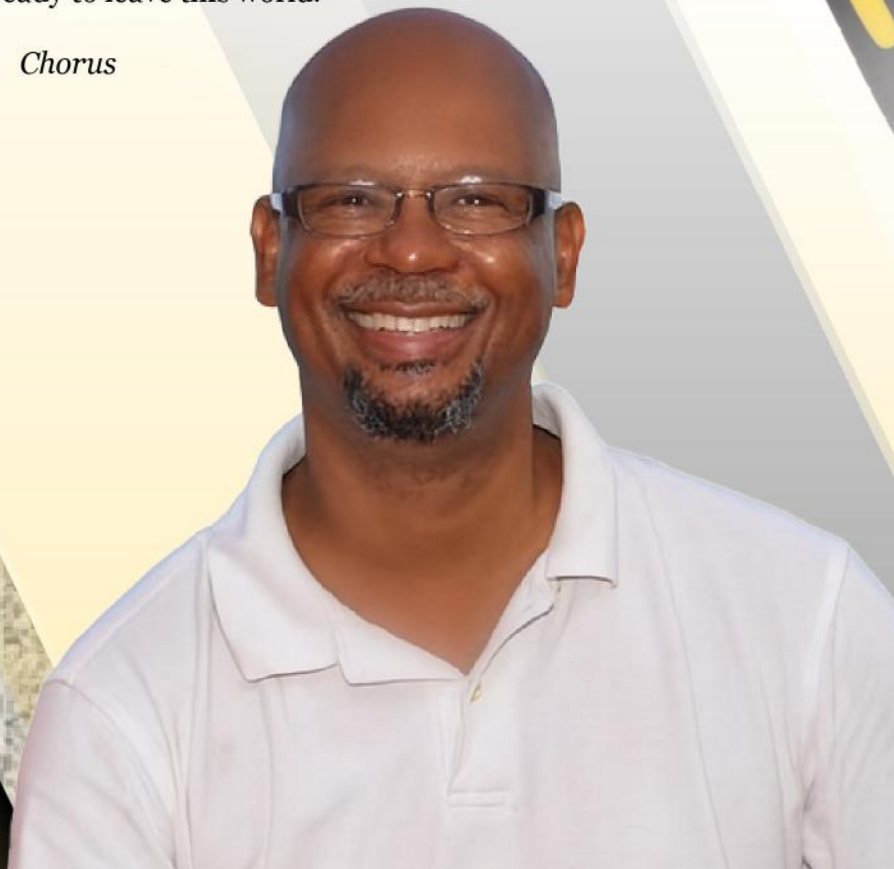
Laying up my treasures in that home above  
Trusting, fully trusting in the Savior's love  
Doing what I can for heaven's Holy Dove  
I'm a getting ready to leave this world

**Chorus**

*I'm getting ready to leave this world,  
Getting ready for gates of pearl;  
Keeping my record bright  
Watching, both day and night  
I'm getting ready to leave this world.*

Trusting in the riches of His saving grace,  
In each earthly trial I His love can trace.  
Sure that up in heaven I shall find a place,  
I'm a getting ready to leave this world.

*Chorus*





*cont.*

# ORDER OF SERVICE



## **HYMN | Congregation**

### "Just Over In the Glory Land"

#### Verse 1

I've a home prepared  
where the saints abide  
Just over in the gloryland  
And I long to be  
by my Savior's side  
Just over in the gloryland

#### Chorus

Just over in the gloryland  
I'll join the happy angel band  
Just over in the gloryland  
Just over in the gloryland  
There with the mighty host I'll stand  
Just over in the gloryland

#### Verse 2

I am on my way  
to those mansions fair  
Just over in the gloryland  
There to sing God's praise  
and His glory share  
Just over in the gloryland

#### Verse 3

What a joyful thought  
that my Lord I'll see  
Just over in the gloryland  
And with kindred saved  
there forever be  
Just over in the gloryland

#### Verse 4

With the bloodwashed throng  
I will shout and sing  
Just over in the gloryland  
Glad hosannas to Christ  
the Lord and King  
Just over in the gloryland

#### Chorus

## *Moments to Remember*

### **VIDEO TRIBUTE**

**A COUSIN'S TRIBUTE | Mrs. Donella Johnson**  
First Lady, Community Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee

**MUSICAL TRIBUTE | GCC Praise Team**

**SERMON | Senior Pastor Lyall Bethel, Grace Community Church**

**PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY | Elder Greg Williams, Grace Community Church**

**PRAYER OF COMMITMENT | Senior Pastor Lyall Bethel, Grace Community Church**

**RECESSIONAL | Congregation**

**"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

**Chorus**

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

Though Satan should buffet  
though 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

My sin, oh, the bliss  
of this glorious thought  
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 resound  
and the Lord shall descend  
"Even so," it is well with my soul



**a legacy built to last...**







*Don*  
**KEVIN**  
Rest In Peace

# His blueprint lives on in us

ALWAYS IN  
OUR HEARTS!



*Signature*  
creations

Memorial keepsake lovingly  
constructed by cousin, Donella Johnson  
[www.SignatureCreations.net](http://www.SignatureCreations.net)



Thank you for every prayer, every call, every embrace, every helping hand, and every gesture of support. Your presence have helped us rebuild our strength, and we are forever grateful for your kindness as we carry Kevin's legacy forward.  
**Kathy, Kristoph and Kameron Knowles**



LEVEL YOUR PHONE AND  
**SCAN ME**  
TO VIEW THE DIGITAL BOOKLET