

To Those I Love & To Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me, let me go,
 I have so many things to see and do,
 You must not tie yourself to me with tears,
 Just be happy that we had so many years.
 I gave you my love, you can only guess
 How much you gave me in happiness.
 I thank you for the love you each have shown,
 But now it's time I travel alone.
 It's only for a while that we must part,
 So bless the memories within your heart.
 I won't be far away, for life goes on,
 So if you need me, call and I will come
 Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near,
 And if you listen with your heart, you will hear
 All of my love around you soft and clear,
 And then, when you come this way alone,
 I'll greet you with a smile and say,
 "Welcome Home!"

Family Acknowledgment

We the family of the late *Sylvester M. Owens* acknowledge with the deepest of appreciation your many expressions of sympathy and love. Your personal visits, phone calls and many expressions of condolences, love and concern as evidenced through your guidance and prayers during our trying hours, as well as your many comforting words that have brightened our days. For your help received in so many ways, we thank you sincerely and pray God's richest blessing upon each of you. A more formal acknowledgment will be forthcoming at a later date.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:

E. F. Boyd & Son Funeral Home
 2165 East 89th Street • Cleveland, Ohio 44106
 216.791.0770

Order of Service

- Organ Prelude
- Processional The Family
- Prayer Rev. Gerald Cooper
- Scripture Rev. Gerald Cooper
- Selection
- Remarks
- Obituary
- Selection
- Eulogy Rev. Gerald Cooper
- Recessional

INTERMENT

Highland Park Cemetery

*The family will be pleased to receive friends at the church.
 A reception will follow the service.*

HOME GOING CELEBRATION
FOR

Sylvester M. Owens

SUNRISE
April 24, 1909

SUNSET
June 19, 2005



Friday, July 1, 2005
 Memorial Service: 2:00 P.M.

ST. JAMES A.M.E. CHURCH
 8403 Cedar Avenue
 Cleveland, Ohio

REV. GERALD COOPER, OFFICIATING

Obituary

SylVESTER MICHAEL OWENS, age 96, departed this life Sunday, June 19th at 12:10 on Father's Day. Sylvester was born on April 24, 1909, in Oakville, Alabama, to Cleveland and Emma Mary Alexander Owens.

His family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, when Sylvester was nine years old. He was the ninth child of 10; brother to the late famous U.S. Olympic champion track star Jesse Owens.

Sylvester married Julia Russell in 1934, who passed away May 22, 1990. He was a member of St. James A.M.E. Church for over 50 years. Sylvester was very active and was a member of Karamu Camera Club, the Lion Club and the Arrow Club. He was a Licensed Stationary Engineer, and was the Custodian at Wade Park Elementary School from 1960-1961.

Sylvester joined his brother Jesse Owens, his wife Ruth, and their three daughters, Gloria, Beverly and Marlene in attending a dedication for Jesse at Memorial Park & Museum located in Lawrence County, Oakville, Alabama.

After Julia's death, Sylvester reunited with an old classmate and friend of 50 years, Frances Stephens. They enjoyed traveling to Jerusalem, Africa, Europe, Canada, Chicago, and shared many other adventures, until his health began to fail at his residence at Watergate Apartments on Lakeshore in 2000.

He was lovingly cared for by Mrs. Stephens at her residence in Mayfield Heights, until he expired; a devoted friend for over 65 years, she will mourn his passing. His dear niece Judy of California; nephews, John of California and Edward of Boston; and three nieces in Chicago survived Sylvester.

Humbly Submitted,
 ~The Family