

In Loving Memory

Of

*George Phillip Fleming, Jr.*

*Sunrise*  
May 27, 1913

*Sunset*  
July 21, 1997



*Services Held From:*

**McGee Avenue Baptist Church**  
*1640 Stuart Street*  
*Berkeley, California*

**Friday, July 25, 1997**  
**Twelve O'clock p.m.**

*Officiating*

**Pastor D. Mark Wilson**

## Obituary Of

### George Phillip Fleming, Jr.

May 27, 1913 - July 21, 1997

In New Orleans, Louisiana, May 27, 1913, George and Cora Fleming presented to the world their first son, George Phillip Fleming. He was the third child of George and Cora and later became one of the six Fleming children who were; Nan Earl, known as Aunt Matsi, Sing, George, Raymond, Joe and Earl.

George was musically inclined. He loved song and instruments, especially the trumpet. At the age of ten he played the bugle with the New Orleans Tribune Drum and Bugle Corps. In 1933, he traveled up and down the Mississippi on the Steamer Catalpa playing the trumpet with the Spulney Desvigne Orchestra. During this period he also played with A. J. Piron, Papa Celestine, Fate Marable and Joe Robichaux. It was well known, at a young age during his musical journeys and playing his trumpet for an occupation, that George would faithfully obligate himself to help financially the bread winner of the Fleming family, his father.

In the late '30's he settled in the San Francisco Bay Area and he had fond memories of Sweets Ballroom. It was in the Bay Area that he was introduced to Elinor Cole of Berkeley, California by his sister, Matsi, and Elinor's sister, Erika. Elinor became his loving wife on February 15, 1942. To this union was given, by God, a healthy baby boy, Dennis George Fleming.

George could point out the sights of almost every ballroom and jazz club in the history of Bay Area music. He was a member of Musicians local No. 6 and remained active in the union until his passing. For his eightieth birthday, George was honored with a CD, "Still Blowing". In the past 20 to 25 years he had played for many special events and extravaganzas such as; Ebony Fashion Fair Shows, Raider Football games, Oakland A's Baseball games, Sweets Ballroom, etc. He had another career as a machinist working for the Caterpillar Tractor Company in San Leandro, California. He retired after thirty-six years of service.

Besides being a loving husband, George was a loving father, grandfather, uncle, and a believer in Christ. For many years he was a member of the McGee Avenue Baptist Church in Berkeley, California. In April of 1997, Papa George became very ill and was called to rest on Monday, July 21, 1997.

Left to bereave George, also known as, Bud, Dad, Papa, Uncle George and Grandpa, are his beloved wife: Elinor, known as Mimi; son: Dennis; five grandchildren: Alicia Daniels, Mark Swagerty, Dennis Fleming II, Rodrick Fleming and Cherise Fleming; two great grandchildren: Kendra Daniels and Mark Swagerty Jr.; great great grandchild: Krizlah Daniels; two brothers: Joe Fleming and Earl Fleming of Oakland, California; a host of nieces, nephews, friends and sixty-eight other beloved children who were accepted in their home and raised by George and his wife, Elinor.



## Order Of Service For

### George Phillip Fleming, Jr.

Friday, July 25, 1997 - Twelve O'clock p.m.

Organ Prelude

Processional

Hymn "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" #340

Scripture Minister Dr. Frankie Moore

Old Testament: Psalm 91

New Testament: Romans 8:27-30

Prayer Pastor Bobby Mitchell  
Market Street Seventh Day Adventist Church

Obituary Marilyn Willis

Trumpet Solo "Its A Wonderful World" Mal Sharpe

Acknowledgments Marilyn Willis

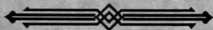
Remarks Pastor Bobby Mitchell

Vocal Selection Eva Sweet

Eulogy Pastor D. Mark Wilson  
McGee Avenue Baptist Church

Prayer of Thanksgiving Pastor D. Mark Wilson

Recessional



Interment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park  
Richmond, California