

Funeral Service

For

Clark Anthony

Friday, June 13th , 2008

16:00 PM at the Apollo Cemetery

Minister's Introduction *Graylin Ross:*

Dear Friends, in this sacred grove on this day made blessed we pause briefly to gather in loving presence to honor, celebrate and give great thanks for the life of our departed beloved friend, Clark Anthony.

We here now give thanks to this man, we pour forth our gratitude to this brother, husband, laborer and worthy comrade to us all.

May we now respectfully stand in prolonged silent presence.

Minister's Comment *Graylin Ross:*

Although it was lived largely in the quiet and private manner that was his nature, Clark's life has touched us all profoundly.

His passing has pierced each of us and thus momentarily parted this veil of life allowing another fleeting glimpse of that which we seek to be truest, and most enduring.

Let us be reminded that the Gods have also granted to each of us lives of only a certain length and opportunity...numbered breaths to return the divine embrace.

Eulogy Roger Shelton:

Dear Clark, our valued friend, fellow student and much loved husband of Merlyn. We are here today to celebrate your life and all you have shared with us.

Clark was a member of the fellowship for XX years. During that time he became an avid wine enthusiast through his work at the winery. He also worked for a number of years in the Fellowship office using his expertise on computers to improve our administration. But perhaps most of us remember mostly his great love for plants and creating beautiful landscapes. Any visitor to the Anthony's home would be stunned by the architectural transformation of the former "Blake Cottage", the beautiful Asian landscape complete with bridges, ponds and a unique collection of trees and plants. Both Clark and Merlyn became experts in the care of Bonsai's, looking after the Fellowship collection for years.

Clark was a tireless contributor to the community, in many invisible ways not easily discovered by others. In a similar manner, his many hidden talents, his intelligence, discipline and many kindnesses were known mostly to his friends. His love of music, of Asian art and sailing are but a few of his many interests.

But most of all Clark was a student. Throughout the years, his reliable responsiveness and kindness when asked for help in areas both large and small, even when inconvenient was a well known characteristic of Clark. His willingness to "hold to the difficult," and to cultivate intentional, subtle, and often invisible efforts; His positive attitude and his ability to avoid the expression of negativity were an inspiration to us all.

And above all,

We thank Clark for his courage, strength, and internal work in accepting and transforming, even when faced with the sudden and unexpected play of his own death—without expressing negativity. No anger, self-pity, or injustice 'I's

were prominent—but primarily we saw the gratitude for this School, our Teacher, and the friendships he shared, most especially over the past six months. Both he and Merlyn set examples for a high standard of transformation.

We are touched and grateful for the friendship we shared with Clark. We thank you Clark.

Poetry *Rebecca George:*
St. Catherine of Siena:

*We work so hard to fly
And no matter what heights we reach,
Our wings get folded near a candle at the end.
For nothing can God enter but Himself.
Our souls are some glorious substance of the divine that no sentry wants to stop.
Live without thought of dying,
for dying is not a truth.
We have swayed on the sky's limb together.
This life He gave the shell, the daily struggles we know.
Sit quiet for a minute, dear friend.
Feel the wind.
Let Light touch you.
Live without thought of dying,
For dying is not a truth.*

Music *Sharon Shelton:*
Spiritual: "Glory".

Minister's reading:

In Psalm 90 it is written:
We spend our years as a tale that is told.
The days of our years are threescore years and ten;
And if by reason of strength they be fourscore years,
Yet is their length labor and sorrow;
For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
So teach us to number our days,
That we may apply our hearts unto wisdom...

Minister:

Dear Friends, at this time we invite everyone, who wishes to proceed with us to the grave site to complete our final farewell to Clark.

Pallbearer: John Mager carries the urn from the gazebo to the grave site.

At the grave site:

Minister:

Jesus said: the heavens and the earth will be rolled up in your presence, and he who lives on the Living One shall see neither death nor fear because whoever finds himself, of him this world is not worthy.

Burial: John Mager comes forward, Brian Anthony (Clark's brother) receives the urn from John and proceeds to lower it into the grave.

Minister:

Ecclesiastes: "and the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living Soul."

(continuing as the urn is lowered)

Genesis: " then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the Spirit shall return onto God who gave it."

(spread rose petals over grave)

Reading: Robert George, Walt Whitman: "Quicksand years"

QUICKSAND years that whirl me I know not whither,
Your schemes, politics, fail, lines give way, substances mock and elude me,

Only the theme I sing, the great and strong-possess'd soul, eludes not,

One's-self must never give way - that is the final substance - that out of all is sure,

Out of politics, triumphs, battles, life, what at last finally remains?

When shows break up what but One's-Self is sure?

Minister's Conclusion *Graylin Ross:*

Dearest Clark, unceasingly we thank you for your determined and Unfaltering love of the Gods, your School, your Teacher your family and all of your fellow students.

It is for us now to continue in this work we all have begun and follow it to its conclusion. With this in mind Clark we tenderly Release you.

Let us go mindful of the Gods and our departed friends, returning to the Present, while yet we may.

Thank you.

(Spreading of Rose Petals.)