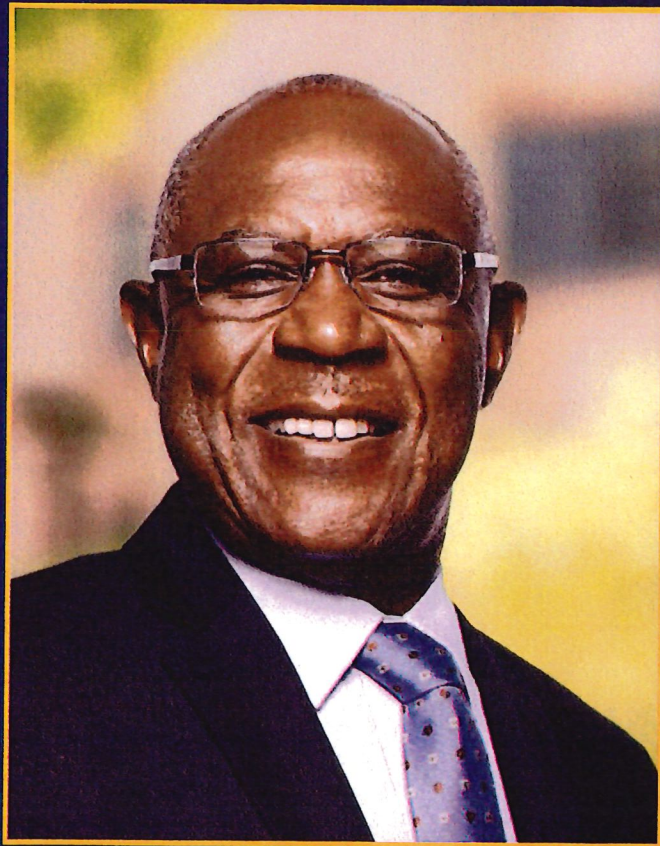


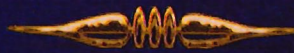
# *Celebration of Life*



## *Frank McClellan*



February 5, 1945 - December 2, 2023



### **SERVICE**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023 — 11:00 A.M.**

**VIEWING: 9:00 A.M. — RITUALS: 9:30 A.M.**

### **MOTHER BETHEL AME CHURCH**

419 South 6th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147

### **OFFICIANT**

Reverend Mark Tyler, Ph.D.

# Order of Service

The viewing will start at 9 am. There will be ceremonies starting at 9:30 by the Link Connects, Boule, and Omega Psi Phi. The service will then start at 11am.



PROCESSION .....Clergy and Family

FINAL VIEWING

PRAYER - "The Lord's Prayer" ..... Glenn Bryan

SCRIPTURE LESSON - St. John 14:1-6, 27 ..... Bishop Robert Cox

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & RESOLUTIONS .....Carl Singley

HYMN OF COMFORT - "I Won't Complain" ..... Justin Griggs

WORDS OF COMFORT ..... Carl Cooper

Ronda Goldfein

Emmanuel O. Iheukwumere

Dr. Jimmy Wood

James Haddon

Linda McClellan

Cara McClellan

SELECTION - "Dance with My Father" ..... Justin Griggs

THE OBITUARY ..... Thomas McGill

EULOGY ..... Rev. Mark Tyler

SELECTION - "How Great Thou Art" ..... Sharon Gray Dixon

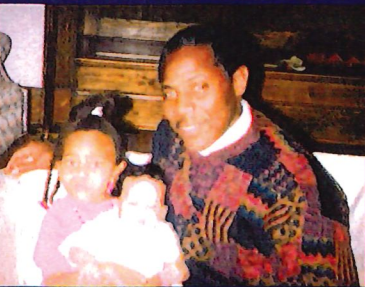
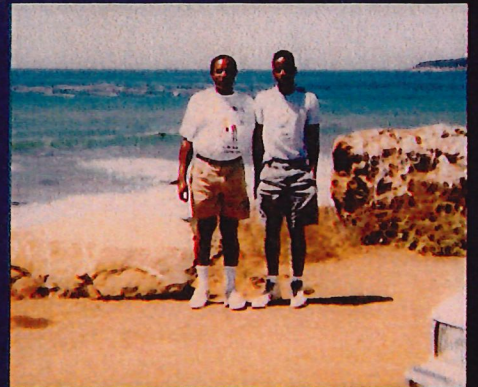
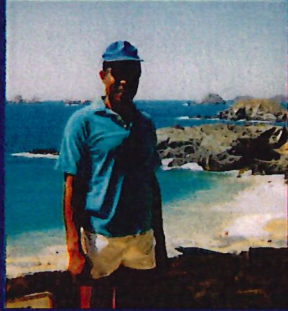
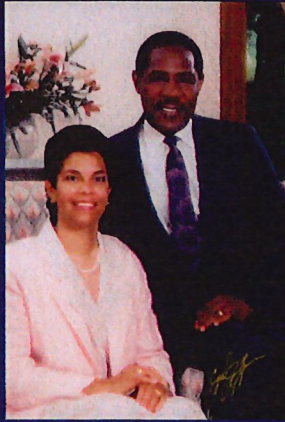
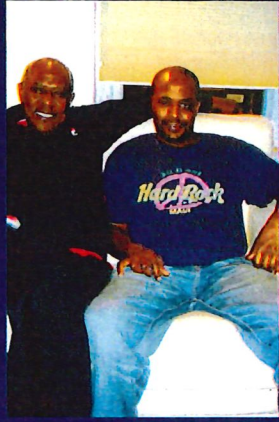
BENEDICTION

RECESSION

INTERMENT

Laurel Hill West Cemetery

Bala Cynwyd, PA



## *Frank McClellan — His Journey*

Frank Madison McClellan, Esquire, transitioned on December 2, 2023, in his Philadelphia home surrounded by his family after a battle with cancer and heart disease. He was 78 years old. He is survived by his wife Phoebe A. Haddon, Esquire, his sons Malik McClellan and partner Virginiann Vigliotta (Pittsburgh, PA), Toussaint McClellan and wife Gabrielle McClellan (Jersey City, NJ), and their mother, his former wife, Linda McClellan (Pittsburgh, PA), his daughter Cara McClellan, Esquire and husband Anton Robinson, Esquire (Philadelphia, PA), his two grandchildren Linda McClellan (Boston, MA) and Marcellus McClellan (Jersey City, NJ), his sister Ruth Cox (Pittsburgh, PA), his brother-in-law James Haddon (New York, NY), and his nieces and nephews, including Bishop Robert Cox (Hamden, CT), Althea Cox (Pittsburgh, PA), Gracie McClellan III (McKeesport, PA), Roxanna Williams (Virginia), Sean Corey McClellan, Frank McClellan (McKeesport, PA), John McClellan (Maryland), Carla McClellan (Clariton, PA), Dr. Madeleine Haddon, PhD and husband Adam Brunk, Esquire (London, UK), and James Douglas (JD) Haddon (New York, NY).

Frank was born in Marion County, South Carolina (now Dillon County) on February 5, 1945, to Gracie and Lucinda Richardson. As part of the great migration, his family moved to Pittsburgh where his mother, a homemaker, raised Frank and his two siblings, Gracie McClellan (deceased) and Ruth (McClellan) Cox. His father worked two jobs as a steelworker and owner of a barbershop. Frank often credited his parents with instilling in him from an early age a work ethic and the importance of respect.

Frank attended public schools in the 1950's and 1960's and was part of the first generation to attend racially desegregated schools. He graduated from the George Westinghouse High School in 1963. He was known to his friends as a star football player and for his academic excellence, which earned him a scholarship to Rutgers College in New Brunswick, NJ. While at Rutgers, he helped to form the Student African American Society, and served as the first president of that organization. He graduated from Rutgers in 1967 and went on to earn his J.D. degree from Duquesne University School of Law in 1970, where he was an editor on the law review and received a merit award for academic excellence for his writing. He was the only student of color in his law class at Duquesne, which motivated him to work with students in other schools to form the first Black Student Union at Duquesne. He later served as the first president of that organization.

Upon graduation from law school, Frank began his legal career as a law clerk for The Honorable William H. Hastie, Chief Judge of the Third Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, who was the first Black federal judge and federal appellate judge in the country. There is no doubt Hastie's activism as a fierce civil rights lawyer and respected jurist had an influence on Frank as a young lawyer. Frank later joined the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering (now WilmerHale) in Washington, DC as an associate.

In 1972, Frank returned home to Pittsburgh where he began his teaching career at Duquesne University Law School. He was promoted to full professor with tenure and remained on the Duquesne faculty until 1981 when he moved to Philadelphia and joined the law faculty of Temple University (now Beasley School of Law). A professor at Temple for over three decades, he taught courses on Torts, Remedies, and Medical Malpractice. He also enjoyed a distinguished joint appointment at the Temple School of Medicine as well as at the Center for Urban Bioethics. Frank has also taught comparative and healthcare law in Ghana, Greece, Japan, South Africa, China, and Cuba. During his career, Frank held endowed chairs at several other universities.

In 1973, Frank was one of two Black graduate students accepted into the Yale Law School LL.M. program. Fellow student Carl Singley, Esquire (Philadelphia, PA), fondly remembers meeting Frank who became his longtime

colleague and friend. He recalls that Frank excelled at Yale receiving honors in all of the graduate courses, but says that he was at the same time, "humble, never forgetting where he came from." Frank earned an LL.M. degree in 1974 and was awarded the prestigious Felix S. Cohen Prize in jurisprudence.

Frank was a prolific writer, authoring numerous articles and books, including a casebook on tort law that he co-authored and Medical Malpractice: Law, Tactics and Ethics in 1995. In 2019, he wrote what he believed was his most important work based on his vast life experiences, and his success as a medical malpractice lawyer and law professor, Healthcare and Human Dignity: Law Matters, for which he credited his wife Phoebe for her advice, feedback, and support. He concluded, "I could not have continued working on this book for over five years without her encouragement and love."

As an attorney specializing in medical malpractice and product liability, Frank served as the managing partner of Eaton & McClellan, a law firm that he established with his longtime friend and partner, Allen Eaton, from 1989 to 2011. He represented patients in hundreds of cases, litigating more than 20 complex medical malpractice and product liability cases to verdict, and arguing numerous appeals before federal and state appellate courts. He was also an active member of the American Law Institute and the American Board of Trial Advocates. Throughout his career, he maintained close relationships with many of his clients who often came from communities that have traditionally not had access to legal representation. Central to his work was his belief that access to healthcare is a matter of human dignity and that every person should have autonomy over their body in making medical decisions.

Frank served as a member of the Board of Directors of The Aids Law Project of Pa., To Our Children's Future with Health, Inc, and the national steering committee of Movement is Life. He is also a former member of the National Institutes of Health, Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the Board of Directors of Philadelphia Fight. He cared deeply about the social justice missions of these organizations and worked tirelessly to advocate for eliminating racial disparities in health care.

Frank was an active participant in a number of social and service organizations, including Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi Alpha Boule, and the Guardsmen. He valued quality time with friends and was fortunate to have many loyal "brothers" and adopted family in Philadelphia and in Martha's Vineyard where he spent his summers. To his friends, he was known for his lifelong love of sports, especially tennis and golf, and for his competitive spirit. He enjoyed music and good times with his friends and family and was often seen on the dance floor with Phoebe.

Frank was devoted to his children and to his wife Phoebe, who he considered his best friend. For over two decades, they had offices next door to each other at Temple and their constant conversation moved seamlessly from law and policy, to travel, to dinner that night—especially once Frank became an expert cook. They enjoyed traveling together and made the decision to teach and live abroad through Temple's programs in Ghana and Japan. They will forever be each other's favorite co-authors and yoga partners. Frank also had a unique bond with each of his children and grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, who always knew that he was available for advice, with the understanding that no topic was off limits and that he would be a trusted confidant.

Frank is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions—among them awards for his excellent scholarship and teaching, the Special Recognition Award by the Legal Clinic for the Disabled (LCD) for his "extraordinary commitment to the disability community," the lifetime achievement award from the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance, and most recently the Augustus A. White III Institute Humanitarian Award. Throughout his career, he was known as a generous colleague and mentor, forming friendships across generations.



*I look at the world*

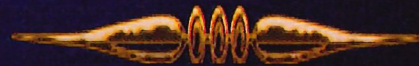
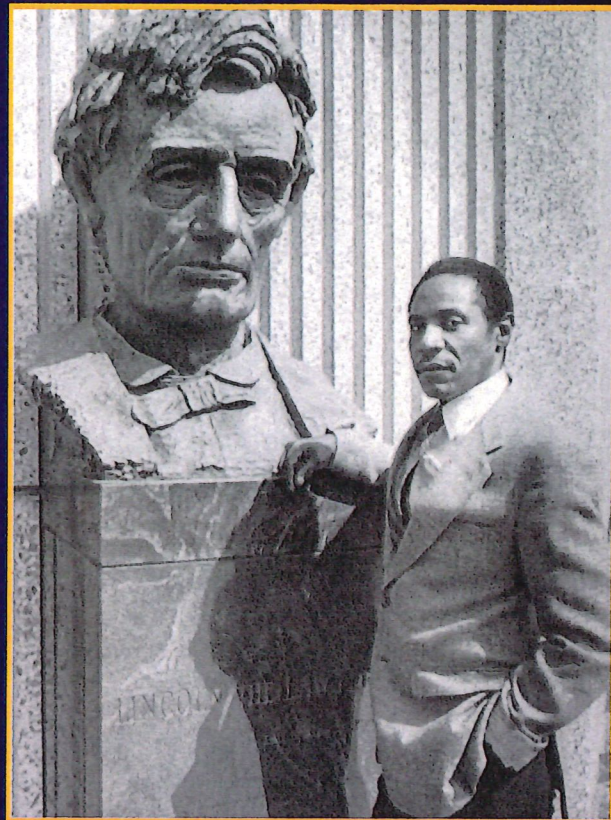
By Langston Hughes



I look at the world  
From awakening eyes in a black face—  
And this is what I see:  
This fenced-off narrow space  
Assigned to me.

I look then at the silly walls  
Through dark eyes in a dark face—  
And this is what I know:  
That all these walls oppression builds  
Will have to go!

I look at my own body  
With eyes no longer blind—  
And I see that my own hands can make  
The world that's in my mind.  
Then let us hurry, comrades,  
The road to find.



# *Pallbearers*

Bishop Robert Cox  
J. D. Haddon  
Jimmy Haddon  
Malik McClellan  
Toussaint McClellan  
Joey Mondesire



## *Acknowledgement*

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern, and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement. We are very grateful for all of the cards and gifts that have been shared. The family would like to thank in particular Aretha Marshall, Charisse Lillie, Tom McGill, James Haddon, Dr. Jimmy Wood and a host of other friends for their care and support during this difficult time. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that charitable donations be made to the AIDS Law Project or the Frank M. McClellan Memorial Scholarship Fund.

May God bless you and keep you.

*The Family*



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Gregory T. Burrell  
Supervisor/President/CEO