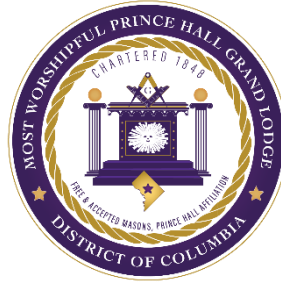


Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge

Free and Accepted Masons, Prince Hall Affiliated
District of Columbia, Incorporated



GLENN N. RUFFIN (29)
Most Worshipful Grand Master

To My Beloved Jurisdiction--

The passing of a prominent figure within our jurisdiction has undoubtedly left a void that will be felt by many of us for a very long time. In the words of MWPGM Murray, this is a teachable moment...In times of grief, it is essential for us to come together as a jurisdiction to support one another and honor the legacy of our Most Worshipful Past Grand Master J. Raymond Murray. By sharing memories, offering condolences, and aiding the Murray Family, we can collectively navigate through this difficult time with strength and solidarity. MWPGM Murray would want us to acknowledge our feelings of sadness and lean on one another for emotional support as we process this tragedy. As brothers and sisters within THE DC Jurisdiction, it is crucial that we exhibit compassion and understanding for our dear sister, PGWM Barbara E. Murray, and her family while also upholding the responsibilities and duties that come with our roles. Together, we can find solace in each other's presence and remember the impact that this masonic giant had on Prince Hall Freemasonry across the globe.

MWPGM Murray met the calls of mortality daily and laid down his working tools to be with our great Creator. While we recognize the uncertainty of our time here, we still have the hope for a happy reflection of a well-spent life. I certainly believe MWPGM Murray had a life well spent. He deeply loved Barbara, the children, and his grandchildren and enjoyed being around his brothers. He spent much of his time helping us become better and continued to hold us accountable for maintaining the customs and traditions of Freemasonry. With the mercy of our God, we believe his soul will again bloom in that heavenly Spring with the same love and beauty he showed here on earth. May the Lord bless us here below as we mourn our loss. The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and our jurisdiction will always cherish the memory of our MWPGM John Raymond Murray. Because of his love for our jurisdiction, "We gonna be Better."

The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followed after me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!

MWPGM Murray was most certainly a bridge builder, and we thank him for the bridge he built for us
Fraternally,

GLENN N. RUFFIN
Most Worshipful Grand Master
Jurisdiction of the District of Columbia