



**FUNERAL SERVICE**

*for*

**THE REVEREND LOUIS E. FORD**

**February 8, 1888 - March 2, 1980**

**Wednesday, March 5, 1980**

**11:00 a.m.**

**MYRTLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**21 Curve Street**

**West Newton, Massachusetts**

**The Reverend R. L. Littlejohn Jr., Officiating**

# OBITUARY

## THE REVEREND LOUIS E. FORD

“. . . for there's a time to laugh and a time to cry  
A time to live and a time to Die.”

The Reverend Louis E. Ford - son of Lindsay and Hannah Ford of Martinsburg, West Virginia - pastor of Myrtle Baptist Church for thirty-one years - then Pastor Emeritus - slipped quietly away at the Framingham Union Hospital - Sunday morning - March 2nd.

Seeth than a man diligent in his business  
He shall stand before Kings!!  
He shall not stand before Men!!

The above quote is a reminder of an article written by Elizabeth Prince - reporter for the Boston Transcript - October 1938 - entitled, “Newton Baptist Pastor Fashions Brooms in Cellar Workshop Between Sermons.”

The Reverend Louis E. Ford - pastor of the Myrtle Baptist Church of West Newton, is known as “the broom parson” - for he carries on as an avocation the trade by which his grandfather, Abraham Ford - also a minister was able to buy himself out of slavery . . . Mr. Ford, like his grandfather began his broom making in the South and had established a prosperous factory in Baltimore. He was a student at Morgan State College when he received a scholarship to study for the ministry at Boston University. He came to New England in 1921.

While a student at Boston University School of Theology, he was pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Haverhill and the Third Baptist Church of Lawrence. In 1933, he accepted a call to Myrtle Baptist Church of Newton - where now he takes his leave.

He was married to the late Madonia Dorsey Ford in 1934 and together they made a team in the broom manufacturing business - first in Newton, then later and lastly in Natick. A letter from the S.S. Pierce Company attests to the excellence of the team.

Dear Rev. Ford:

After 25 years of doing business with your company, I feel a letter of congratulations is certainly in order.

S.S. Pierce's reputation has been built on the products they offer the public. We would not be in business today if it were not for suppliers like you who can be counted on for quality, service, reliability and integrity.

We have never had to question anything you have sent us over the years and our trust in you has been more than justified.

*Cont'd on back page*

# SERVICE OF TRIUMPH

Presiding

The Reverend A. Roger Williams, Pastor  
Union Baptist Church  
Hartford, Connecticut

SCRIPTURE SENTENCES . . .

PROCESSIONAL

Clery and Family

HYMN OF FAITH

"O God Our Help in Ages Past" #223  
*Issac Watts*

EXPRESSIONS

The United Baptist Churches of Massachusetts,  
Rhode Island and New Hampshire

The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts

Former Ministers and Associates of Myrtle Baptist Church

The Myrtle Baptist Church-Resolution

SOLO

"Peace In the Valley"

Mr. Robert Huguley

SCRIPTURE

New Testament    1 Corinthians 13  
Old Testament    23rd Psalm

PRAYER

OBITUARY

MEMORIAL SELECTION

"He'll Understand and Say Well Done" Mrs. Carol Robinson

EULOGY

"Love's Way"  
The Reverend Robert L. Littlejohn, Jr., Pastor  
Myrtle Baptist Church

HYMN OF TRIUMPH

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" #202  
*William Williams*

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INTERMENT

Newton Cemetery, Newton, Massachusetts

*Obituary Cont.*

We have enjoyed the 25 years of business we have done together and hope our close relationship will continue for many years to come.

Congratulations and good luck!

E. Hubbard  
Purchasing Director  
S.S. Pierce Company

Civic minded and even in the thick of things he was (1) president of the United Baptist Convention of Massachusetts and Rhode Island (2) a member of the Newton Ministers' Alliance (3) the Newton Community Fellowship (4) and past Grand Lodge Chaplain for the Prince Hall Masons 'life member' Eureka Lodge #8.

His final exhortation will long be remembered by all who attended his 92nd birthday celebration at the Natick Nursing Home a few weeks past - or was it a "Swan Song" to,

So live, that when thy summons comes to join  
The innumerable caravan, which moves  
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take  
His chambers in the silent halls of death,  
Thou go not, like the quarry slave at night,  
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

from Thanatopsis  
William Cullen Bryant

He leaves to mourn their loss - a daughter, Delores Harper - four grandchildren, a nephew, nieces and a host of friends.

"The moving finger writes and having writ Moves on!!"

*Submitted by the Family*

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PALLBEARERS: DEACONS AND TRUSTEES - Myrtle Baptist Church

HONORARY PALLBEARERS: Ministers