

# A Legacy™

a heritage: character qualities, memoirs . . .

*"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die, a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted...a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance..."*

— Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2, 4

## Vernon Dwayne Parker

RPh, Ph.D.

**Vernon Dwayne Parker** was born on Sunday, October 19, 1947, to the late Ernest and Hattie Parker in Newark, NJ, as the third of their four children. Known to his family as Dwayne, he and his siblings were raised in the Newark area, making frequent summer trips to Orlando visiting his family. While in Newark, he attended the local public schools making many friends. His mother used to say that he never met a person he didn't like. As a child, he accepted Christ in his life at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, in Newark, NJ.

In 1965, he graduated from South Side High School, then attended Florida A&M University (FAMU) where he received his BS Pharm degree in Pharmacy in 1970. Upon graduation, Vernon worked as the Director of Pharmacy Services for the John A. Andrews Memorial Hospital at Tuskegee Institute. While at Tuskegee, he married Zenobia Boddie in 1973. From their loving union they welcomed their son, Khary, into the world in 1975.

During his time at Tuskegee, Vernon also earned his master's degree, in 1977, from the Tuskegee Institute School of Veterinary Medicine, majoring in Pharmacology and Physiology. He then returned to his alma mater, FAMU, to serve as the assistant to the Dean for Administrative Affairs and as an Assistant Professor for Pharmacy Administration. With a desire to make an impact in pharmaceutical science, in 1979, he moved his young family to West Lafayette, IN, to pursue his Ph.D. at Purdue University. It was during this time that they welcomed their daughter, Tabia, into the world in 1981.

In 1983, Vernon received his Ph.D. in Clinical Pharmacy from Purdue University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Now as Dr. Vernon Parker, he returned to his alma mater to serve as Director in the Division of Clinical Pharmacy at the Florida A&M University, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences from 1983-1988. Following his tenure at FAMU, Vernon continued to have an illustrious career in the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry, as a clinical research scientist at Wyeth Research Laboratories, in Radnor, PA, outside of Philadelphia. While at Wyeth, he participated in the development of numerous drug products currently being marketed around the world today. In addition,

he received several prestigious awards, at Wyeth, for his many research accomplishments. In 2005, after serving for 18 years at Wyeth, Vernon retired and returned to Orlando, FL.

While in retirement, in 2008, Vernon married Paulette Parker, who was ever present and always by his side. During their time in Florida, they enjoyed traveling and taking cruises. He also enjoyed boating and deep sea fishing.

Vernon was a dedicated servant of The Lord. While living in the Philadelphia area, he served as a member of Monumental Baptist Church. Before he retired, he served with the Bethel AME Church AIDS Task Force in Wilmington, DE. He started a program there to help their clients understand and properly administer AIDS medications. During retirement, he served at Faith Point Church, in Clermont, FL, as a member of Project Manhood, a male mentorship program. He also received his Certificate of Ministry from Kingdom Revelation Ministries, School of Ministry, in November 2017. Shortly thereafter, he and Paulette served as members of Rejoice in the Lord Ministries, in Apopka, FL.

As part of his service to the Lord, Vernon also served his community. In the early 1970's he was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc. Recently, he served as Chaplain for the Chi Tau Chapter (Orlando, FL). He also served in many other organizations in various locations helping the African-American community.

Vernon was called Home to be with Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on January 2, 2020. His memory and his legacy will be carried on by his beloved and devoted **wife**, Paulette, their three blended **children**: Khary Parker, Devon Richardson, and Tabia Parker; four **grandchildren**: Taylor Richardson, Naomi Parker, Mykah Parker, and August Lisenbee-Parker; **siblings**: Eleanor Thomas, E. Gerald Parker, R.Ph, A. Brian Parker; and a host of loving other family members and friends.

## INVICTUS

BY William Ernest Henley (1875)

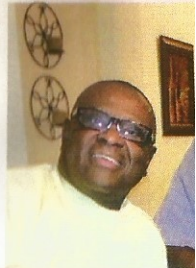
Out of the night that covers me, Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be, For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance, I have not wined nor cried aloud,  
Under the bludgeonings of chance, My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears, Looms but the horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years, Finds, and shall find me, unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate, How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul.

*It's Real  
Not G*





Officiates & Family  
 Pastor Roderick Zak  
 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
 .....Praise Team  
 Thonton-Willoughby  
 E. Gerald Parker, Jr.  
 (please)  
 .....Eugene Grace  
 Joseph Webster, MD  
 .....Don Lemons  
 .....Ronald Lewis  
 Dean John Early, Ph.D.  
 .....Joyce Owens  
 .....Praise Team



*"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;  
 and there will be no more death, neither sorrow,  
 nor crying, neither shall there be any more  
 pain; for the former things are passed away."  
 - Revelation 21:4*

**Interment**  
 Washington Park Cemetery  
 2700 Bruton Blvd., Orlando, FL 32805

**Pall Bearers**  
 Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
 Chi Tau Chapter

**Flower Attendants**  
 Friends of the Family

**Words of Appreciation**  
 The family of Vernon Parker wishes to extend their most heartfelt gratitude for the many acts of love and kindness shown to them during their time of sorrow. Your kindness has been a source of strength and shall always be remembered.

May God bless each of you!  
 We take comfort in 1 Corinthians 2:9...  
*"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love him."  
 - The Family*

**Please consider:**  
 Making a donation to the **American Kidney Fund** in the name of Vernon D. Parker. Thank you.  
<https://fundraise.kidneyfund.org/VernonDParkerKidney>

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*A Celebration of Life*  
 FOR

**VERNON DWAYNE PARKER**  
 RPh, Ph.D.



SUNRISE  
**October 19, 1947**  
 SUNSET  
**January 2, 2020**  
**Saturday, January 11, 2020**  
 11:00 A.M.

**Rejoice in the Lord Ministries**  
 8053 Gilliam Road, Apopka, Florida 32703  
 Pastor Roderick and Vanessa Zak, Co-Founders  
*Officiating and Presiding - Pastor Roderick Zak*

Mitchell's Funeral Home  
 Directors