

CELEBRATION OF LIFE
of
Charles Sampson Bing, Sr.

*As I look upon the years, The time I've spent on earth,
I recall both joy and tears, And evaluated life's worth.*

*Did I serve God along the way, And help my fellow man?
Or did I think of my self, And fail to understand.*

*I passed through this way but once, Accepting all life's gifts
I earnestly tried to do my share, To show my thanks for His.*

Charles Sampson Bing, Sr., a man of strong conviction, belief in God, the good of humankind and excellence, and a sincere lover of family and music, was passionate, caring, discreet and diligent in the use of resources. Charles Bing, the husband, father, sibling, educator, colleague, friend and student advocate lived the life of a servant leader, always giving a helping hand and sharing his knowledge and experience in a positive and innovative way. A glimpse of his life can be viewed through his famous quotes which depicted his philosophy of life:

Your family is really all that you will ever have!

Charles Sampson Bing, Sr. was born November 6, 1937, to Ida and Johnny Bing in Plant City, Florida. He was the third child and one of ten of Mother Ida's children. His father preceded him in death before he was born. However, Charles' innate fatherly instincts moved him to assume the role of father to his siblings, relatives and many other individuals throughout his lifetime.

He was an exceptional father in many different ways to his children, Melody, Valerie and Harmon and a devoted husband to his supportive wife, Betty for thirty-nine years. Family was important. His family was extensive and far reaching. Many were blessed as he generously provided housing and financial assistance so that they could further their education and/or move on to new heights in their lives.

You won't find many true friends during your life time. If you find one, you are lucky!

Prof Bing, as he was affectionately called, provided guidance, mentorship and affection to his students and acquaintances as he attempted to ignite the inner strength required for survival and excellence. He was an outstanding role model for his children and hundreds of others. DeAnna Carpenter commented that "He was very sweet and kind, and always had something positive to say." Antonio C. Drayton observed that "He was a really, really smart person and a dear friend of mine." Renee Gordon recalls that "He was so passionate and wanted to bring it out in everybody else." Charles Bing was a friend in need and a friend indeed!

The Man Upstairs always looks out for me!

Charles Bing's compassion and concern for others came from his Christian background, which began in his home under the watch care of Mother Ida, and was certified when he accepted Christ and was baptized at Mt. Zion M.B. Church in Tildenville, Florida. He unashamedly loved, esteemed, and cherished God, as well as the many people he encountered throughout his life. The way he handled difficulty, faced and progressed through life was indicative of his faith and the fact that his steps were ordered by God and the presence of God was within him.

Education is the only way out!

Charles Bing attended the public schools in Plant City, graduated from Jones High School in Orlando, Florida and subsequently attended Florida A&M University on a music scholarship. He