The Fortland Observer

March 02, 2011

Obituaries

Photographer, Musician and Mentor Remembered

Nick Christmas III

who died Feb. 19, 2011, was held on in northeast Portland.

with

Paul Wilbur

Vanport, the second of six children A funeral for Nick Christmas III, to loving parents, Nick and Vera M. John Ball, Portsmouth, Beach, High-(Minor) Christmas Jr. He was just land and Sabin Elementary Schools Saturday, filling Maranatha Church five months old when the Vanport flood occurred, and his family was

He was born Dec. 25, 1947, in able to move to Portland.

and excelled at playing baseball. He graduated from Grant High School



Lottery application available starting March 1: - online at portlandcm.org - at the Museum - or call (503) 471-9917

Applications are due (not postmarked) at the Museum by close of business, March 31, 2011

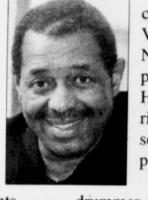


in1965 where he was an During his youth, Nick attended excellent student and earned all-city honors in wrestling, including a state championship. He also really enjoyed playing in the Grant Marching Band where he discovered his love of drums and began nurturing his musical talents.

> After high school, he moved to Seattle to work as a machinist for the Boeing Company. Nick's first goal was to save his paychecks until he purchased his mother's dream gift, a Sterling Silver Punch Bowl. Nick enjoyed his job and his magnetic charisma won him many friends. His ties to family spurred his return to Portland. He worked for the Bonneville Power Administration for 36 years as a cartographer, photographer and historian. He also served his BPA colleagues as an Equal Employment Opportunity specialist. Nick retired in 2009.

His personal passion was photography, videography, historical restorations and preservation of was actively involved as a master photographer for the World Arts Foundation, Inc.; and as a volunof local neighborhoods, and the physical health, well-being, and nities and its citizens.

He volunteered countless hours to the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Family Funeral Home



celebration, and the Vanport, Guiles Lake and New Columbia historical projects, among others. He was a freelance historian for the Portland Observer and Skanner newspapers.

Nick was a consummate

drummer, musician and jazz aficionado. He loved music and played a mean set of drums with several bands, and with numerous noted artists throughout the local community and beyond.

He was dedicated to helping people through his gifts and talents, but also as a husband, son, brother, friend and loving father, as well as a faithful member of and drummer for Genesis Community Fellowship Church. "Life begins and ends with the beat of the heart...Keep the beat alive," was Nick's mantra.

Preceding him in death were his father, mother; and sister, Cheryl L. Christmas. He leaves behind his devoted and much loved children, daughters Rachel and Nicole Christphotos for family and friends. He mas and Adrena Christmas Franklin; and sons Darryl, Anthony, Centory and Javary; 10 grandchildren, three great grandchildren; siblings Rose teer for community-based initiatives M. Christmas (Errol Brown), Velma to include improving the conditions Christmas Johnson (Franklin B.), Jarvis R. Christmas (Artie), and Noel L. Christmas; and a host of nieces, preservation of Portland's commu- nephews, cousins and many, many friends.

Arrangements entrusted to Terry

uvu IIUUEIII

Come join us on this Special **Night of** Purim

Friday, March 18th at 7pm

New Song Community Center 2511 NE MLK Blvd. **Corner of NE MLK Blvd and Russell Street**

Doors open at 6pm for every service.

For directions or more information, call 503-488-5481 or log on to www.mfhmportland.com

In Loving Memory

Georgia Tillman

Georgia Tillman was born on Sept. 25, 1918 to Willie and Alice Butler in Hazlehurst, Miss. She married George Byrd. This union brought them two children, Wilma Pauline Byrd and Willie Zeal Byrd.

She met and married

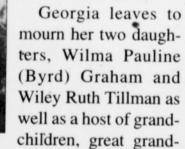
Wiley Tillman, and to this union bore two children, Alice Fave and Wiley Ruth Tillman.

Mr. Wiley Tillman passed away on Dec. 3, 1958 in Chicago. Georgia, Alice and Ruth moved to Portland in 1959, where they joined Wilma and family.

Georgia was a homemaker and loved to cook and helped to raise her grandchildren. She played the piano and was a loyal member of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church where she served as Mother.

At the end of her life, she spent her time at Porthaven Care Center in Portland, where she was well loved

and well cared for. She was a special resident to everyone who came in contact with her.



children, great great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by first husband George Byrd, her husband Wiley Tillman, her son Willie Zeal Byrd, her daughter Alice Faye Tillman and the Honorable former Grand Master Mason and Deacon Mr. Elijah Graham Sr.

· She was and will be loved by all of her family and friends. Thank you to all of those who gave your support and love, especially the loving staff at Porthaven, all her neighborhood friends, the Mothers of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church and her beloved Pastor Rev. Dr. Johnny Pack IV.