

National

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HOME OF THE ORIGINAL MONTFORD POINT MARINES

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Press Release

OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Melvin Scott

March 14, 1926 - June 6, 2019

Melvin Roger Scott, Jr., of Mays Landing, New Jersey was born on March 14, 1926 in Washington, DC. He attended school there where he graduated from Dunbar High School and served as a captain of the track team for three years. He joined the US Marine Corps and remained there until he was honorably discharged and then at that time enrolled at Wilberforce University in Ohio on a football scholarship to major in Elementary Education. Mr. Scott served as a member of the ROTC, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, the Wilberforce Players and on the President's Advisory Committee.



After graduation, Mr. Scott entered the Army as a Second Lieutenant and was assigned as a training officer. He served in the Korean War and was awarded the Expert Infantryman Badge with clusters, the Bronze Star, and a Commendation Medal. In 2012 Mr. Scott was among those honored with the Congressional Gold Medal in a ceremony at Emancipation Hall in the US Capital as one of the members of the heroic Montford Point Marines – the first African-Americans to serve in the Marine Corps.

And, it was back in 1957 when he moved to Vineland and took a job with the Vineland School System as a sixth-grade teacher. That same year, Mr. Scott became the first African-American male hired by the Vineland Board of Education.

He was named Teacher of the Year in 1964 and worked as the Director of Federal Programs until his retirement. During those years, Mr. Scott was a member of a long list of groups and community service organizations.

He was married to the love of his life, Alease Dora Scott for a beautiful sixty-eight years. Mrs. Scott passed away on September 14, 2018. Including their college courtship, their love and life together shined bright for a total of

seventy years.

Mr. Scott was a longtime member of Trinity AME Church in Bridgeton. He was a member of the Trustee Board, men's chorus and helped with the men's breakfast events. His favorite psalm is Psalm 100; his favorite song "One Day At A Time, Sweet Jesus" which was also his testament for living a long life filled with joy.

Mr. Scott, a trailblazer with a tremendous impact on his local community and decades of service to his country, will be hugely missed by friends and family. This includes Mrs. Sadie Nocho, nephews and niece – Philip Smith (Cathy Morris), Perry Smith (Debbie wife, children Stephanie and Andrew), Ms. Pamela Smith and Mrs. Barbara Harris.

In Lieu of Flowers Please Send Donations To:
Montford Point Marine Association Phl#1
Attn: Joe Geeter
237 Red Tail Court, Limerick, PA 19468