



INFORMATION BULLETIN

TRANSITION OF BROTHER TRACY WILSON

AN APPRECIATION FROM THE ESCTT

“a staunch pillar in the Emancipation Support Committee” Melvin Foote, President, *Constituency for Africa*, Washington

“The Emancipation Support Committee of Trinidad & Tobago has lost a great scholarly soldier; the Caribbean Pan African Network has lost a distinguished elder statesman; the nation of Trinidad & Tobago has lost one of its most valuable and engaged citizens; and the African people of the world have lost a mighty patriot and defender!” David Comissiong, Chairman *Caribbean Pan African Network*

Since word of his passing on January 9, 2016 spread, international tributes and condolences have been flowing into the ESCTT from colleagues who encountered Brother Tracy here in his role as Education and Research Director of the organization or those who met him when he represented the organization abroad. Local tributes and condolences as well are received from many sources - those who listened to his voice on many radio programs or at public meetings, learnt from his lectures in many spaces, those who read his writings, those who were touched by his humanism... The continuous expressions of love and thanks for his multifaceted contribution give added strength to the organization and to the family of Brother Tracy.

Our organization has indeed lost “a staunch pillar”, “a great scholarly soldier”, a leader who worked tirelessly with us without material reward for over twenty years. Tracy met demanding professional commitments as Director and Senior Development Planning Consultant in *Planning Advisory and Consulting Services Ltd.*, and as a consultant to *Kairi Consultants Ltd.* Nevertheless he rarely missed a monthly meeting with ESCTT’s community organizations, often had meetings with communities at their home base included in his schedule, and attended Board meetings. He was one of the principal lecturers assigned to meet dozens of requests every year for lectures in schools, offices and communities. He often represented the ESCTT abroad.

Tracy was more than scholar, professional planner, activist and organizer, he was a great human being – a family man who cared deeply for his wife, Jean, who passed before him, a family man who had the strongest of bonds with his brother, Carlyle, 22 months older than him. Both Carlyle and Tracy credit their late mother, Theodora Yearwood, affectionately called Ma Dora, for that special bond. Tracy was a family man who was devoted to all his relatives and was in turn cherished by them because of his loving and caring spirit. He extended his working concept of family beyond the bonds of blood. The youth in the ESCTT office adored him for this same caring spirit. He was support and counselor for the children in several families within and without the organization.

Tracy’s roots in the East Dry River, where he was born at Clifton Street, and an upbringing shared between the highly urbanized area of his birth and the rural village of L’anse Noir seemed to have an impact on his sensibilities, his profound concern for the disadvantaged in the society, an identification that was not diminished by his academic success at home and abroad or his successful professional career.



Tracy Rawle Wilson

13 June 1943 - 9 January 2016

While pursuing his higher education abroad, including university degrees in New York and Canada, between 1966 and 1976, he became a student activist. He also became involved in an off campus organization in New York, the *African Caribbean Liberation Movement*, and developed a sharp awareness of his Africaness and knowledge of African history from listening to lectures by Dr. Yosef Ben Jochannan, Dr John Henry Clarke and other distinguished scholars

Not surprisingly therefore, after graduation with an MSc in Urban and Regional Planning from Pratt Institute in New York, where he also gained practical work experience, he lived and worked from 1977 to 1981 in Liberia, West Africa as a UNDP planning consultant, before returning home. to be of service to his country professionally and socially, with a total commitment to Africans globally.

The Emancipation Support Committee of Trinidad & Tobago was blessed and proud to have benefitted from the voluntary service of this dedicated warrior.

“O VINDICATED ONE, GO FORTH GREAT AND MIGHTY..”

(From The Book of Vindication in *The Book of Coming Forth by Day*)



Tracy chairing the annual Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Symposium, a role he played for 15 yrs. Seated: Honourable Dr Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St Vincent & the Grenadines



Tracy with Dr. Julius Garvey at the 2015 *Forum on Africa and Its Diaspora*, a highlight of the annual Kwame Ture Memorial Lecture Series, an important part of his portfolio

Tribute and Transition Ceremony for Brother Tracy Rawle Wilson

EMANCIPATION HOUSE, 5B BERGERAC RD., MARAVAL

Tuesday 17th January 2017, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

(Viewing of the body 8:00 am - 9:00am)

Procession to Belgrove's Crematorium

Belgrove's Private Road @ 1:15 pm

Cremation at 2:00 pm

Repast:

EMANCIPATION HOUSE 4:00 pm