

Celebrating The Life Of
LeFrancis Arnold



Sunrise November 24, 1952 ~ Sunset September 2, 2013

Faith Central Bible Church (Tabernacle)
321 North Eucalyptus Avenue
Inglewood, California
Monday, September 9, 2013 • 10:00 A.M.

~ Obituary ~

LeFrancis Arnold was the second child born on November 24, 1952 to Francis Oliver and Evelyn Cox Arnold. LeFrancis was raised and attended schools in Compton, CA. His higher education experience was at the University of Oregon where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance and Business Economics. LeFrancis started showing his leadership at an early age; first he was on the Student Council at Compton High School and later was Captain of the football team at the University of Oregon, winning the prestigious Koyl Cup Award as Oregon's most outstanding Junior. He was a former defensive lineman for the Denver Broncos. After his professional football career ended, he followed his mother, Evelyn into the real estate business in 1976. Together they built Excellence Realty and All Communities Escrow Services, Inc.

LeFrancis was very active in the business community and received many awards during his lifetime. He was awarded REALTOR® of the year by his local association, the Rancho Southeast Association of REALTORS®, in 1979 and 2008, plus he served as President in 2000. As a licensed General Contractor for 32 years, he developed projects in the City of Compton and the southeast surrounding areas, to help improve the community and to bring new businesses and quality housing to these areas. LeFrancis served as the Executive Director of the Southeast Los Angeles County Community Development Corporation and as President of the Los Angeles County Boards of Real Estate in 2008.

LeFrancis became a California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.) Director in 1994 and served on several committees, including the Executive Committee, Strategic Planning, Housing Opportunity, Housing Affordability Fund, Real Estate Finance, Equal Opportunity and Cultural Diversity, California Real Estate Political Action Committee (CREPAC), and the Government Mortgage Subcommittee. In 2012, he was elected and served as the President of C.A.R. This statewide organization is committed to developing and promoting programs and services to enhance the memberships' freedom and ability to conduct their individual businesses successfully with integrity and competency and, through collective action promote the preservation of real property rights for all property owners. In 2010, 2011, and 2012, as an Officer of C.A.R., LeFrancis lobbied the legislature successfully on many issues.

In June 2012, at the Chinese International Real Estate Conference in Beijing, China, LeFrancis was the keynote speaker. Additionally, as president of the state association, he attended both Democratic and Republican political events. He advocated for diversity and regularly attended events as a member of the Woman's Council of REALTORS®, a founding director for the Multi-Cultural Urban Alliance, Asian Real Estate Association of America, National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals, and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers.

LeFrancis received the first appointed National Association of REALTORS® (N.A.R.), Director position of his local association in 2006; he also served as a 2013 N.A.R. Director, with previous terms in 2007, 2010, 2011, and 2012. N.A.R. has 1.2 million members, and is America's largest trade association. It is recognized as one of the

most powerful lobbying groups in North America. Its members are a part of the “REALTOR® Party” whose nonpartisan focus is to ensure the Real Estate Industry’s voice is heard in Washington D.C. and Sacramento. In 2010 through 2012, LeFrancis traveled extensively to Washington D.C. to speak with members of Congress, Senators, and heads of other departments to help influence and support new legislation on behalf of C.A.R., the real estate industry, and property owners.

Most recently, LeFrancis was a candidate for California State Assembly, 62nd District, which encompasses Venice, Marina del Rey, Playa Vista, Playa Del Rey, Westchester, El Segundo, LAX, Inglewood, Lennox, Lawndale, Del Aire, Gardena, Hawthorne, Westmont, and West Athens linking a portion of South Bay’s coastline to the southern portion of Los Angeles.

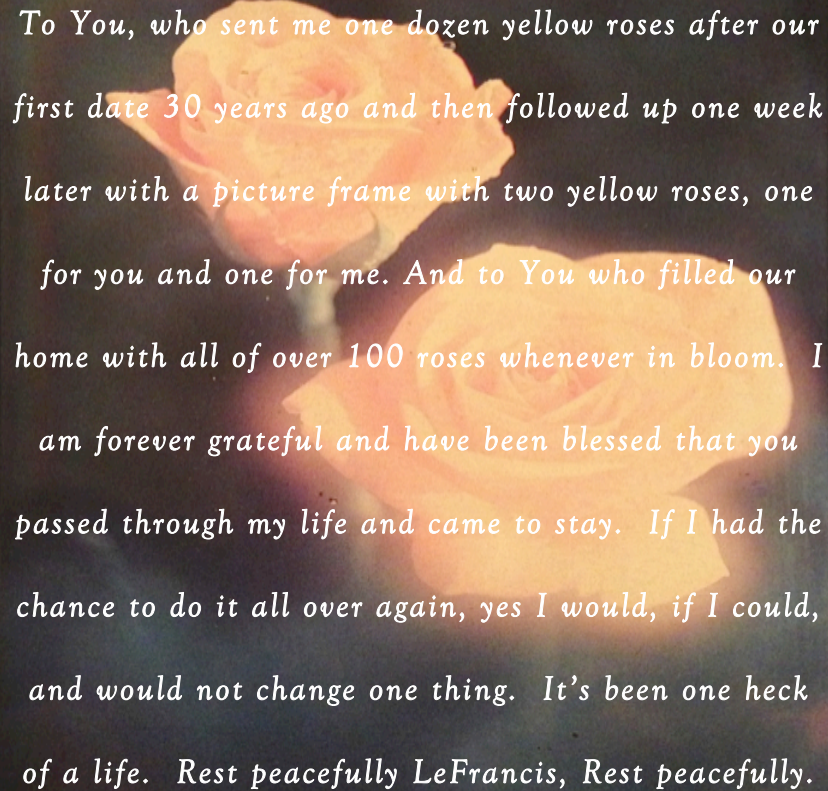
LeFrancis leaves to cherish his memory a loyal and devoted wife of more than twenty-nine years, Sheryl Turner-Arnold of Los Angeles; his proud mother, Evelyn Cox Arnold of Seal Beach; sons, LeFrancis II (Tamisha) Arnold; Jason Gregory (Kellee Bozeman) Arnold of Inglewood; grand-sons, LeFrancis III and Hudson K. C. Arnold; grand-daughter Nakieya Gant; nephew, Shaun Francis Scranton; great-niece, Rayven Joyce Scranton; mother-in-law, Mary R. Turner of Los Angeles; brother-in-law, Paul Scranton of Seal Beach and Vance Turner; uncles, Theodore (Gwendolyn) Arnold of Pomona; Lonnie Cox (Yvonne) of Walnut; step-sister, Barbara Dozier, Lynwood; and former spouse, Sharon Smith of Compton. He was a caring and respected role model to a host of cousins, other beloved family, ‘adopted’ family and friends. His colleagues in business, schools and college alumni, neighbors and acquaintances are abundant.

LeFrancis was preceded in death by his father Francis and sister, Brenda Joyce Arnold-Scranton.

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

Revelations 21:4

~ A Wife's Remembrance ~



To You, who sent me one dozen yellow roses after our first date 30 years ago and then followed up one week later with a picture frame with two yellow roses, one for you and one for me. And to You who filled our home with all of over 100 roses whenever in bloom. I am forever grateful and have been blessed that you passed through my life and came to stay. If I had the chance to do it all over again, yes I would, if I could, and would not change one thing. It's been one heck of a life. Rest peacefully LeFrancis, Rest peacefully.

"Stinky"

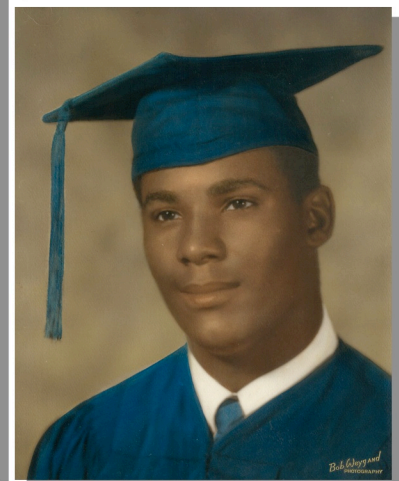
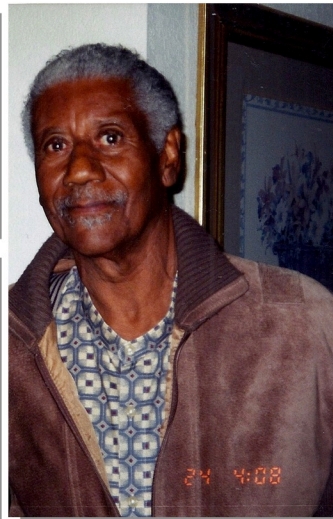
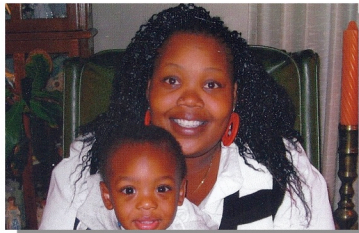


~ Order of Service ~

Musical Interlude.....Pachelbel, Canon in D Major
Processional
(Officiating).....Minister Jordan Allen
The Lord's Prayer.....All
Scripture: Old Testament, Psalm 23.....Minister Geron Bryan
Scripture: New Testament, John 3:16-18.....Rev. Chuck Esters
Musical Selection.....(dedication by wife Sheryl to Le Francis)
 "(Hero) Wind Beneath My Wings"Pamela Hart

Tributes.....Jaaye Person-Lynn, Esq.
.....Jason Arnold, son
.....Chance Williams, cousin
.....Lazard Harrison
Musical Selection....."Don't Cry"
Obituary.....Read Silently
Resolutions.....(two minutes).....
Expressions.....(two minutes).....
Acknowledgements.....Chance Garrick Williams
Musical Selection....."Best Thing That Ever Happened To Me"
Eulogy.....Rev. John O. Hopkins
 True Vine of Lynwood Missionary Baptist Church
Recessional....."Going Up Yonder"

There will be no viewing after the eulogy



~ A Mother's Love ~

To My Son...

I remember the minute and hour of your birth; I was so happy that God had given me you, my son! You were the first grandson born into the Arnold-Cox-Johnson family. From the date of your birth, you were showered with love from all, being totally "Spoiled" by your grandma Eula Mae, 3 aunts, and many others.

You matured into a kind, gentle, and loving human being with the heart of an "Angel", even though you were a "Giant" of a man. There was a special kind of relationship that we had as mother and son. I remember cooking a complete Thanksgiving turkey dinner at home in Southern California and driving it to your apartment at the University of Oregon in Eugene. That dinner was shared with all of the football team.

There have been many more events we have shared together with not enough time or paper to write them on. I now give you back to God, just as he first gave you to us; we did not lose you in the giving, so we have not lost you in returning you to God--for life is eternal, love is immortal, death is only a horizon, and the horizon is nothing but the limit of our earthly sight! I pray that God keeps you in his loving arms, and I can hear you saying, "That's my momma."



Good-bye, LeFrancis!

Love,

Mom



~The Last Request~

*Please don't say that I gave up;
Just say that I gave in.
Don't say I lost the battle;
For, it's God's war to lose or win.*

*Please don't say how good I was but that I did my best;
Just say I tried to for what's right, to give the most I could, not less.*

*Please don't give me wings or a halo; that's for God to do,
I want no more than what I deserve, no extras, just my due.*

*Please don't give me flowers or talk in harsh tones.
Don't be concerned with me now;
I'm well with God; I've made it home.*

*Don't talk about what could have been, it's over and done.
Just see to all my family's needs; the battle has been won.
When you draw a picture of me, don't draw me as a saint.
I've done some good; I've done some wrong; so, use all your paint,
Not just the bright and light tones; use some gray and dark,
In fact, don't put me down on canvas, paint me in your heart.*

*Don't just remember all the good times, but remember some of the bad;
For, life is full of many things, some happy and some sad,
But if you must do something, then, I have one last request;
Forgive me for the wrongs I've done, and with the love that's left,*

*Thank God for my soul's resting,
Thank God for all who loved me,
PRAISE GOD who loved me best.*

Author Unknown



~ Special Acknowledgement ~

Congresswoman Maxine Waters

Congresswoman Linda Sanchez

California State Assembly

Staffs of Excellence Realty of Lynwood & All Communities Escrow Corporation

Alumni University of Oregon

California Association of Realtors®

Campaign Committee for Assembly 2014

National Association of REALTORS®

Consolidated Boards of Realtists

California Association of Real Estate Brokers

National Association of Real Estate Brokers

Los Angeles County Boards of Real Estate

Asian Real Estate Association of America

Chinese American Real Estate Professionals Association

National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals®



~ Thank You from Sheryl ~

I'd like to thank all the young men and women who loved LeFrancis, and always came back to our home on 80th Street, year after year – even after you grew up, just to talk or check on us.

A special thanks to the C.A.R. family for embracing LeFrancis. To Joel Singer for being “big brother,” as he would say; to friend, Diana Bull, for being “Mother Hen” and guiding him; to Mike Teer and Bill Brown for being his friend; to Mel Wilson for always being there and everywhere; to Dick Gaylord, your friendship meant a lot to him. And finally, to Walt McDonald, thanks for always being that “kind and smiling face” among the crowd.

~ Pallbearers ~

Mel Wilson
Mike Teer
Reginald Walton

Hector Ontiveros, Sr.
Michael Jackson
Roger Thomas

~ Honorary Pallbearers I ~

Theodore Arnold
Paul E. Scranton Jr
LeFrancis Arnold II
Jason Arnold
Lonnie Dee Cox

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver
Shaun Francis Scranton
LeFrancis Arnold III
Hudson K.C. Arnold

~ Honorary Pallbearers II and Ushers ~

(Representing the many young 'adopted' sons/daughters of LeFrancis and Sheryl)

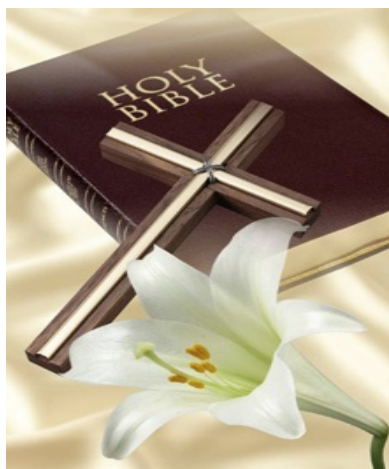
Tony 'Gov' Jakes
Ike 'Ikey' Uzundu
Prince Ndubuisi 'Bubba' Duruhesie
Juan 'Rella' Alvarez
Chauncey 'Spanky BoBo' James
Chris 'Cheese' Smith
Kevin 'Snoop' Bell
Byron 'Dunn' Collins
Errol 'Extra' Wright
Dejean 'Dirty' Reddix
Jaques Reddix
Jerry 'J' Ray' Jackson
Jaaye Person-Lynn Esq.
Stephen 'Herb' Irvin
James 'Deuce' Benjamin
Nick 'Slick' Woods
Tyrese 'Reese' Chapman
Bruce 'BJ' Jenkins-Lowe
Tamir 'T-Mone' Bilal

Rodney 'Rat Man' Sniffen
Michael 'G Mike' Arvizo
Lawrence 'LoJack' Jackson
Keith Jackson
Darwin 'Dardar' Laidley
Eric 'Relic' Blackburn
Justin 'G Child' Blackburn
John 'Big John' Davis
Paul Griffin
Sean McAfee
Elton 'ET' Tippit
Levon 'DoDo' Tippit
Abraham 'AB' Castillo
Teianna 'Teitei' Alvarez
Shafona 'FKA Deebo' Davis
Monique 'MG' Greene
LeAnthony 'LeeLee' Tippit
Martice 'Tice' Womack



The Arnold Family wishes to convey our heartfelt appreciation for those who extended kindness through phone calls, cards, messages, flowers, food, personal visits and all other expressions of love. Please know that your care and support greatly warmed our hearts and helped to ease the burden of our loss during this time. Continue to keep us in your prayers and may God bless each and every one of you.

-The Family



Special Thanks to Bishop Kerry Ulmer and the Faith Central Baptist Church

~ Interment ~

Inglewood Park Cemetery
3801 Park Cemetery
Inglewood, California 90305

~ Celebration of LeFrancis' Life ~

The Proud Bird Restaurant
11022 Aviation Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90045

~ Flowers and Donations ~

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to:
C.A.R. Scholarship Foundation or C.A.R. Housing Affordability Fund
Checks are payable to C.A.R. Scholarship Foundation or
C.A.R. Housing Affordability Fund,
Mail checks to: C.A.R.
c/o LeFrancis Arnold Memorial Fund
525 S. Virgil Avenue, L.A. CA 90020
To use a credit card, C.A.R. Staff will assist you and email a receipt.
Email: scholarship@car.org

Program Designed by Arnette & Tamila Williams