

Wiley J. Pierce Jr.

February 28th, 1938 - June 23rd 2018

Patriarch



Wiley J. Pierce Jr. was born on February 28th, 1938 to Wiley Pierce and Jane Fisher, the firstborn of 7 children. Soon his siblings would follow: Neotha, Jerome, Clyde, Lois, Karl and Rendell. As the eldest, Wiley was always a leader and a trailblazer, and this later set the tone for the creation of an extraordinary family legacy.

Wiley Pierce Jr. graduated from Richmond High school in 1955, and with the guidance of his mother, went on to study land surveying. After completing his studies at Contra Costa Junior College in 1957, he took night classes at the University of California Berkeley, and later went on to pass his licensing exam in 1965.

He was the first African American Registered Land Surveyor in California's history. After working for Contra Costa County and the State of California, he ventured off to work in the private sector and later established his own business.

He married Mora Lane Horton in 1959 and to this union were born two children, a daughter Melanie and a son Barry. After the dissolution of his first marriage, he later married Cynthia Theresa Welsh in 1969 and remained married to her for 49 years until his transition. With her 2 sons, Alan and Gerry, from a previous marriage, they formed a loving blended family of 6.

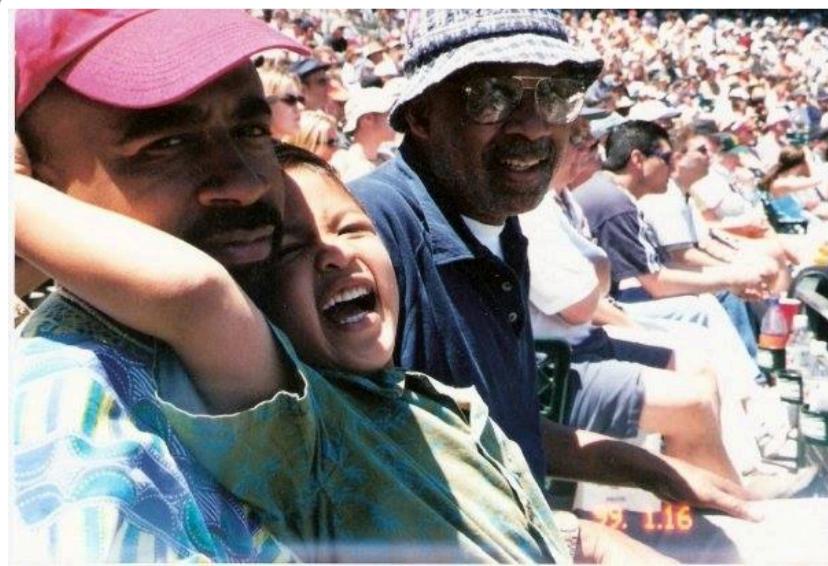
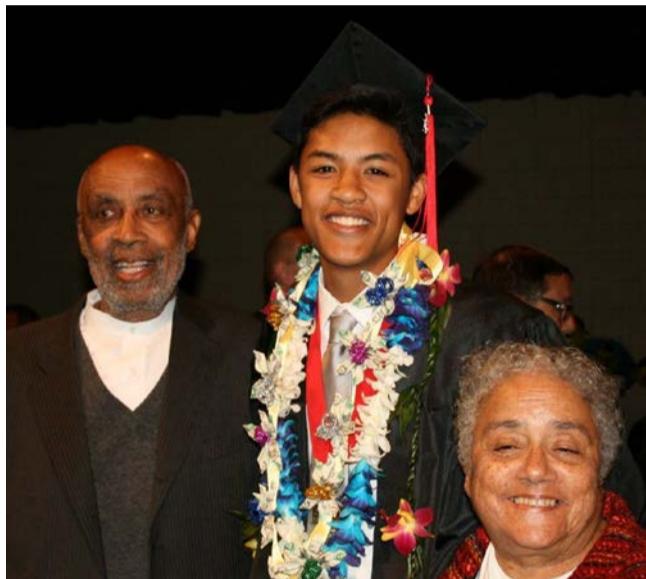
Wiley Pierce trained his brothers in the craft as well. He worked his entire life, establishing business after business to create a legacy for his family. With his training, more than 10 other members of the family have been mentored in land surveying including his brothers, his son, cousins, his grandson and his great nephew.

In addition to his pioneering spirit in business, Wiley Pierce was the first internationalist in the family, traveling to Africa and taking an African name Chuku Emeka Nwagwu. His Pan African spirit and love of knowledge has also been transmitted through out the family with many family members being influenced by his example.

Wiley J. Pierce Jr. will join his father Wiley Pierce Sr. and his mother Jane Fisher in slumber. He leaves to honor his memory and legacy one aunt, Elizabeth Tate, two sisters, Neotha Edwards and Lois Pointer, four brothers Jerome Pierce, Clyde Pierce, Karl Pierce and Rendell Pierce, his devoted wife Cynthia Pierce, daughter Melanie Heck, son Barry Pierce, son Alan Walters, son Gerald Walters, 3 granddaughters and 7 grandsons, and an army of cousins, nieces and nephews. A longtime businessman, who helped so many professionals and youth alike, he also leaves a host of admirers, community members, students, business associates, colleagues and dear friends to remember him as well.

Son. Father. Husband. Grandfather. Uncle.
Cousin.

Great Uncle. Brother. Friend. Nephew.





The family wishes to thank you for all for your well wishes and prayers in this difficult time. Most of all we would like to thank you for loving Wiley Pierce and adding to the fullness of his life. An extraordinary soul has touched us all.

