

Gene Cobbin "Local Area Labor Leader Layed to Rest"

Written by

Thursday, 05 July 2012 11:54



Approximately 600 relatives, friends and church members gathered on Saturday, June 24, 2012 at the Windsor Village United Methodist Church to celebrate the life of Sullie Eu(Gene) "Mutt" Cobbin, 67. The high praise homegoing service was directed by Kathy Taylor Brown, Director of Worshipping Arts with the assistants of Isador Jackson and Leon Lewis, the 70 voice choral, consisting of the Gospel Company and Worshipping Warriors Male Chorus provided uplifting choral selections. Reverend Alicia Johnson along with saxophonist Gregory Daniels added to melody of sacred musical tributes.

Texas State Rep. Ronald Reynolds read and presented a proclamation on behalf of the state and bestowed upon the family a state of Texas flag that had been flown over the capitol in his honor. Referring to him as a 'gentle giant', Rep. Reynolds shared with the family and those assembled, reflections of Mr. Cobbin's life long work as a contract mediator/business representative in the labor movement and his tireless contributions as a behind the scenes community leader and organizer in Fort Bend Democratic Party. Both Fort Bend Democratic Chair Steven K. Brown and Fort Bend Commissioner Grady Prestage were also in attendance.

A childhood friend since the second grade; Robert Dickson provided reflections of Mr. Cobbin's early life as a friend and high school star athlete. While Iris Bell gave acknowledgments about his church participation as a Communion Steward. Mr. Emroy Jones, his brother, spoke for the

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siblings, reminiscing about their big brother as a family leader. Homage was paid to Mr. Cobbin in song by his wife while he was eulogized by his son, Byron Cobbin, delivered a life's chronological message entitled "Lessons Learned - How Do You Get From Here To There?". The celebration conclude with Pastor Kirbyjon Caldwell preaching on the topic - "The Virtuous Couple". On July 28, Mr. Cobbin will be inducted into Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association (PVILCA) Hall of Fame. The induction banquet will be held at the Hyatt Regency - San Antonio.

Mr. Cobbin was the president elect for the A. W. Jackson Alumni Association and has also served in various capacities with the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the Texas AFL–CIO Tideland Central Labor Council (Brazoria, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Wharton) District Lodge 37. A member since 1968, Gene became a member of Local Lodge 1303 in 1968. Gene held various union positions including: Committee Chairman, Shop Steward, Chairman Job Evaluation Committee, Organizing committee, and Legislative Committee, Auditor & Trustee. Delegate to District Lodge 37, Tidelands Chapter A. Phillip Randolph Institute (APRI), Texas State Council of Machinists, Grand Lodge Conventions. In 1996 he was elected to the post of District Lodge 37 Business Representative. A veteran of the labor movement, Gene was active in the public and political movement and dedicated in serving the membership and applying his expertise in various other projects throughout the District. Such as the District's Educational Representative; "Machinists Keeping In Touch" programs and Officer Training Seminars.

Mr. Sullie Eugene (Gene) Cobbin, 67, of Richmond, Texas, transitioned from this life on Monday, June 18, 2012.

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