

Citizen of the World --- Life of Passion and Action



Thomas L. Bailey

June 2, 1946 - April 5, 2013



In Memorial

We all feel a sense of loss at the passing of our beloved Tom Bailey on April 5, 2013 in Las Vegas NV, after an injury sustained during travel. No one feels this loss as deeply as his loving wife and best friend, Jennifer, his children, and family.

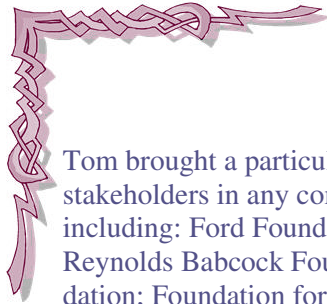
Tom was born in Camden, New Jersey on June 2, 1946 and was the son of William Bailey and Georgia Lyles (both deceased). He grew up in Winston-Salem, NC where he was active in church and community organizations, including scouting where he earned the highest distinction as an Eagle Scout. Tom graduated from North Carolina A & T with a Bachelors Degree in Physical Education and received his Masters Degree from Duke University in Public Policy.

After working for the Department of Agriculture as a Food Nutrition Service policy analyst, Tom became an economic analyst for the Library of Congress. He was then awarded a post as desk officer with the Peace Corps for Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland. Tom was promoted to Associate Peace Corps Director for Swaziland. He later continued the work on the African continent as the Desk Officer for Somalia with the American Friends Service Committee. The international focus was broadened when he became the Director of the Third Sector Project at Johns Hopkins University's Institute for Policy Studies where he provided technical assistance to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in newly-developed democracies, including: Ghana, Novosibirks, and Czech Republic.

Tom spent more than 40 years working in community development at the local, state, national and international levels. Twelve of those years were spent living and working in various countries across the African continent. Tom learned community building skills as a young organizer for the Foundation for Community Development and then as a lead organizer for a community action agency in Winston-Salem, Experiment in Self-Reliance. He was a trailblazer in efforts to build sustainable communities as Director of Training for Healthco at Soul City, a cooperative community of activists who established a farm, health clinic, and other enterprises in Eastern North Carolina. Years spent learning from people in developing countries, inner cities and rural communities helped guide the respectful approach he applied to community residents everywhere.

Tom and Jennifer established their leadership and organizational development consulting firm, Strategic Decisions in 1994. Tom was the lead on a diverse set of projects that included workers rights efforts in South Carolina; health advocacy and service organizations in Washington, DC and New Orleans; land trusts in Washington, DC and Roxbury, Massachusetts; community development corporations and youth development groups in New Orleans and Detroit; affordable housing groups in Los Angeles and Philadelphia; AIDS and LGBTQ organizations in Washington, DC; public policy organizations in Arkansas; community economic development organizations in North Carolina; cultural arts and education organizations in New Orleans and in the Georgia Sea Islands; social enterprises in Chicago; and civil rights organizations in Atlanta and Mississippi.





Tom brought a particular first-hand perspective and savvy to situations and challenges facing all stakeholders in any community development effort. Tom was an advisor to countless foundations including: Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, Eugene and Agnes Meyer Foundation, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, Greater New Orleans Foundation; Foundation for Louisiana, and the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation. He served as a counselor, mentor, and confidante to many of the nation's community, business and academic leaders and activists. Tom's achievements are far too vast to list, however, his biggest achievement was leaving all those he encountered with a sense of urgency and the power to act.

As an activist Catholic, Tom was head of Parrish Council at St. Augustine Catholic Church, the Mother Church of African American Catholics in Washington, DC. He was a leader in the parish's Free Africa and the Diaspora Committee through which he worked on the Free South Africa Movement. He helped design and implemented support for Haitian immigrants. Tom shared his deep, resounding voice as a frequent lector at St. Augustine and upon locating in Henderson, Nevada was a lector at St. Thomas Moore Catholic Community.

Tom is survived by wife Jennifer Henderson, five children, Tessa Gerena-Diaz of Atlanta, Georgia; Hugh Bailey (Rhonda) of Gaithersburg, Maryland; Tamba-Kuii Bailey, Ph.D. (Patricia) of Grand Forks, North Dakota; Imani Owens-Bailey, ND of Tempe, Arizona; Jabari Owens-Bailey of New York City; his brother, Abraham Lyles of Winston-Salem; and dear cousin, Willie Hodge (Jean) of Washington, DC.

Funeral Arrangements

The celebration of Tom's life and Christian Burial will be held on Friday, April 12, 2013 in the Palm Mortuary at 7600 Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, NV. The viewing will begin that morning at 9:00 am and will be followed immediately in the adjacent Chapel at 12:00 noon. The service will be officiated by Father Patrick W. Render, Pastor of St. Thomas More Catholic Community, Henderson, Nevada. Internment will be at Palm Cemetery in the Garden of Tranquility following the funeral service.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Matthew 5:4





Contributions

In lieu of flowers contributions can be made in honor of Tom Bailey through the Ben & Jerry's Foundation. Information regarding contributions should be directed to Rebecca Golden, Director of Programs at :

802-846-1500 or via email: rebecca.golden@benjerry.com

www.benandjerrysfoundation.org

Remembrance

We are asking those who wish to send a story or note to the family that they email to:

<http://www.palmmortuary.com>