

OBITUARY

The Reverend Doctor Dorsey Odell Blake, 78, of Oakland, California passed away Sunday, March 2, 2025, at 4:34 a.m. He was born in Liberty, Missouri on July 26, 1946. Blake is the fourth of nine children born to Rev. Dr. William Louis Blake and Hazel Teen (Roberson) Blake. Dorsey graduated as valedictorian from Lincoln High School in Kansas City and received the Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Brown University. Moreover, Blake earned the Master of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees from Pacific School of Religion and the Doctor of Ministry from United Theological Seminary. His accomplishments were many and varied. Chief among them is his position as program director of the Howard Thurman Educational Trust and Presiding Minister of The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples for 31 years. The trajectory of his life's journey was meteoric, having excelled in many areas of endeavor. His sphere of influence was local, regional, national and international.

He is survived by two younger siblings: Carl LeRoy Blake of Oakland, California and Irene Lucrezia Blake of Memphis, Tennessee. Other survivors include nephews, nieces, great nephews and great nieces throughout the country. Bryan Caston of San Francisco served exceptionally as Dorsey's primary care giver and business partner. Ancestors on the paternal side of the family can be traced back to 1841. Maternal ancestors can be traced to 1790.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, March 22, 2025 at The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples, 2041 Larkin Street, San Francisco, California 94109. Attendance options are in-person and online livestreaming. (Details provided on the church's website www.fellowshipsf.org.) A reception immediately follows the service in Fellowship Hall of the church. Additionally, there will be a free giveaway of books from Dr. Blake's

voluminous library.

Tributes, messages, gifts, and donations can be sent to the church at the abovementioned address. Readers are welcome to post memories, reminiscences, and messages online on social media platforms.