

## **The Reverend Dr. John Carleton Hayden December 30, 1933 – June 29, 2022**

On Wednesday, June 29, 2022, the good Rev. Dr. J. Carleton Hayden was called home to glory for a job well done. He lived a full life doing God's work, proclaiming His word, and uplifting His people. He lived and practiced what he preached.

The Rev. Dr. John Carleton Hayden was born on December 30, 1933, in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Son to Gladys Gatewood Hayden and Otis Roosevelt Hayden, he was the eldest of 7 children.

In the fall of 1951, Carleton attended Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan and in 1955 earned his Bachelor of Arts in History, with minors in Latin and Speech. He went on to earn a Master of Arts from the University of Detroit in 1962. Carleton's calling to become a priest in The Episcopal Church led him to receiving his Master of Divinity at the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad's College in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. He was ordained a deacon in 1963, and a priest in 1964. He went on to earn his Ph.D. from Howard University in U.S. and African American History in 1968.

Carleton served at various parishes throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, including, St. Luke's, DC, Holy Comforter, St. Monica's, Calvary, Church of the Atonement, among others. But it was at St. George's, DC, where he was called as assistant rector in 1994, where he found his church-home. He served the wider diocesan community with stints on the Disciplinary Board, Diocesan Council, the Diocesan Review and Retreat Committees, and the African American History Project. Carleton made a significant contribution to the diocese and Church when he served as chaplain at Howard University, providing space for young adults to explore their faith both in and out of the classroom. He remained a devoted advocate of campus ministry throughout his life.

Beyond parish and diocesan ministry, much of his work was devoted to documenting the history of African Americans in the Church and advocating for equality, respect, and fair treatment. Throughout the 1970s, Carleton was involved with African American and social issues. He served on the board of the National Council of Churches and the Union of Black Episcopalians. His most notable contributions to the Church and society came as an educator and historian. Between 1971 and 1987, Carleton was the Assistant Professor of History at Howard University in Washington, DC and the Adjunct Professor of Church History at the Virginia Theological Seminary. At the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee he served as associate dean at the School of Theology. Following his return to DC, he served as a consultant to many groups including Baltimore Public Schools (social studies curriculum), the Archdiocese of Washington Schools (multicultural curriculum) and the National Science Foundation (Ford Fellowship). He

also served on the boards of Washington Episcopal School, Ivy City Community Development Corporation, and Washington Urban League.

Carleton answered every call; however, his most important work was as a devoted husband and father. He loved his wife Jacqueline, and they were married for 48 years until Jacqueline preceded him in death in 2020. She was his strongest supporter and the backbone of his ministry.

Carleton is survived by his children, Jonathan (Remy), Johanna (Warren), grandchildren Imani, Iyanna, Kishawn and Kingston, sister-in-law Patricia Foster, and countless scores of nieces, nephews, godchildren, friends, and colleagues.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to St. George's Episcopal Church 160 U Street, NW Washington, DC 20001.

**The funeral will take place at St. Luke's, DC  
(1514 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005) on  
Saturday, July 16 with a  
viewing at 10:00 a.m and the service to follow at 11:00 a.m.  
Bishop Mariann will preside.  
The Rev. Vincent P. Harris will preach.  
*There will not be an interment.***

[Watch the livestream](#) of the service.

*Credit: Jonathan Hayden; [Episcopal Archives](#) entry on the Rev. Dr. J. Carleton Hayden*