

Tribute & Eulogy of

W. Bro. Dr. Edward Irving Watty SAH, OBE, OGR, OGCR

Edward Irving Watty was born in Marigot, to Mr. Nathaniel E.B. Watty and Mrs. Margaret Watty on Wednesday October 28, 1928.

In December 1960, Edward was proposed and accepted for membership of St. George Lodge #3421 together with Arthur W.L. Williams and Vernon L. Shaw. All three, by dispensation, were initiated into Freemasonry on February 6, 1961.

Bro. Dr. Watty was passed on March 6, 1961 and Raised on May 8, 1961. Bro. Dr. Watty ascended to the chair of King Solomon in April 1972.

In the intervening years, Worshipful Bro. Dr. Watty lived in Canada and on his return to Dominica, he assumed active membership and was appointed the Chaplain in April 1988 and remained in that office until March 1999. Following this he was appointed the Organist from April 1999 until March 2007.

He was appointed the Assistant Director of Ceremonies for a period of four (4) years between April 2007 and March 2012. He demonstrated humility throughout his masonic career and this fact could not have been better highlighted when he accepted to be the Tyler in the 2012-2013 masonic year. To crown his many years of service to the Craft he was appointed one of two Mentors from April 2016 to March 2019.

W. Bro. Dr. Watty presented 3 pairs of gauntlets to the 3 Principal Officers in conjunction with W. Bro. L.G. Roberts and W. Bro. R. Artherley.

In November 1991, he delivered an address on the “Origin of Freemasonry” being the first of many addresses. He was the gracious host on a couple of occasions where his home was used for the annual Ladies Night dinner.

W. Bro. Dr. Watty journeyed to Antigua and was Exalted into the Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Mount Lebanon #492. Eventually he among the other 7

Companions became founding members of St. George Chapter #3421, which was constituted on May 8, 1976.

Companion Dr. Watty was appointed First Assistant Sojourner at the consecration meeting and became the First Principal in May 1991 and again for two successive years in 2011 and 2012.

W. Bro. Dr. Watty again ascended to the Master's chair in April 1993 and during that year the new Temple was consecrated on November 15, 1993 at which he had to oversee this important period of our Lodge's existence.

In December 1993 we received the excellent news that the United Grand Lodge of England had conferred on him, Overseas Grand Rank. The Worshipful Brother occupied the Master's chair for the third time in the masonic year 2004-2005.

When the Lodge celebrated its centenary celebrations in 2010, a magazine was published in which our esteemed Brother wrote the foreword and exhorted the Brethren then, and this exhortation rings true to this day, "to hold firm to the torch relayed to us by our preceding Brethren, to keep it burning brightly and to be ready to hand it on to our successors." He wrote an article about charity in the centenary magazine. This article, "The Grand Principle of Charity" is redefined by him as relief which meant alleviating the sufferings of a Brother or the dependents of a deceased Brother. Modern Freemasonry has extended the sense of relief to include the giving of time and talent as well as sustenance to the needy in the community. Our Brother practiced these traits to an exceptional degree.

Our Brother was also awarded the Overseas Grand Chapter rank in recognition of his contribution to Royal Arch masonry.

In his latter years in the Craft, he was appointed Lodge Mentor and in his humble and gentle manner he was even more soft spoken in the Lodge. To many of the younger Brethren, W. Bro. Dr. Watty was an exemplary Mason and a role model for them to emulate. His passion and zeal for Freemasonry served to motivate and encourage the Brethren to seek that light and to continuously refine their ashlar.

Tribute and commendations cannot be too much to bestow on our late Brother for a season, but instead we are challenged to remember his legacy and to practice those virtues which we saw and admired in him so that, just like him, rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected and die regretted.

Now that he has been summoned from this sublunary abode, may the Great Architect of the Universe have mercy on him and welcome him to those ethereal mansions, not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens.