

MASONIC BIOGRAPHY

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Washington and Jurisdiction



GARDNER M. TORRENCE SR.

Most Worshipful Grand Master

Most Worshipful (M.W.) Gardner M. Torrence was the second of five (5) children born to James and Mildred Torrence (late) in Belle Glade, Florida July 30, 1963.

After completing primary schooling and graduating from Glades Central High School in June 1981, he went off to Electronic Engineering School graduating with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electronic Engineering.

M.W. Torrence then attended a Florida International University (FIU) in Miami, FL on a basketball scholarship where he completed two years of studies.

January 1985 he joined the United States Air Force and retired on 1 December 2007 after serving 22 years of Honorable Service to his country.

M.W. Torrence began his Masonic Career in February 1994 where he was Initiated Entered Apprentice, Passed to the Degree of a Fellowcraft, and Raised to the Sublime Degree Master Mason in Cherry Blossom Lodge No. 42, Yokota Air Base, Tokyo Japan.

In May 1994 after being Raised, he was appointed Assistant Secretary of his lodge where subsequently elected Lodge Secretary, Junior Warden, Senior Warden and in 1998 to the oriental chair of Worshipful Master.

In 1999 continuing his masonic career in Washington Jurisdiction, he was appointed and served as Asst. District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District #6 (Mainland Japan), which at the time comprised of five lodges (Cherry Blossom #42, O'Misawa #54, Pride of Orient #55, Genesis #89, and Revelation #97).

In 2002 District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District #7 (Okinawa, Japan) which consisted of Torii #46 and Okinawa Military #68; and 2004 Masonic District #10 (Republic of Korea) which comprised of Sprig of Acacia #93, Lion of Judah #94, Guiding Light #95, II Corinthians #96 and then Tri-Step #99.

M.W. Torrence has also served in the capacity of Special District Deputy Grand Master for the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington as its Chief Editor for its Washington Community Monitor (news paper) and as Website Administrator for the Grand Lodge official website for a number of years.

He has also served on several committees of the Grand Lodge in particular Vice Chair of Grievance and Appeals; Vice Chair on Report on Grand Masters Annual Address, Vice Chair of Election Judges as well as chaired the Grand Lodge Code Committee.

In July 2005, M.W. Gardner M. Torrence was elected and installed Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year; 2006 and 2007 elected Grand Junior Warden; 2008 and 2009 Grand Senior Warden for the years; in 2010 elected and installed Deputy Grand Master and on 13 July 2011 elected and installed Most Worshipful Grand Master for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, State of Washington and Jurisdiction.

A full product of the "Far East" M.W. Torrence served membership in John J. Story Consistory #111, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (A.A.S.R.), Valley of Mainland Japan, N.J., Inc. in 1999 as Commander-in-Chief; 2001 as Most Excellent High Priest of Sylvester "Pappy" Cann, H.R.A.M., Okinawa Japan; and 1999 as Illustrious Potentate of As-Sami Temple #225, Oasis of Mainland Japan, Desert of Far East and Asia, A.E.A.O.N.M.S. Inc.

He has served positions as Imperial Advisor and Organizer for the Desert of the Far East and Asia; Illustrious Advisor to the Deputy for the Valley of South Korea, Orient of Far East as well as Asst. Grand Secretary for Council of Deliberation, Orient of the Far.

In 1999, M.W. Torrence was honored for his support and dedication to Scottish Rite Freemasonry by being nominated to receive the Honorary Thirty-third and last degree in Masonry.

In May 2001 he was coronated a Grand Inspectors General, United Supreme Council, (A.A.S.R.), Prince Hall Affiliated (P.H.A.) in Philadelphia, PA as a member of the class "Alvin H. Swigget".

M.W. Gardner M. Torrence Sr is honored to have been married to Sister Gloria M. Torrence for over 28 years. They have been blessed with three grown children Garneisha Metrice, Germieka Michelle and Gardner McKay Jr.