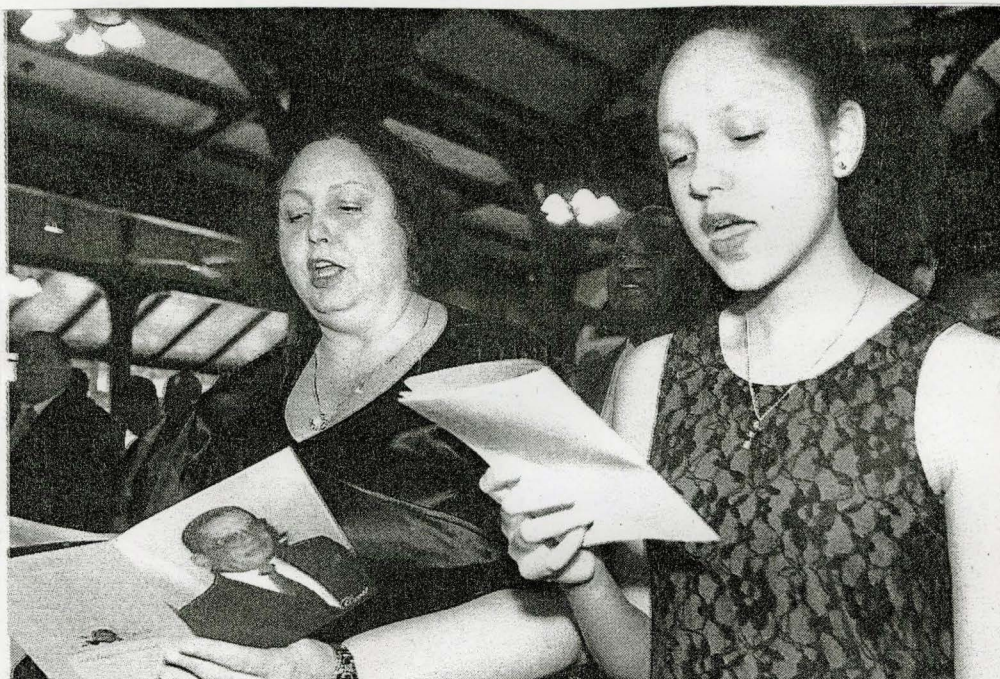


b/w Allen, Cecil L.



PHOTOS BY GLADSTONE TAYLOR/PHOTOGRAPHER

Chloe Allen (right), daughter of C. Lloyd, and her mother, Grace Silvera, sing from the programme during the funeral for the former Jamaica Boxing Board of Control and Tennis Jamaica president, at the Church of St Margaret, Liguanea.

C Lloyd Allen hailed as strong leader

Marc Stamp
Gleaner Writer

THE LATE sports administrator, Cecil Lloyd Allen, was hailed as a serious leader when he served as head of the Jamaica Boxing Board of Control and Tennis Jamaica, at his thanksgiving service yesterday at the Church of St Margaret, Old Hope Road, Liguanea.

C. Lloyd Allen, as he was popularly called, died from illness on January 14.

"He was a very frank speaker, such was the character of the man," William Tavares-Finson, former JBBC president, said during a tribute.

"C. Lloyd likes to stick to a structure and lean on the constitution whenever he wanted to," Tavares-Finson said. "Boxing in Jamaica has lost a stalwart."

Richard Russell, a former Tennis Jamaica executive, also described Allen as a tough leader.

"We had a number of altercations, but in the end, we became friends," Russell remembered.

"I was told by some of his family members that he was famous for pulling pranks and would get a spanking whenever that is done," he also said.

"He was always missing from home playing some game, but his main love was tennis," Tavares-Finson shared.

"A born entertainer, he would make everyone laugh. However, he was also abrupt, spoke his mind, and sometimes to his detriment.

"C. Lloyd loved tennis, loved his friends, and loved his friends' children, especially those who played tennis," Tavares-Finson noted. "He was



(From left) Former finance minister and current opposition spokesman, Audley Shaw, Natalie Neita-Headley, minister with responsibility for sports, and Wykeham McNeill, minister of tourism, share a happy moment at the funeral of Cecil Lloyd Allen yesterday.

one of a kind, seldom wrong and a historian of no mean order."

Allen's daughter Chloe read the first lesson. The officiating clergy included Reverend Dr Robert Thompson and the Reverend Franklyn Jackson.

Among the dignitaries in attendance were minister with responsibility for sports, Natalie Neita-Headley; Minister of Tourism and Entertainment Dr Wykeham McNeill; former Prime Minister Bruce Golding; former Sports Minister Olivia 'Babsy' Grange; and Opposition Spokesman Parnell Charles.