



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: HIGH

Moruga's Prince celebrates 102nd birthday

Prince Ayers made headlines when he celebrated his milestone centenarian birthday during the pandemic in 2020. Mr Ayers continued in this vein when he celebrated his 102nd birthday on Saturday 4th June 2022.

Born June 2, 1920, the Moruga native's secret to longevity is trusting in God. Mr Ayers also provided a brief account of his life, attributing prayers, hard work and family life as pillars to long life.

"I grew up in Rock River Garden life. We ate most of the crops we plant. I went to Rock River RC school which was walking distance. As a young person, you had to help the elders in the village. If your first job was as a labourer in Herrera Estate which was like a generational thing. Your parents work there, you work there also. My first pay I think was 5 cents or 5 pence a day. After learning to sew from my mother, I started to do some travelling, salesman jobs, buying pants length and going to other villages selling and taking orders to make pants. It was on those visits to Marac village that I met my wife who was a seamstress in the village," said the father of eight (8), grandfather of twenty-two (22) and great-grandfather of forty-seven (47).

Mr Ayers said in addition to his ability to sew various types of clothing, his proudest moment includes winning the first prize in a walking competition.

"My proudest moment was when I won a walking race from San Fernando to Point Fortin and got a bicycle as the 1st prize."

Mr Ayers was visited by Sophia Kennedy, Inspector I of the Division of Ageing who presented him with a fruit hamper, his Certificate of Honour and Achievement, and a birthday cake sponsored by the Kiss Baking Company.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services was pleased to honour Mr. Ayers as part of the National Centenarian Programme and encourages persons to register for the Programme by visiting the Ministry's website at www.social.gov.tt and complete the online form or print a downloadable form for completion. Completed forms may be dropped off at the nearest Social Welfare Office or emailed to the Division of Ageing at opic@social.gov.tt. For more information, persons may contact the Division of Ageing at 623 – 2608; Ext 2001 to 2009 or 800-OPIC (6742).



Prince Ayers celebrates his 102nd birthday at his Moruga home on Saturday 4th June, 2022.



A photo collage of Mr Ayers then and now (2018) provided by his family.