

Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services MEDIA RELEASE



August 13, 2023 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Priority: HIGH

"Tucker" celebrates his 100th birthday

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Service is pleased to welcome Grenada native Mr Hamilton Thompson fondly called "Tucker" and "Wow" to the illustrious centenarian club. Mr. Thompson celebrated his one-hundredth birthday on Saturday 12th August, 2023 in Laventille where he has resided since moving to Trinidad and Tobago at the age of seventeen. According to Mr Thompson, the secret to longevity is "good home-cooked food and a drink or two of White Oak rum."

His family marked the occasion by hosting a celebration at his home and adorning jerseys with a photo of the new centenarian under the theme "Product of Grenada, Estd. 1923."

His daughters visiting from New York to mark the occasion said their father moved to Trinidad seeking a better life and began working at Citrus Growers Association where he met his wife Eileen. The couple were married for seventy-two (72) years. Mr Thompson worked at the Association for two years before moving to the then Neal and Massy as a store clerk before retiring as a Manager after more than fifty years of service to the company. They added that their father loves steelpan and the card game All Fours where he and his wife would go all over Trinidad to participate in various competitions. The family further stated that besides minor issues with his hearing, he is healthy, agile and that they are indeed grateful that he "has come a long way."

The father of six (6), grandfather of seventeen (17) and great-grandfather of thirty (30) shared similar sentiments stating "I am thankful to God for sparing my life to reach the age of 100 years." Pointing to the covered cup on the table, the family indicated that Mr Thompson's days are now spent sitting quietly in his gallery, having a drink and reading his newspaper.

Ernest Webster, Inspector I of the Division of Ageing visited Mr Thompson presenting him with his Certificate of Honour and Achievement, a birthday cake sponsored by the Kiss Baking Company and a hamper from NAMDEVCO. The items were well received as Mr Thompson, a sweet tooth, loves chocolate, cake and ice cream.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services was pleased to honour our latest centenarian and encourage family and loved ones, Members of Parliament, Local Government representatives, friends, and neighbours to salute our nation's centenarians by registering for the Programme. Persons may visit 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 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).

Colonial Life Building, 39-43 St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I. Telephone: (868)-623-2608



Mr Thompson displays his Certificate of Honour and Achievement received from the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services for achieving the milestone.



Mr Thompson and his family at his 100^{th} birthday celebration on August 12, 2023.