

PASSING OF RALPHFORD JAMES MERCHANT

The Customs and Excise Department has been informed of the passing of Assistant Comptroller of Customs Retired, Mr. Ralphford James Merchant affectionately known as "Merchie". He entered the Department in 1960 as a messenger and advanced through the ranks of the Department to Assistant Comptroller of Customs, at the time he was transferred to Supply Office in 1980. The Assistant Comptroller of Customs was the second highest position in the Department at the time. On at least two occasions, in the absence of the then Comptroller, he was the Acting Comptroller of Customs.

His twenty (20) years in the CED does not truly express the extent of his contribution to the Department and Country. His hard work, diligence, commitment, dedication, willingness to learn and willingness to teach represents an example that the CED itself recognized, when the Customs Courier Facility at Bird Rock was named in his honour. Today that facility is now known as the Ralphford James Merchant Courier Facility (RJMCF) and stands as a beacon to all officers that they too can aspire for excellence no matter where they may have started in the Department.

The Thanksgiving Service, for the life of the late Assistant Comptroller of Customs Retired Mr. Ralphford James Merchant, will be held on Thursday 4th October, 2018 2pm at the Wesley Methodist Church, Seaton Street, Basseterre.

The Customs and Excise Department will like to express our deepest sympathy and sincere condolences to the family of the late Ralphford James Merchant. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

