

Larry Ware Sr

December 16, 1952- January 26, 2024



(Larry Ware Sr. Bayview Poetry Reading at the Bayview Branch Library in 1999)

Larry was born in 1952 in Carrolton, Georgia to Billy Ware and Dorothy McKeever Ware. In 1957, Larry and his family moved to and settled in San Francisco, California where he married and raised two children, Truth Christopher Ware and Precious Ware. Larry was a graduate of Galileo High School and attended City College of San Francisco. In 1988, when San Francisco Public Library was facing budget cuts and potential closure of branches, Larry joined a group of fierce advocates who fought to keep their branches open. This group later became known as the Council of Neighborhood Libraries where Larry served as the advocate and representative of the Bayview Branch. During his many years of service at the library and in addition to his role as a CNL representative for the Bayview Branch, he provided tutoring for youth and worked closely with the then manager of the branch, Linda Brooks-Burton, to coordinate and host the annual Bayview Poetry Recital. Larry served as Bayview Poet Laureate in recognition of his own work and commitment to this art. In 2008, Larry was honored as an Unsung Hero by the San Francisco Public Library which awards and acknowledges Black Americans in San Francisco who have made significant contributions to the city.