

A portrait of Marcus Bernard Levens III, a Black man with a beard and glasses, wearing a white polo shirt. He is positioned in the foreground, slightly to the right. In the background, a slightly faded version of the same man is visible. The background is a blue sky with white clouds.

*In Loving Memory  
of*

*Marcus Bernard Levens III*

*Sunrise*

*April 16, 1968*

*Sunset*

*October 28, 2015*

*Service*

*Friday, November 13, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.*

**CHRISTIAN LOVE BAPTIST CHURCH**

830 Lyons Avenue • Irvington, New Jersey

# Obituary

**Marcus Bernard Levens III**, affectionately known as “Uncle Bear” or “Bear”, was born on April 16, 1968 to Leon Bernard Levens I and Rosa Maria Snead Levens in Newark, NJ.

Marcus accepted Christ at an early age. He was baptized and attended Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. Samuel Massey and Rev. T. Van B. Rhoe. He was a member of the Jr. Choir.

Marcus attended Bragaw Avenue School and Weequahic High School, both in Newark, NJ. He loved being an Weequahic Indian; he ran track and was on the golf team. Marcus graduated in 1986 and a few months later joined the United States Navy which were great and exciting times for him. Marcus became a Sonar Technician and served in the Persian Gulf War. He traveled the world and experienced places like California, Virginia, Italy, Egypt, Mecca and many other international ports of call (countries). Marcus concluded his services after six years.

Later in life, Marcus attended and graduated from Lincoln Technical School in Union, NJ as a certified mechanic. If you asked him to help you with your car, he would do his best to fix it or give you good advice on what to do and get those parts you needed!

Marcus had two passions in life, cars and music. He loved all kinds of cars, old and new. Marcus showed this love by attending Jacobs Javit Center Annual Car Shows for the past ten years. His eyes would light up like a kid in a candy store going from car to car collecting information, posters, toy cars and everything they had to offer. When he had days off from work he would spend hours fixing on his car or polishing it. The neighbors would say jokingly “there goes Marcus working on his car!”

Marcus was in love with club and house music. As a teenager, his brother Leon B. Levens (whom he adored and loved very much) introduced him to listening and Dee Jaying club music. From there his passion for the music grew very strong. He would know every song and lyric from the late 70’s classics to the club and house music of today. Marcus had a extended collection of music. He couldn’t dance but would try to two step when he would hear one of his favorites like Space Cowboys or Super Man.

In January of 2003, Marcus attended a birthday party and asked a friend by the name of Ruth Barr, “who is she?” She was Erica Hester who became the love of his life. He spent the next twelve years of his life developing a family with Erica and his stepson, Michael (Doobie). Marcus loved her very much and was the best friend and father he could be to Michael.

Marcus was a remarkable, loving and kind gentleman. He had a heart of gold. He cherished his friendships, if he called you a friend, you knew you were loved. Marcus was a hard worker at whatever he did whether it was at Rgis, Auto Zone or Advance Auto Parts. His co-worker knew that about him. He truly left his imprints on the hearts of many. His faith never wavered. Marcus was a man that lived a full life as a child of God.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Leon Bernard Levens II.

Marcus leaves to mourn and celebrate his life: loving companion of twelve years, Erica Hester; stepson, Michael C. Barker; his uncle, Lawrence Smith; aunts, Pamela Sly and Jean Snead; brother, Lawrence H. Levens; three sisters, Leonia B. Levens, Loretta S. Levens-Welch, Shirley (Jeannie) King; sister-in-law, Sheila Dean Levens. He also leaves to mourn his life: nephew, Darrell T. Welch; nieces, Tatiana Ifill, Alexandria Levens, Victoria N. Levens, Sable K. Hightower, Sierra L. Hightower, Victoria L. Welch and Sequoia M. Hightower; great niece, Nia L. Welch; godchildren, Malikah Woodson and Naomi Crawford; extended brother, sisters, cousins, a host of other families and special friends.

Special thanks to George Lonon and his wife, Tracey Woodson Lonon for being Marcus’ best friends and family for over thirty-five years. He really loved you guys.

**Order of Service**  
***A Home Going Celebration***  
***Honoring the Life of***  
***Marcus Bernard Levens III***

Processional.....Family

Hymn

Scripture.....Quinn Nunnally  
    Old Testament  
    New Testament

Prayer of Comfort.....Tyree King, Jr.

Selection.....“*His Eye Is On The Sparrow*”

Poem.....Tatiana Ifill

Reading of The Obituary.....Tracey Woodson-Lonon

Acknowledgements

Reflections.....(2 minutes)

Eulogy

Recessional

<p><b><u>Interment</u></b> Holy Sepulchre Cemetery East Orange, New Jersey</p>
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***Repast will be held in the  
Lower hall of the church***

## *Pall Bearers*

George Lonon                      Sean Goodman  
Dwight Johnson                 Darrell T. Welch  
Michael C. Barker                Assad Goodman

## *Heaven Has Gained An Angel*

*As you complete this temporary journey you have embraced our hearts yes we mourn but realize this is where your life truly starts your smile sparkled greater than silver and gold We're willing to let go of your hand so that God can grab hold . We will always love you as you have continued to love us all we ask now is that you look down while you are above us we are grateful that God put us in the midst of your presence we breathe with your memory and walk with your essence. The Lord is our Shepherd He tends to us as sheep and mends the hearts that are weak until one day we can shake his hand and sit at his feet we don't think of you as a loss to our family that remains We cherish you as a beautiful angel that heaven has gained!*

*-Author unknown*

## *In God We Trust*

*It was just like yesterday when I saw your face but now that you're gone I don't know what to do. Even though in my heart I know you're in a very special place. So don't say goodbye. It's more like seeing you later as you head into the arms of the Lord who we believe in. May your soul rest in peace as I sit back wondering what our lives could have been like but now that you're gone all I have is beginning memories.*

### *Acknowledgements*

*The family wishes to express our sincere thanks for all the wonderful expressions of love during our time of bereavement.*

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