

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF**



Wilbur Eugene Austin

Sunrise: June 28, 1940

Sunset: August 9, 2017

Service:

Wednesday, August 16, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey

Rev. Edward A. Allen, Officiating

Mr. Joshua Nelson, Organist

Obituary



Wilbur Eugene Austin (Gene) was born on June 28, 1940 to John and Katie Austin in Newark, NJ. He departed this life on August 9, 2017. He was educated in the Newark School system.

Gene's interest in trucks and driving afforded him an opportunity to be taught by a family friend how to drive a truck at age sixteen using two kitchen chairs and a stick in the dirt in the back yard to learn the gears. Because of his love for driving that became his lifetime career after odd jobs as a kid. "Disco Duck" was his handle. Before retiring he drove for Decker and Pam Trucking and several other companies.

During his driving career spanning over fifty years he received the million miles award and several safety awards. He has traveled to all but one of the fifty states - he never made it to Hawaii.

Gene was an all around guy, loved all and loved by all. He always knew where to go for the best food no matter what state he went to. Someone was always asking him for directions or where the best restaurants were when they got there, no matter what state he knew the landmarks, shortcuts and how to get there. He was an avid bowler and liked to hang at the Fox Trap where he was affectionately known as "Big Bird." No matter where he went he was the life of the party, making people laugh, telling stories and making acquaintances from the super market to the cruise ships.

Gene leaves to mourn his wife, Linda; his children, Jill Keyes (Tom), Lisa Abel (Jerry), John Hughes, Haile Hughes (Charlene), Kia Highsmith, Faith Smith (Bobby), Charles Manderville, Robin Acrey and Denise Manderville; twelve grandchildren, Whitney, Brianna, Ashley, Tiffany, Tyeisha, Kenny, Janaya, Janelle, Haile, Jr., Justin, Mekhi and Mekenzie; four great grandchildren, Chase, Skyler, A'Nijhae and Justin; aunt, Janie Smith of North Carolina, Celestine Bond of NJ and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. In addition to his parents, John and Katie Austin, Gene was predeceased by several aunts and uncles, former wife, Beverly and beloved mother-in-law, Thelma Gatling.



Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks
(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

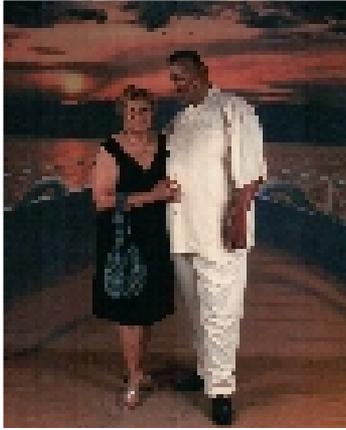
Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

CREMATION

Rosedale Crematory
Orange, New Jersey



Miss Me, But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the
road and the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a
gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little-but not too long,
and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that
we once shared,
Miss me-but let me go.
For this is a journey
that we all must take,
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely
and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at the things we use to do
Miss me-but let me go.*

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

From all the family, we thank you for your prayers and acknowledgements.
May the Lord continue to be a blessing upon us.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000



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