

In Loving Memory of
Odell Graham

Sunrise
February 20, 1952

Sunset
July 9, 2019



Obituary

Odell Graham was born to James Graham and Sydney Graham (McRae) on February 20, 1952 in Hoke County, North Carolina. He was the eldest of four and the only boy. Billy Boy is what he was called as a child.

In 1964, Odell and his three sisters moved to New Jersey with their paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Graham after their mother's sudden passing. Odell attended Morton Street Elementary School and then Central High School where he graduated from. Odell also attended Rutgers University for a short while unbeknownst to his grandmother until Army recruiters was at her door to draft him.

He served in the Armed Forces for a few years and was stationed in Germany for a short time. He was honorably discharged in 1974. Odell was a Correctional Officer for the Juvenile Detention Center in Newark, NJ.

Odell met and married Vergie Brown and to their union was born a son named Odell Graham Jr. Years after his divorce Odell met Delores Amos and born to their union was a daughter Ciera and a son Omaad.

Odell loved music!! He would get up and blast music every weekend or throughout the week if he felt the urge. He was a fan of the Vikings football team and the Spurs basketball team. He used to play ball with his friends Mike and the late Charles on Saturdays with the young Omaad occasionally. Odell was known as "Pop Pop" to his six year old granddaughter Ariane. Every Tuesday was Pop Pop and Ariane day since she was an infant. They did arts and crafts and anything the princess as he called her wanted. He complained on Wednesdays how she wore him out! He was the neighborhood landscaper and "Mayor" He was loved by all.

Odell suddenly departed to glory on July 9, 2019. He is predeceased by his parents James and Sydney, his sisters, Wanda and his longtime companion Delores Amos.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his three children, Odell Graham Jr., Ciera Graham and Omaad Graham; four grandchildren, Zachary, Serena, Saige and Ariane; sisters, Norma Lavine, Cynthia McLaughlin, Patricia Amos and Karen Williams. Longtime friend, Deborah Brown; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Service:
Thursday, July 18, 2019 - 12:00 Noon

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. • Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Gant, Officiating

Order of Service

Processional

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer

Hymn

Obituary & Acknowledgments

Remarks

Solo

Eulogy

Recessional

Interment

William C. Doyle Veterans Cemetery
Wrightstown, New Jersey



To Those I Love

*To those I love and those that love me,
When I am gone, release me, let me go
I have so many things to see and do
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love, you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness
I thank you for the love you each have shown
But now it's time I travel alone
So grieve for a while for me if you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part
So bless the memories within your heart
I won't be far away, for life goes on
So if you need me, call and I will come
Though you can't see me or touch me,
I'll be near
And if you listen with your heart you'll hear
All my love around you so soft and clear
And then, when you must come this way alone
I'll greet you with a smile and say,
"Welcome Home."*

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was shown to them during this time of bereavement.



Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

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Carolyn Whigham, Director

