



*Celebrating The Life
of
William Floyd Williams*

*Sunrise
January 9, 1946*

*Sunset
September 1, 2020*



Service

Friday, September 11, 2020 - 11:00 a.m.

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Newark, New Jersey

Elder Deborah Costley Johnson, Officiating/Eulogist

Obituary

William Floyd Williams was born on January 9, 1946 in Union County, Florida. He was the tenth of eleven children, and the 7th son of the late Cary Williams and the late Lula Hedgeman. He lived most of his adult life in various parts of New Jersey, residing most recently in Plainfield. On Tuesday, September 1, 2020, Floyd (as he was more commonly referred), passed away at JFK Medical center in Edison, NJ. He had not been well for months prior, and he was just never able to recover. He was mercifully accompanied and cared for by one of his sons, his only daughter, and one of his grandsons at his passing.

Floyd may have been born in Florida, but he spent his formative years in New Jersey. He moved to Elizabeth, NJ in 1959, almost 3 years after the death of his father, Cary Williams. Floyd attended and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth before enlisting in the United States Air Force. After 4 years of distinguished service, he was honorably discharged in 1969. Floyd also spent an additional 2 years as a reserve, finally being discharged in August of 1971.

In 1969, the late Blanche Talley (Floyd's cousin) introduced him to the late Dollie Kate Jackson (Blanche's good friend). Dollie and Floyd married soon after on June 15th, 1970, in a small ceremony in Elkton, MD. Not only did Floyd earn the love, support, and admiration of his new bride, he also earned the love, support, and admiration of her 6 children. In January of 1971, Floyd and Dollie welcomed the only child from their union - a son, William Floyd Williams II, who answered by the nickname of Billy. They lived first in Newark, NJ, but would eventually move to East Orange, NJ in 1973. They remained in East Orange until moving to Plainfield, NJ in 1986.

For the majority of Floyd's adult life, he was a full-time employee at Engelhard Hanovia, in East Newark, NJ. He worked at Engelhard for more than 36 years, until he retired in 2006. Within that time, Floyd also worked part-time at the Meadowlands Complex in East Rutherford, NJ. After his retirement, he again worked part-time in East Rutherford, this time at MetLife Stadium. He remained an employee at MetLife Stadium until his passing.

Floyd may have had only one biological son, but he embraced his role as a father. He inherited 5 sons and a daughter, and he provided and helped maintain a loving home for each and every one of them...right along with his namesake. Floyd dispensed his incalculable wisdom, lent his invaluable support, attended numerous functions, and witnessed many milestones throughout the lives of "his" 7 children (Dollie had already lost one child in his infancy prior to the two of them meeting). Moreover, he loved his family and was fiercely protective in his effort to keep them out of harm's way. The idea of a harmonious household wasn't always easy to navigate, but because of his will, he found a way. Floyd and Dollie were married for almost 47 years, until her passing in February of 2017.

Floyd first became a grandfather in 1978 and was immediately donned "PaPa". He took his role as grandfather seriously, but lovingly. He completely adored his grandchildren...and he had plenty! One of his all-time favorite pastimes was to give various members of his family hilarious nicknames, a tradition that he continued with his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, daughters-in-law, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, friends, and coworkers.

Floyd had many interests, hobbies, and passions. He was a really good bowler, a veritable card shark, a dedicated pick-it player, and an avid sports aficionado. He particularly loved the New York Giants (football), New York Mets (baseball), and the New York Knicks (basketball...BEFORE they traded Patrick Ewing!). He also enjoyed travelling, sight-seeing, reading, history, and especially his music (so much so that his handle was "sweetmusicman"). His absolute favorite city that he visited was Copenhagen, Denmark.

Floyd was predeceased by his aforementioned mother and father. He was also predeceased by 4 of his 11 siblings: Cary (Bubba), Haywood (Sto), Mary (Sister), and Clarence (Buck). Floyd was also predeceased by 5 of his 8 children: Elgie Tyrone Johnson (Al-Rad), Roderick Earl Johnson, Derrick André Johnson, Darryl Ramsey Johnson (Dawud), and Robert Gerald Johnson. He was also predeceased by two grandsons, Elgie Johnson (Khalil), and Tyron Smith.

Floyd's memory will live on in the hearts of all of his family - immediate and extended, whether through blood or through bond. Immediately he leaves to mourn his son Hassan Haqq, daughter, Romonia Johnson, and his son William F. Williams II (Billy). He is also survived by his brothers (Eugene, Bland, and John), his sisters (Lula Mae, Ruby, and Rose), and a bonus sister, his niece Jacqueline Bowers. He also leaves to mourn his sisters-in-law (Joanne, Yvonne, Mildred, Juanita, Helen), and his brothers-in-law (Robert, Claude, Fred). He also leaves to mourn his children-in-law (Cassandra, Kira, Pam, Wonnie, Kevin). Floyd has been blessed with many nieces, nephews, in-laws, cousins, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and even a great-great-grandchild. To list them all, particularly with their respective nicknames, would be an interesting experiment indeed.

Throughout his life, Floyd developed and nurtured a great many friendships and relationships that transcended time, distance, and circumstance. He was well-liked and appreciated. His absence leaves a huge void, but it's nothing compared to the impact of his presence. He is loved and missed tremendously. His legacy is well-documented and cemented within the annals of history, and while he's certainly not the first to have left such an impact, he is most assuredly, second to none. He was...simply beautiful!

~ With love, The Family

Acknowledgement

The family would like to take this time to thank everyone for the calls, cards, visits, and texts. Continue to keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please remember to reach out to us, even after today.

Lovingly, The Williams Family

Interment

Rosedale Cemetery
408 Orange Road
Montclair, New Jersey

Order Of Service

Prayer of Comfort

Selection:..... Joshua Nelson

Old Testament.....Proverbs 23: 19-24 NLT..... Twana Felder

New Testament.....Colossians 3: 12-15 NLT..... Twana Felder

Remarks: “2 minutes each”

Obituary:..... Twana Felder

Selection: Joshua Nelson

Eulogy:..... Elder Deborah Costley Johnson
Berlin, NJ



Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

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Carolyn Whigham, Director



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