

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Gene Bird, Jr.*



July 11, 1951 - October 24, 2020

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2020 - 4:00 PM

**COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**

1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey

## *Obituary*



Gene Bird Jr. passed away peacefully at his home in Newark, NJ, at the age of 69, on October 24, 2020 at 7:09am. He was the beloved husband of Cesarina M Dhanoolal-Bird. They shared 45 years of life together and parented two daughters in their union. Gene also has two older children, a son and a daughter from a previous marriage. He lived a full life and enjoyed himself with many moments of his existence here on earth.

Gene was born in Asbury Park, NJ to Delores Jenkins and Gene Bird Sr. on July 11, 1951. Shortly after his birth Gene and his mother returned to her hometown of Newark, NJ. Gene attended Morton Street, West Kinney Middle, and Central High School in Newark N.J. Gene was well known and loved by many, especially in Newark, NJ. His sunshine personality and swag is what made many fall in love. That very same personality landed him many jobs throughout his years; including 16 years at Grace Stone Mental

Facility, 12 years at Woodbridge Developmental Center, and Montclair State University as a Chef. He also earned a certificate in Culinary Arts and worked as a sous chef at Teen Challenge Rehabilitation Program.

Gene Bird and his family were members of Blessed Sacrament Church, located on Clinton Avenue in Newark. With the many struggles that Gene dealt with he always kept faith for better days and always kept God first in his life. He was always in a happy mood and didn't allow anyone to steal his shine. One of his many enjoyments was getting dressed up in a three piece suit, hat and dress shoes (looking sharp), dancing to a jam he liked, and taking long walks around the neighborhood (everyone knew him, no matter what state he was in). What he loved most of all was sitting in front of a big screen television watching old westerns and black and white movies while eating pound cake and ice cream. He will mostly be remembered for his humorous attitude. He was always laughing and joking, never taking things too serious and laughing so hard that tears came from his eyes. He could make you laugh without knowing what you were laughing at. He could dance everyone out of their shoes at events. He would give out nicknames when he couldn't remember names and could cook the best meals one could ever taste on this side of town.

He is survived by his spouse, Cesarina M Dhanoolal-Bird, and his mother, Delores Jenkins, four children Lamont Bird, Kinyetta Bird, Milinda Dhanoolal, and Melissa Dhanoolal, six grandchildren Davon Allen, Milanni Simmons, Jaiquan Bird, Malina Long, Elani Dhanoolal, and Elianna Dhanoolal-Smith, and one great-granddaughter Karri Allen. He also leaves behind a host of family and friends who loved and adored him tremendously.

# *Order of Service*

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Processional

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Eulogy

Recessional

*Cremation*  
Evergreen Cemetery  
Hillside, New Jersey



## *Acknowledgement*

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

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### Professional Services Provided By

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

1025 Bergen Street  
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973-926-6400

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