Celebration of Life For

# Leonard Henry Wilson Jr. "Lenny"

Sunrise: August 17, 1954 - Sunset: February 9, 2024

Service Thursday, February 15, 2024 - 10:00 A.M. **Thessalonia Baptist Church** 941 Rev. James Polite Ave. • Bronx, New York Pastor Malone Sampson, Officiating

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional ......Clergy, Officers and Family

Invocation

Hymn

Scripture Reading Old Testament - Psalm 24:1-10 New Testament - 1st Corinthians 15:51-58 Prayer of Comfort ...... Deacon Church Resolution/Remarks The Obituary Reading Selection The Eulogy...... Pastor Malone Sampson Thessalonia Worship Center Recessional

Benediction

<u>Interment</u> Calverton National Cemetery Calverton, New York

### Obituary

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved brother, **Leonard Henry Wilson Jr.** whom God called home on February 9, 2024. "Lenny" as he was affectionately known, was born on August 17, 1954 in the Bronx, NY to proud parents Leonard H. Wilson Sr. and Ethel Mae Wilson. He was the firstborn of their three children.

After graduating from James Monroe High School in the Bronx, New York he enlisted in the United States Armed Forces ROTC Officer Training Program. After completing this program and service to his country, this Navy Veteran was Honorably Discharged and returned to his roots in the Bronx, New York

He was a hard worker with various skills. He was a clerk at the World Trade Center and held positions at the Salvation Army and Radio City Music Hall. While attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, Lenny took the exam for the New York City Fire Department. After completing their extremely rigorous training, he was hired as a New York City Firefighter, "New York's Bravest". This held true to Lenny as he was one of the two first African American men assigned to New York's infamous fire Company in the Bronx, Engine 73/Ladder Company 42, protecting East Morrisania of the South Bronx. He loved being a Firefighter and was featured and photographed in the New York City Daily Newspaper rescuing a child from a burning building. He was a Firefighter for 18 years.

He loved sports and played High School and neighborhood Baseball as a Pitcher and Center Fielder. He was a big sports enthusiast and loved his New York Yankees and Giants. From all who knew him, he embodied the best of qualities; unconditional love, strength of spirit, and unending generosity. Above all he loved God. His departure leaves a deep wound gravely felt by family and friends who truly knew him.

*Lenny was predeceased by his parents, Leonard H. Wilson Sr. and Ethel Mae Wilson.* 

He is survived by his three sons, Curtis Wilson, Lenny Wilson Jr., and James Wilson; two siblings, Tony Wilson (Ramona Gamble Wilson) and Denise Wilson, (David Wilson); four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; three nieces, Danielle Wilson, Zeyshunne Wilson and Tiana Wilson; one nephew, Tony Wilson II; along with a host of other relatives and friends.

*His memory will forever be cherished by those who knew and loved him.* 

### I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now; I'm free, I'm following the path God laid for me. I took his hand when I heard Him call. I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day, To laugh, to love, to work, to play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I've now found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Ah yes, these things, I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, and I savored much, Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift-up your heart and share with me, God wanted me now and He set me free.

## Acknowledgements

The family of **Leonard H. Wilson, Jr.** wishes to express their sincere gratitude for the support, prayers, expressions of sympathy and acts of love and kindness during their time of bereavement.

#### Professional Services Provided By HERBERT T. MCCALL FUNERAL HOME

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