

A close-up portrait of an elderly Black man wearing a light blue textured cap and glasses. He is looking slightly to the right with a thoughtful expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

*Celebrating The Life & Legacy of
Our Beloved*

NOVEMBER 18, 1944 - DECEMBER 25, 2024

JOHNNIE BURGESS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Viewing 9:00am - 10:00am | Service 10:00am

Clarence Johnson Jr. Funeral Home

805 Longacre Blvd. | Yeadon, PA 19050

Interment | Cheltenham Hills Cemetery

1701 Washington Lane | Philadelphia, PA 19138

Order of Service

Prayer of Comfort Carolyn Neal

Scriptures: Nayla Rodgers
Old Testament: Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3 / verses 1-8
New Testament: Psalms, Chapter 23

Acknowledgements Michael A Burgess

Reading of the Resolution..... Miniya Burgess
Isaiah Michael Burgess

Obituary Michael Avery Burgess

Message of Comfort..... Minister Jerome Burgess

Recession All

Pallbearers:

Michael Avery Burgess
Isaiah Michael Burgess
Robert Burgess
Nathaniel Burgess
Maurice Burgess
Michael Burgess



Obituary

Johnnie Burgess was born on November 18, 1944 in Sumter, South Carolina to Tillman and Lillie Mae Burgess, the second oldest son of nine children of Tillman and Lillie Mae. Johnnie showed his athleticism and hard working skills at a young age as a football player and school bus driver in Sumter, South Carolina. As a young man, the health of his mother brought him to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, along with the rest of the family. It was his relocation to the northeast that brought him the opportunity to meet the love of life, Willa Mae Burgess, who he married. Johnnie considered himself blessed to have Willa Mae as his mate and by his side for sixty (60) years. He was also blessed to have three children Michael Anthony, Robert and Carmenlita. Johnnie loved family and the joy of being around them brought joy to his heart and a smile on his face. His energy could also be felt when discussing his sports teams, the Philadelphia Eagles, Sixers and the Phillies. Yes, he was a true sports fan.

While working in the Philadelphia area for much of his life, Johnnie eventually moved to Alabama to make life there for over twenty years. It was mostly due to being around family and to address medical concerns that he moved back to Philadelphia, where God brought him home on Christmas Day, December 25, 2024.

He leaves this life to cherish his memories with his wife Willa Mae, his children, his sisters, brothers, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and his grandchildren (Michael Avery, Isaiah Michael and Miniya Simone) that he cherished spending time with and the impact that he put on their lives. His humor and the joy of good times was a beacon of light for the relationship that he had with his family members and friends.

His smile, coolness, statements like "won't he do it" (meaning won't God do it) and his enjoyment of a good meal will be missed but we are so thankful for the time that we were blessed to have him in our lives. While he will be missed, we never question the work of God and know that he is with his savior, while also watching over us.

"Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back on memories help to comfort you tomorrow"

~ Author Unknown



Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.
 May God Bless and Keep You!



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