



Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.

September 16, 1937 - September 23, 2025

Remember Forrest

Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr., age 88, affectionately known to most as "Big Man", of Richmond, VA., departed this life on Tuesday, September 23, 2025.

Born September 16, 1937., Forrest was educated in Richmond Public Schools. He began his career working with his father as an entrepreneur and contractor, then eventually retired from Philip Morris International Inc.

Forrest was a beloved presence in the Fulton community. He possessed a heart full of kindness and generosity. Forrest was a dedicated to helping family, friends, and his community. He never hesitated to lend a hand to those in need. Forrest selfless spirit will be remembered always.

Forrest was preceded in death by his parents, Forrest Dowden, Sr. and Sarah Dowden, who welcomed him into eternal peace, as well as his devoted friend, Valerie Miles.

Forrest leaves to cherish his memory; his wife, Gail Dowden, who though separated, remained a devoted and caring friend. One sister: Rosalie Robinson, eight children, Forrest Dowden, III, Forrell Dowden, Freisha Robinson (Kenneth), Rauiesha Lewis (Marcus), Randy Dowden, Darryl Winston

(Demetria), Deborah Roane and Taras Winston, bonus children, Yashica Greene, Alexis Jones, Nigel and Riegal Miles, twenty- one grandchildren, Reshonda, Floyd Jamaica, Forrest IV, Forron, Africa, Ja` Forrest India, Dernesha, Shameka, Paris, Michael-Michelle, Forrell, Fariyah, Nala, Shamari, Darmetacia, Dayanna, Damiya, Makayla and Mariah, nineteen great-greatchildren, devoted cousin Patricia Wooldridge, a large extended family of nieces and nephews, including, Harold Yated and Verna Patricia Christian - Berry, and other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Public Viewing

OCT 1. 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

OCT 1. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of life with live streaming

OCT 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.*



March Funeral Homes - September 26, 2025 at 10:20 AM

SA

“ *You have my deepest sympathy* 🙏



Sharon Arnette - December 16, 2025 at 04:41 PM

MM

“ *Prayers and condolences to Debra Roane and the Family from Mark Morris*

mark morris - October 22, 2025 at 11:55 AM

KB

“ *My condolences to the family. Big man, that's what we called him! He was just that for me, God used him, to help me, get to him....It's been 14 years and counting, One day at a time!
Thank you, Forrest!
Rest In Paradise*

Keith Beverly - October 02, 2025 at 02:23 PM

DM

“ *Doris Dowden Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.*



Doris Dowden Mitchell - October 02, 2025 at 02:04 PM

VH

“ *Valerie White Howey lit a candle in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.*



Valerie White Howey - October 02, 2025 at 12:56 PM

VH

Debra and Family,

We know the feeling of losing a love one, the apple of your eye. You have always been Daddy's Girl and we know you're suffering with pain and grief. Just remember the great years of love and joy you two spent together, along with your siblings. Reach to the Lord for peace and strength. He will definitely be missed by all of us, and we will remember the great times he shown us throughout our lives. No more suffering, no more pain. Love Herman & Shirley White Crew.....much love!

Valerie White Howey - October 02, 2025 at 01:01 PM

RD

“ *Rhonda Dowden lit a candle in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.*



Rhonda Dowden - October 02, 2025 at 08:49 AM

RH

“ Rhonda lit a candle in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.



Rhonda - October 02, 2025 at 08:45 AM

LF

“ Love, The Pankey Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr..



Love, The Pankey Family - October 01, 2025 at 06:25 PM

SP

“ Samaria Pryor lit a candle in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.



samaria pryor - October 01, 2025 at 03:12 PM

BC

“ Bonnie Chambers sent a virtual gift in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.



Bonnie Chambers - October 01, 2025 at 01:55 PM

BC

“ Bonnie Chambers sent a virtual gift in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.



Bonnie Chambers - October 01, 2025 at 01:54 PM

TM

“ Sincere condolences to Deborah and the Family from God's Miracle Church

TMT - October 01, 2025 at 12:22 PM

EH

“ Your love one was loved by his Stockton Street family as he showed us love in return. Prayers of comfort & strength in this difficult time elsie

elsie holmes - October 01, 2025 at 07:58 AM

CF

“ Calvin A. Edwards, Jr. and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr..

Calvin A. Edwards, Jr. and Family - October 01, 2025 at 07:31 AM

CF

“ Calvin A. Edwards, Jr. and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr..



Calvin A. Edwards, Jr. and Family - October 01, 2025 at 07:31 AM

LA

“ Condolences an Prayers too the Dowden family from the Archer an Buffaloe family.



Lillie Archer - September 30, 2025 at 03:14 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr..

September 29, 2025 at 08:16 PM

CF

“ Campbell And Hargrove Family lit a candle in memory of Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.



Campbell and Hargrove Family - September 29, 2025 at 06:39 PM

MW

*I will always remember all Our talks Unk💔 I will Never forget U 🙏🙏
Love U*

Maleeka Whitaker - September 29, 2025 at 10:28 PM

SP

I will truly miss you, all the things you did for Lil Boochie was greatly appreciated

samaria pryor - October 01, 2025 at 03:11 PM

VC

“ *Vincent Campbell lit a candle in memory of
Forrest Jackson Dowden, Jr.*



Vincent Campbell - September 29, 2025 at 06:38 PM

CE

“ *Condolences from Janet Green Catherine Cosby and constance
eberhardt Rip*

Constance Eberhardt - September 28, 2025 at 03:42 PM

RP

“ *I have known Forrest all my life. He was a
serious yet funny guy at times. He and my
Father were friends for many years. If you
ever want to hear his voice, look up the
Historic Fulton Oral History. Blessings to the
family and we are keeping all of you lifted in prayer. May you find
peace and comfort in God! Rev. Patricia Preston Perez*



Rev Mary Perez - September 26, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - September 25, 2025 at 03:44 PM



Prayers and condolences to Debra Roane and the Family 🙏

mark morris - October 22, 2025 at 11:55 AM