



Israel Witherspoon

December 13, 1943 - September 20, 2018

ISRAEL WITHERSPOON, son of the late James Israel Witherspoon and Ethel (Williams) Witherspoon, was born on December 13, 1943 in Baltimore, Maryland. He fell peacefully asleep in Jesus on September 20, 2018 after a brief illness.

Leo, as he was lovingly known, received his education in the Baltimore City Public School System. In his early years, he worked at Lockheed Martin, where he suffered a disabling incident. After that, he worked as a security guard at the Village Of Purnell. Most recently, he worked as a courtesy driver, a job he absolutely loved. He often used the short time he has with customers to minister and share God's Word.

In 1988 he married the love of his life, Gwendolyn. Together they expressed their love to their blended family as if they were one huge family all along. He was especially fond of the grandchildren and would do anything for them. They brought out his softer side . Leo and Gwendolyn were licensed as foster parents and specialized in providing care for teenage males. All of the children they cared for affectionately called him “pops”. He spent many hours transporting the children to and from school, appointments, and social activities; and he loved every minute of it.

Leo attended Berea Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church, where he

previously enjoyed serving as an usher and Sabbath School Teacher. He was also an avid background supporter of the church's prison ministry program and soup kitchen, supporting his wife, Gwendolyn. Many times he ended up not only transporting the food, but cooking it too. He had a special gift for seasoning dishes just right! Leo was a people person and a very loveable guy.

One of the unique things about Leo was his knack with animals. For many years he had a beloved dog, Pal; who he trained to go to KFC and bring his food back. He also built a coop and trained pigeons. He would release them and they would return! His last pet was Tito, a Chihuahau who often accompanied Leo as he dropped his wife off to work.

Celebrating his life and legacy are his wife, Gwendolyn; his son, Jonathan Whitherspoon, Sr., stepchildren, Lashawn (Frank) Scroggins, Ahmad Harvin, Mark (Kelly) Harvin; special son in love, Guy Austin; three brothers, Adam James, Bernard, and Harold; sister, Eloise Corey; four brothers in law, Clint (Yolanda) Harvin, Kenneth (Lori) Harvin, Carl Harvin and Leonard (Margaret) Harvin; one sister in law, Karen Coates; seventeen grandchildren; Karima, Michaela (Christopher) Martano, Jonathan, Jr., Megan, Anthony, Ariel, Shaunique, Ahmad, jr., Alecia, Mark,jr., Yasmine, Kaiden, Noah, Khloe, Michael, Kassidy, and Kaci; five great grandchildren, Mackenzie, Kamel, Zyhara, Zyshaya and Chloe; and a host of nieces nephews, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

King Memorial Park Cemetery - Grand Heritage Chapel & Mausoleum

8710 Dogwood Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21244
(410) 944-8300
info@kingmemorialpark.com
<https://www.KingMemorialPark.com>

Previous Events

viewing

SEP 27. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Wake

SEP 28. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Berea 7th Day Adventist
1901 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD

Service

SEP **28**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Berea 7th Day Adventist
1901 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Israel Witherspoon*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *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, 2018 at 01:08 PM



I love you unc Leo and I miss you dearly,your nephew C.Witherspoon aka shiloh

Charlo Witherspoon - April 13, 2022 at 02:58 PM