



Joe Henry Bell, Jr.

June 6, 1956 - November 25, 2021

Joe Henry Bell, Jr. was born on June 6, 1956, to the late Joe H., Sr. and Ella M. Bell, in Gary, Indiana. He was the third of four children.

Joe's endearing smile was always accompanied by a slight tilt of his head. He was a typical boy amongst his three sisters. His inquisitive nature resulted in many dismantled toys that he always thought he could put back together.

As a youth, Joe was a member of the Boys Scouts of America and the Boys Club of North West Indiana. This is where his talent as an artist blossomed into oils, watercolors, and pastels that hung on the walls of family members' homes. One of Joes' most cherished times was helping his left-handed "Granny", Emma Catherine, improve her writing skills, because he too was "South Paw".

While attending Froebel School the coronet was his instrument of choice. Joe was also among the first Black boys to be recruited as paperboys to serve our community.

As a sophomore at Horace Mann High school, Joe gained a position on the Varsity Football Team, but a knee injury on the Varsity Football Team, but a knee injury ended his career in sports. The Reserve Officers Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) became the lucky recipients of his energy and character. Joe

graduated from high school in 1974. Thus, began his career in the United States Army.

Joe's first 10 years in, he worked in Army Finance. After wanting more excitement and adventure, he changed his Military Occupational Specialty (M.O.S) to become an Infantry man. In March 1988, Joe met the love of his life, Mary. Joe applied to and was accepted to attend the Drill Sergeant's Academy and his future bride had just been selected also.

By October 1988, Joe had married his soul mate and established their homestead in New Kent, VA. In the early 1990's he was added to the Church of Christ in Richmond, VA. Joe retired from the Army in 1994 with 20 years of Honorable Service.

Joe's dream was realized in 1988 when God added to his family a son, Terrell. Joe attended Rappahannock Community College and graduated with three Associate Degrees with honors and two certificates.

In 2001 Joe's health took a drastic turn causing him to have major surgery. Joe being a soldier he was fought on courageously and valiantly, for 19 years and 8 months more. The Lord called his soul home on November 25, 2021.

Joe was preceded in death by his beloved parents; two nieces, Kenyadda M. Patterson and Akorfa Y. Jackson; stepsister, JoAnn Johnson.

He leaves to mourn and cherish his memory, devoted wife, Mary of New Kent; son, Terrell O'Bryan Bell of Richmond, VA., mother-in-law, Richie Frazier of Troy, AL.; goddaughter Rayshema Challwell (Roosel) of McClenny, FL; sisters, JoAnne Jackson of Gary, IN, and Antoinette Brady (Tommy) of Cordova, TN. and Natalie Bell of Gary, IN; brother-in-law, James D. McSwain (Vernice) of Smiths, AL; stepmother. Margaret Bell of Sikeston, MO;

stepsisters, Pamela Page Boykins (Billy) of Cincinnati, OH and Donna Hollies of St Paul, MN; stepbrother, Ronald Hollies (Anita) of Sikeston, MO; uncles, Walter Bell of Gary, IN and James Jackson (Bertha) of Hephzibah, GA; aunts, Ruthie Stewart of Gary, IN and Betty Gardener of Atlanta, GA); a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins; special friends, Thaddis Jackson of Chicago, IL, Alfonzo Tuggle of Hampton, VA, Barbara Johnson of Richmond, VA, Terry Mason (Tina) of New Kent, VA, Trapper Brandenburger (Andrea) of New Kent, VA, J.T. Minor (JT's Barber Shop, Quinton, VA) and a host of veterans and business owners in the county.

Joe's presence was impactful "TO GOD BE THE GLORY"!

Cemetery Details

Washington Memorial Park

6217 Memorial Dr.
Sandston, VA 23150

Previous Events

Public Viewing

DEC **9**. 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM (ET)

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

Celebration of Life with livestreaming available

DEC **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Joe Henry Bell, Jr., Please Click the Link below.*



March Funeral Homes - December 02, 2021 at 02:09 PM



“ *Joe Henry Bell, Jr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Sending prayers and condolences to the entire family of Joe Bell. From your Tyler street sister, may you Rest In Peace.*

Donna Peck

Donna Peck - December 10, 2021 at 10:39 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 - November 30, 2021 at 11:22 AM