



## Riley L. Franklin

August 23, 1932 - June 18, 2023

RILEY LENWOOD FRANKLIN was born on August 23, 1932, in Baltimore, Maryland to the late Riley Roosevelt Franklin and Mary Frances Franklin. They nicknamed him “Sonny”. Everyone knew him and called him Sonny. He departed this life on June 17, 2023 at Long Green Autumn Lake. He came from a very large family, four boys and five girls including himself.

Sonny received his education in the Baltimore City Public School System, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School and 116 Vocational School.

His father taught him the importance of working hard at a young age. Sonny sold newspapers and worked as a construction worker with his father in his early teens. He and his future wife met when they were both in their early teens and married on May 5, 1951. They had six children, the first was a boy and later a little girl who lived three weeks before she passed. Sonny would visit the hospital Premie Ward and hold her often.

Sonny loved his family; he was a wonderful provider and made sure his children had whatever they needed. Sonny worked at Maryland Glass Company and later went on to work at Bethlehem Steel in Sparrows Point where he worked for 43 years before retiring in 1995. His hobbies were many; his favorite was talking on his CB Radio. Sonny was a member of the Channel Masters. His radio name was "Newcomer 32". Sonny loved planting

vegetables, flowers, decorating, and shopping and was known to be a shopaholic and a great cook.

He leaves to mourn: his wife, Mary E. Franklin of 72 years; sons, Riley B. Franklin (Brenda Franklin), Tracy L. Franklin (Audrey Franklin) and Kevin R. Franklin (Dreama Franklin); daughter, Teresa Franklin-Walden, (his oldest daughter Diane Y. Cox preceded his death in April 2019); nine grandchildren, Gilbert C. Figgins Jr., Evangela, Franklin, Shannon Franklin, Brandon S. Elliott, Kevin Franklin Jr, Eric Franklin, Tiara S. McCallum, Jasmine Franklin and Joshua Franklin; eight great-grandchildren; sister, Mrs. Shirley Moore (seven siblings preceded him in death); and a host of nephews and nieces; and adopted daughter-in-the-Lord, Helen.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Cemetery

2130 Woodlawn Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21207

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUN **29**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - East  
1101 E. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21202

## Wake

JUN **30**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

March Funeral Home - East  
1101 E. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21202

## Funera Service

JUN **30**. 11:30 AM (ET)

March Funeral Home - East  
1101 E. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21202



# Tribute Wall



“ *Teresa Greene lit a candle in memory of Riley L. Franklin*



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**Teresa Greene** - July 03, 2023 at 12:44 PM



*My condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Sonny  
May God comfort you and strengthen you in the loss of your loved one*

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**Teresa Greene** - July 03, 2023 at 12:49 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Riley L. Franklin.*



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June 28, 2023 at 02:07 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Riley L. Franklin.*



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June 28, 2023 at 11:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Riley L. Franklin.*



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June 27, 2023 at 11:18 AM



“ *RIP Uncle 🙏 sincere condolences to all his loved ones.*



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**Ernest Young** - June 27, 2023 at 11:13 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Riley L. Franklin.*



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June 27, 2023 at 11:10 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.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - June 23, 2023 at 04:03 PM