



## Samuel Cooley Sr.

September 14, 1929 - August 16, 2020

### Remembrance

Samuel Eli Cooley, Sr. quietly and peacefully said, "Goodbye" in the late evening on Sunday, August 16, 2020 after a lengthy period of illness as family filled the home with their loving presence.

He was born on September 14, 1929 to the late Deacon Riluth Hamilton Cooley and Alease Merritt Cooley. He was preceded in death by his wife, Bessie Louise Laury Cooley in December of 1991 and son, Samuel Jr. (Juney) in October of 2008. He was also preceded in death by his siblings- Nancy C. Crocker, Geraldine C. Willis, Edward R. Cooley, Dennis Cooley, Mattie C. Copeland and Louise C. Peterson.

Sam, as he was so affectionately known, was baptized at an early age at the Shiloh Baptist Church. He attended public in Chesterfield County. He left school at an early age for he had lots of exploring to do.

He married Bessie Louise Laury of Buckingham, VA on May 11, 1955. To this union, five children were born- Yvonne, Samuel Jr., Sharon, Antoinette and Paula. As their family grew, Sam and Bessie resided in several states from Virginia to Massachusetts before settling down in Baltimore, Maryland.

Sam had various trade skills and did not hesitate to put them all to good use. He worked for many years as a presser and repaired shoes in several tailoring, dry-cleaning businesses. Maybe , that is where he further developed his sense of style;he was one sharp dresser! He also worked as a welder at Bethlehem Steel in Sparrows Point in Maryland. He finally found his niche when he went into business for himself as the owner and tow truck operator of S&S Towing Company.

Sam had many hobbies. He was an avid fisherman and hunter. He was a longtime member of the Drivers Hunting Club in Sussex County,VA. He just could not wait for the seasons to begin.

Sam enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He held a special place in his heart for everyone of them. He loved going to his grandson Sherard's home because he always tried to sneak up to his walk-in closet where he had free range to go shopping. His niece,Beverly,would often say that he was her "favorite uncle". His nephews,Basil would always ask to get permission to celebrate the birthday they shared together. And his grandson Keith,would always make sure he was well groomed with a fresh haircut. Tyrone Groom who was a very special friend who made sure all his cars ran in tip-top shape.

In 1993, Sam married Mammie L. Johnson. To this union were added two stepdaughters-Lessie Clayborne(Linwood) and Freida Diggs (Butch); stepson,Marvin "Sonny" Johnson(Jill) and a host of loving grandchildren. Wanda Benson, also like a daughter,held a place in his heart.

He leaves to cherish his memories:one brother-Norman D. Cooley, Sr. (Evelyn),four daughters-Yvonne A. Claiborne,Sharon T. Cooley Johnson (devoted son-in-law,Derrick),Antoinette M. Cooley Briscoe (Kyle) and Paula D. Cooley Brown;one son-Michael Webster;grandchildren-Sean Jones,Sr.,Letitia Cooley-Allen (Damon), Antanese M. Walker, Sherard M. Cooley (James),

Latosha S. Brown, Brandon Cooley Faulkner (Danna), Anthony Cooley Sr., Samantha Harris (Zack), Antonio J. Johnson (Fanta) Kevin J. Brown, Jr. (Adrienne), Keith J. Brown, Jerry W. Claiborne, Jr., Latresha S. Brown (Jordan Sr.), Cameron Houchens; great-grandchildren- Deryle Topp. Imani Jones Gault (Jowell), Shauna Jones, Da`Niyah Gilbert, Maury Batten, Abrielle Bruce-Laws, Sean Jones, Jr., Shakira Gaskins, Jordan Nue, Mariah Nue, Caitlyn Cooley , David Allen, Tervino Cooley, Jaylan Palmer, Anthony Palmer, Kai Johnson, Kaylin Brown, Payton Boschulte, Kiairo Brown, Samaiya Claiborne, Makai Claiborne, Zyree Claiborne, Jordan Ford Jr., Jayda Ford, Dante Cooley Faulkner, Quantae Faulkner, Anthony Cooley Jr., Alaysia Cooley and one great-great granddaughter: Chayce Topp.

# Previous Events

## Grave Side Service

AUG 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

Shiloh Baptist Church Cemetery  
6711 Hickory road  
South Chesterfield, VA 23803

# Tribute Wall



“ *Samuel Cooley Sr.*

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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.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - August 24, 2020 at 02:13 PM