



Wilbur Downie

July 13, 1944 - July 26, 2018

Wilbur Ermald Downie was born on July 13, 1944 in St. Michael's Parish, Barbados West Indies. He was the son of the late Basil Rudolph Hope and Gwendolyn Bay Viola Morris. He was raised in Barbados until the age of 14 when he moved to the United States on January 27, 1958. He then resided in Massachusetts.

Jay attended the Lewis Jr. High School in Roxbury, MA and Dorchester High School in Dorchester, MA. He was very interested in camera's and loved to take pictures. He even learned how to develop film. He worked at a super market prior to joining the United States Marine Corps in 1962. He fought in the Vietnam War and was Honorably discharged in 1968 as a Lance Corporal E3. He received the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Viet Nam Medal, Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Rifle Marksman Badge, Pistol Marksman Badges for his loyal, hard and strong work. He then began to work as a freelance photographer.

Jay moved from Boston to Baltimore where he met his significant other Virginia Young and began a life filled with love for 11 years with her family and friends. Her sons Jimmy Little, Derrick Young and Lance Young as well as her grandchildren were very much a part of his life as she has been.

Jay made several friends wherever he went. He loved to cook, dance,

exercise and talk to anyone who would listen. He also loved being a Veteran and could always be seen wearing a cap representing the Marine's. He will be sincerely missed by those who loved him.

He is survived by his daughters Leza Downie of Raleigh, NC; Dawn Easter McCoy (Kenny) of Silver Spring, MD; Chantalina Jeanette Belcher of Providence, RI; Marchae' A Campbell of Providence, RI and his son Giovanni Gendraw of Boston, MA. His grandchildren: Dyminique & Michael Downie, James, Jahni & Janeek Belcher, Tunde Akinjobi and Devin & Darius McCoy. His great grandchildren: Makaila Witham, Daezhon Akinjobi.

He leaves behind to mourn his siblings Edward Downie (Alma) of Brockton MA, Marsha Dailey (David) of Brockton MA, Patrick Holt (Elise) of Ile-Perrot, Quebec, Jeffrey Guiles of CT, Cassandra Paz Alonso (Adrian) of Vaudreuil-Dorion, Quebec and Jules Holt (Josephine) of Vancouver, British Columbia. As well as his aunts Marion "Mims" Wiltshire of NY, Lorraine Daniels of NY, Gloria Skeete of FL; his uncles Cuthbert "Bert" Downie of Hyde Park, MA & Andrew "Parker" Downie of Barbados, WI along with several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

viewing

AUG **9**. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

AUG **10**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Service

AUG 10. 11:30 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Wilbur Downie*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Cleaning some old files I just ran across a Christmas Card from 2012. He was best friends to my husband. Jay was very kind. Loved to show off his culinary skills. I'll have to let my daughter and rest of the gang of Jay's passing. Condolences to you all and God Bless*

🙏🙏🙏

mary - December 20, 2020 at 06:04 PM



“ *my moma went to school with him*

FHUIGEYYYYHVEYIfg5w - December 21, 2018 at 12:09 PM



“ *You will be missed, and always will be in our hearts. To Eddie and Marsha - you are in our prayers. You West Medford cousins - Chuck, Bill, and John Reid*

The Reid Family - August 12, 2018 at 08:49 PM



“ *Royshell Benson lit a candle in memory of Wilbur Downie*



Royshell Benson - August 10, 2018 at 12:11 AM

RB

“ You will be missed Jay. You were so pleasant to be around. Your joyful spirit and your warm smile will not be forgotten. May you forever Rest In Peace and may God keep your spirit alive in everyone that you touched.

Roy & Sam

Royshell Benson - August 10, 2018 at 12:09 AM

EG

“ Jay was a great veteran and a kind friend. Our deepest condolences to Virginia and the family. We will miss him and fondly remember him always ❤️ Mr. & Mrs. Elmer & Alma Gill, Odenton MD

Elmer Gill - August 08, 2018 at 11:04 PM

ED

“ Share a memory of Wilbur Downie or send condolences to the family.

To my beloved big brother Wilbur, I will miss you so much. I admired you and loved your free and adventurous spirit.

I miss you so much already, you will always be in my heart. R.I.P brother!

Much love from your brother, Eddie

Edward Downie - August 05, 2018 at 07:59 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 - August 05, 2018 at 01:16 PM