



Willard A. Pinkney Jr.

March 9, 1915 - March 30, 2012

Willard Allen Pinkney, Jr., born on March 9, 1915, the second child to Willard Allen Pinkney, Sr. and Fannie Johnson Pinkney in Baltimore, Maryland, Became the oldest living child in a family of ten. Will, as he is called by his siblings, grew up in Baltimore City, spent most of his childhood summers in Westmoreland County, Virginia, attended Baltimore City Public Schools, graduated from Frederick Douglass High School in 1933, and worshipped with his family at the Union Baptist Church.

After his graduation he completed a tour with the Civilian Conservation Corps in Virginia. Upon his return to Baltimore he fell in love with and married Beulah L. Rice on July 20, 1938, a union that lasted 59 years.

Drafted into the U.S. Navy in 1934, he, along with six of his brothers, served his country during World War II. After being honorably discharged from the Navy and upon his return to civilian life, he became employed with the Social Security Administration from which he retired in 1974. Even though his career, both in the public and private sectors, was frequently fraught with racist overtones and discrimination he consistently modeled an exemplary work ethic of determination and persistence for his children, community and co-workers. During his career he was instrumental in the abolishment of many accepted segregated practices, maintained outstanding performance evaluations, and trained a significant number of future SSA lower and middle management staff

members.

Throughout the years his family grew and thrived. To his and his beloved wife, Beulah, were born seven children: Joseph, Delores, Elizabeth, Patricia, Michele, Michael, and Thomas. The couple worked diligently to assure that their home was overflowing with warmth, love and comfort – not only for their children, but also for the many who needed only to know that someone cared and who became their adopted children.

Throughout his life, and until his last moments, his faith sustained him. In 1946, after moving to the Cherry Hill Community, he led his family to and became one of the founding members of St. Veronica Roman Catholic Church where he maintained his membership until his death. He passionately served the St. Veronica Parish in many different capacities – the Holy Name Society, St. Vincent DePaul Society, the Parish Council to name a few. It was this same passion and willingness to serve, as well as his devotion to the Lord that led to his ordination to the diaconate in 1974, after having to commute to St. Joseph Seminary in Washington, DC, weekly for three years. During his active years as a Deacon he performed many marriage ceremonies, baptized numerous children (including many of his grand and great-grandchildren), pastored at St. Monica's Parish in Westport, worked with CHAMP (Cherry Hill Ministerial Alliance), the Cherry Hill Coordinating Council, and with several other community-based organizations structured to improve the quality of life for area residents. One of his chief desires was to assist the needy and to spiritually nurture everyone he encountered.

As a parishioner and a Permanent Deacon, his service to his parish, the Diocese of Baltimore, and the greater church was exceptional. In 1997, his service and dedication to the church was acknowledged and rewarded as the late Pope John Paul II conferred upon him, his most prestigious accomplishment, the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal. Deacon Bill as he was

affectionately known at St. V's and throughout Cherry Hill, served each pastor, parishioner, and organization with all of his strength and the love of Christ to strengthen the church he loved! Although he officially retired as a Deacon in 1994, he continued to serve until his health no longer allowed him to do so in 2004, and he talked about getting well enough to get back behind the altar and serve in his last days.

After a lengthy illness, Deacon Bill earned his eternal reward and transitioned from this life to the next on Friday, March 30, 2012. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Beulah; his son, Joseph; four beloved brothers, Harvey, Thomas, Richard and James; and is survived by three brothers, Ralph, Julius and Andrew; two sisters, Mary Harris and Fannie Thomas; a dearly beloved sister-in-law, Audrey Pinkney; six children, Delores Lomax, Elizabeth Harris, Patricia Gaither, Michele Kelly, Michael Pinkney and Thomas Pinkney; a beloved daughter-in-law, Karen Pinkney; thirteen grandchildren, L. David Harris (Shelia), Pastor John A. Gaither, Jr. (Carla), Gregory Harris (Yannick), Kimberly Thompson (Sylvester), James Gaither (Tressa), Sandria Lomax, Samuel Lomax, Dennis Lomax, Troy Harris (Melissa), Daniel Lomax, Breck Kelly, Dionne Pinkney and Kimberly Pinkney; twenty-eight great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friend!

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill

5829 Ritchie Highway
Brooklyn, MD 21230

Previous Events

Public Viewing

APR 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

Family Hour

APR 9. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Wake

APR 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Veronica Catholic Church
806 Cherryhill Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21225

Service

APR 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Veronica Catholic Church
806 Cherryhill Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21225

Tribute Wall



“ *Willard A. Pinkney Jr.*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Breck lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.*



Breck - December 17, 2018 at 07:12 PM



“ *Breck Goode lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.*



Breck Goode - February 12, 2018 at 07:33 PM



“ *Breck lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.*



breck - February 16, 2013 at 08:18 AM

BR

“ BRECK lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



BRECK - November 19, 2012 at 08:11 AM

BK

“ BRECK KELLY lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



BRECK KELLY - August 17, 2012 at 10:53 AM

BR

“ BRECK lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



BRECK - July 12, 2012 at 09:13 AM

BK

“ BRECK KELLY lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



BRECK KELLY - April 18, 2012 at 01:13 PM

BK

“ BRECK KELLY lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



BRECK KELLY - April 11, 2012 at 07:06 AM

TP

“ If I could have chosen anyone in the world to have for a Father I would have chosen you. I thank God for sending you to be my Father, Daddy, Friend, and Counselor. Though we will miss you dearly, we know the Father has prepared a seat for you next to him and we rejoice in knowing You are once again reunited with Mama.

Thank You for being the best Father in the world and we will miss you dearly,

Tap

Thomas A. Pinkney - April 09, 2012 at 11:06 AM

SH

“ Shelly lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



Shelly - April 06, 2012 at 04:32 PM

SH

“Daddy thank you for all the years of your unconditional love. I know that your are rejoicing in heaven right now with Mama! TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY FOREVER!!!

i LOVE YOU & MISS YOU MUCH!

Shelly

Shelly - April 06, 2012 at 04:30 PM

MH

“To the family, please accept my condolences. May you find comfort in the scriptures at Rev 21:3,4 here Almighty God promises to remove sickness and death. Only then will we be able to enjoy life on earth forever under peaceful conditions. I hope this will encourage you during your time of bereavement.

Mrs. Howard - April 04, 2012 at 06:31 AM



“BRECK lit a candle in memory of Willard A. Pinkney Jr.



BRECK - April 03, 2012 at 12:18 PM

BK

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



BRECK KELLY - April 03, 2012 at 10:39 AM

BK

“ *POP POP, THANKS FOR ALWAYS BEING THERE FOR EVERYONE AND FOR YOUR WONDERFUL SPIRIT. I LOVE YOU -BRECK.*

BRECK KELLY - April 03, 2012 at 08:49 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 - April 02, 2012 at 03:27 PM



*Dear Mrs. Harris and family,
Please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of your beloved father. May you find comfort in the many happy memories you have of your Dad. I'm sure you feel as though your heart is broken, but the peace to be found within God's sacred promise will sustain you and in time, you will find the joy inside your tears. Keeping you and your entire family in prayer and extending the love and support of Northwestern High School's entire Class of 1971 as well.*

*Mr. and Mrs Ken James (Linda and Stromie)
NWHHS '71*

Linda Craig James - April 12, 2012 at 10:44 AM