



Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.

January 28, 1947 - March 5, 2025

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Beloved father, grandfather, brother, friend, and mentor William Marshall Carson, Sr. passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 5 after a brief illness.

Known as “Marshall” to family and childhood friends, and “Bill” to his vast network of friends and professional colleagues, he is survived by his proud son, William Jr., and daughter-in-law Amy Drummond and their children Emily and Martin Luepker, and William, Christopher, and Samuel Carson; his siblings Thomas B. Carson, Alvin Carson, Marie I. “Ann” Waters, Mary L. Carson, T. Lynn Brinson, and Michael K. Carson; his dear friends Col (Ret.) Carolyn Jones and Wanda Smith; dozens of nieces, nephews, and cousins; and countless adoring friends, former students, and professional colleagues. He was preceded in passing by his sister Barbara E. Payne and brother Calvin Carson.

He was born to George and Laura E. (Parks) Carson on January 28, 1947, and spent his childhood in the western North Carolina town of Tryon where he graduated with the first integrated class of Edmund Embury High School. The first of his family to attend college, he earned a B.A. in Physical and Health Education at Saint Augustine’s College in Raleigh, NC and was a member of

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, the track and cheerleading teams, and other student activities.

At St. Aug, he met his former wife of nine years, Elizabeth (Washington), and they married in 1968 before he was drafted to serve in the decorated 1st Calvary Division of the United States Army. After Training at Fort Bragg, NC and Fort Benning, GA he was deployed to one tour of duty in Vietnam. While on active duty, they welcomed their son, William.

Upon returning from Vietnam and a short stint at Ft. Riley, KS he returned to Raleigh to earn an M.A. in Counseling at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) while helping to support his young family through various part-time jobs on campus and in the Raleigh community before joining the NCCU counseling staff.

Post-Vietnam, he continued his military service as a member of the 2059th U.S. Army Reserve Forces (USARRF). He remained in the USARF for 27 years, rising to his retirement rank of Master Sergeant (E-8) and Chief Instructor of the 2059th USARF School. Throughout his military career, he earned numerous awards, decorations, and commendations, including the honor of USARF Non Commissioned Officer of the Year. He was an aficionado of U.S. Army history, especially revering the triumphs and sacrifices of the U.S. Army's 10th Cavalry "Buffalo Soldiers" and other Black men and women who served our country.

In 1975, he joined the staff of College Placement Services in Bethlehem, PA where he was Assistant Director of Corporate and College Relations. He remained at CPS until moving to Baltimore in 1982 to join the administration of Morgan State University as Director of Career Development. He also served as Assistant Vice President for College Student Services, before returning to the job he loved: leading the Center for Career Development until his

retirement in 2014. He lived by—and frequently shared—the motto, “Find the job you love, and you’ll never work a day in your life.”

At Morgan, he revolutionized the Career Development Office, providing technology, professional, and staff enhancements to support student success and building deep corporate and graduate school relationships on behalf of Morgan students. His commitment to providing excellent service to—and insistence on receiving excellent preparation from—his students made him legendary to an entire generation of Morgan students who left the University ready to pursue advanced degrees and corporate and professional careers.

A true shutterbug, Bill was never without a camera in his hand and was often court- and field-side taking photos and cheering at Morgan athletic teams, graduations, and other events. His portfolio of weddings, family reunions, and festivities is second-to-none, eclipsed only by his portfolio of landscapes, and botanicals. He was a formidable bowler and avid bicyclist; loved the outdoors; had a keen sense of humor; and loved Jazz and Blues music. He grew copious amounts of produce during annual growing seasons in his own backyard and the Community Garden that he helped to build and grow, providing a steady supply of fruits and vegetables to neighbors and friends. He frequently enjoyed Maryland’s bounty of crabs, rockfish, and other quality seafood, and especially cherished cross-country road trips in two Volkswagen Beetles and three Subarus, including a bright orange Crosstrek with personalized CAREERS license plates.

He was a former Cub Scout leader, an active member of the Greater Baltimore Urban League Guild, a longstanding Build and ReStore volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, and a decades-long platelet donor to the Red Cross Blood Center. He emulated the steadfast determination of his favorite animal, the Rhino, and he will be remembered for his joyful enthusiasm and

willingness to go above-and-beyond to assist and inspire students, friends, and neighbors in any way necessary.

A Celebration of Life Ceremony is tentatively planned for May 10, 2025 on the campus of Morgan State University, and he will be honored with a military tribute and laid to rest at Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA, where he undertook many of his Army Reserve training exercises.

Contributions in his memory may be made to Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity or the Greater Baltimore Urban League Guild.

Previous Events

Wake

MAY 10. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (est)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Memorial Service

MAY 10. 2:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr..

July 09, 2025 at 02:35 PM



“ Marsha W Logan lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.



Marsha W Logan - May 10, 2025 at 02:15 PM



“ My prayers and condolences to the Carson Family. The Veteran Family will surely miss Bill Carson. Our love and prayers are with you. If we can do anything for you, please do not hesitate to reach out. Love and Sympathy. Georgia Eaves, NABVETS Family, USArmy



Georgia Eaves - May 08, 2025 at 12:18 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr..



May 05, 2025 at 01:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr..

May 05, 2025 at 01:49 PM



“ Heavenly Light was purchased for the family of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr..



April 26, 2025 at 01:44 PM

EY

“ From the day I met Mr. Carson 20 years ago, every interaction brought the same man. A story about the delights of his garden, accompanied by fresh mint or tomatoes just harvested. Proudly relaying the accomplishments of one of his mentees. Sharing his detailed memories of his early education and devoted teachers. Lively debates about how I coddled students. The way he spoke so deliberately, like an actor. His cross-country solo travels and regular forays to Longwood Gardens to take pictures. For the first seven years of the Greater Baltimore Urban League’s Saturday Leadership Program, he came to every session to take his wonderful pictures. His boundless energy, infectious enthusiasm, and joy was always on display.

I was one of many many many mentees, but I always felt like the only person in the universe when we talked. He supported with his time, encouragement, advice, and action for every project I have undertaken in the past two decades. My biggest triumphs included Mr. Carson. During my most trying periods, Mr. Carson stood by me. My heart overflows with memories of the ways he has enriched my life... and the lives of countless others.

Estelle Young - April 24, 2025 at 01:12 PM

ND

“ N. Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.



N. Davis - April 05, 2025 at 06:53 PM

DM

“ *The Morgan Community will truly miss Mr. Carson. As a graduate of MSU, I have so many fond memories of Mr. Carson. He was funny, kind, and super supportive no matter how outlandish your career goals. You could see him on campus with his camera in hand ready to capture your best moments.*
My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Dominique A. Mitchell - April 03, 2025 at 12:25 AM

EG

“ *Earlene Goodson lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.*



Earlene Goodson - March 23, 2025 at 09:56 PM

DH

“ *Dr. Burney J. Hollis lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.*



Dr. Burney J. Hollis - March 22, 2025 at 01:21 PM

“ To the loving family of William Marshall CarsonSr.

My heart is broken into a million pieces. Carson, the Human, the Soldier and the “Great Rhinoceros” came into my life more than 50 years ago at St Augustine College. So, I know him as a student, teacher, co-worker, friend and Soldier and Rhino. In every aspect he was nothing less than the man who lived his life in service for others. He knew his purpose in life and never wasted a moment in accomplishing his assignments. He understood the force that drove him by day and night and was obedient to that force. He charged forward like the Soldier and “Rhino” he was with much audacity. He found joy and excitement in doing for others whether family, students, coworkers, or friends and even strangers; from feeding the hungry to remodeling someone’s home, providing gas money and or transportation for someone to get to work or the Army Reserve Center. He was the great encourager to everyone he met showing and instructing them on the power of Belief and Action. He always looked for the good in people and ways he could help them be better. He believed that the power of education, action and no nonsense are the only way to successfully make this world a better place...you only must Believe and “CHARGE”.

I am indebted to Master Sergeant (MSG) Carson for my military career, of more than 34 years of service. Every promotion I received, yes I earned them, however, they were built on the foundation of my military training from MSG Carson, from digging foxholes, pitching tents, Land navigation, weapon training, first aid, Gas chamber, equal opportunity, survival skills etc. He recruited me as a Private First Class. He was on a mission to break down barriers for women in the Armed Forces and decided to use me as his first test case. When he told me about his plan I responded with a resounding “absolutely not”. He was persistent and pushed me into the ranks. So here I stand after more than 34 years later as a Colonel. It wasn’t easy but he was always there to talk to or be screamed at...until some silence fell on the conversation, and he would end with... “is there anything else, Jones, what part do you need my help with?” “Go back to your Rhino Training.” Quitting wasn’t an option.

He gave me my first Rhino book and told me, going forward you are in Rhino training. I didn't graduate from that training until he decided I had mastered the training and was promoted to the rank of Colonel when he gave me the Eagles and said go forth and soar with others riding on your wings. He was a master teacher of life and survival at all levels. He will be sorely missed but his life lives on in my heart and in the hearts of the lives of those he touched around the world. Family be comforted in knowing that your Father, Brother, Grandfather's life, a life of service, was not in vain but well lived. Job well done my friend!!! I thank God for allowing his earthly journey to cross the paths of so many!!! Carson, I imagine when God called you home you asked if you could take the scenic route to once more Shutterbug His Earthly Glory!!! May your soul rest in peace. We'll see you on the other side. Your Friend, "the Soldier", Colonel (Ret) Carolyn Jones.

Colonel Carolyn Jones - March 19, 2025 at 01:46 PM

DS

So very well said!

Dianne Schellenberg - April 10, 2025 at 11:51 AM

TF

“ To the Family; Our sincere condolences on the passing of your wonderful love one Mr./Master Sergeant Bill Carson. Our hearts are broken to hear of the loss of such a great human being. Carson, as our family called him, was adopted into our family over 50 years ago and has been nothing less than a sincere delight to know and love. He was a true brother to us all.

While at Saint Augustine College our family of nine, fell in love with him, “our brother and son” immediately. He was there, bringing much joy to our family reunions, promotions, weddings, anniversaries, funerals etc. He was a very loving and caring individual. There was absolutely nothing he wouldn’t do for you, if he didn’t know how to do it he would help you figure it out. He was full of kind words of wisdom, always mentoring and teaching. His wealth of knowledge, comforting hugs and joy can never be replaced. His love of life and drive to make every day count for something good, was encouraging for all of us. We thank God for allowing his bigger than life journey to cross our paths. As we gather this year, 8-10 August 2025 celebrating our 65th Family Reunion in Washington DC we will be reflecting over the past years with photos he took of our many celebrations. Carson will truly be missed by all of us. Go ahead our brother and take your rest!!! We will see you on the other side!!! The Jones Family and the Jones, Bush, Riley, Weathersbee Family Reunion Group.

The Jones Family - March 19, 2025 at 10:31 AM

MH

“ Mr. Carson was a phenomenal man and invaluable to the Morgan State community. He supported me through my matriculation and years after. I pray his family finds peace during this time of reflection.

Maurice Hart - March 17, 2025 at 04:31 PM



“ *Mr. Carson was a great person. He always showed me care and kindness. He encouraged me with positivity as a student and and as a professional. It was always inspiring to see him when I came back to the campus. My condolences to his family and friends.*



MorganState NJ - March 15, 2025 at 12:41 AM

VB

“ *I'm met Mr. Carson through my bowling coach (Coach Brown) and he used to come and take pictures of some of our matches. Years after I graduated, he found out that my apartment building caught on fire and he mailed me a package to NJ of all Morgan paraphernalia, and I still use everything and have that exact box to this day, which is almost 20 years ago. May he rest in peace and may his family find strength during this difficult time. 🙏❤️*

Vernita Bostick - March 14, 2025 at 11:27 PM

HW

“ *Thank you for all your help over the years, Bro B1. May you Rest In Peace 🙏*

Helen P Washington - March 14, 2025 at 08:36 AM

JT

“ *Always greeted you with a camera and a conversation when he saw you on the campus of Morgan State. He was a wonderful person and a great friend as well as a coworker.*

james thomas - March 14, 2025 at 07:30 AM



“ I'm just learning that this amazing human has transitioned from this earth. I will never forget the love and care he showed me. When I began experimenting with photography, he generously gave me pointers, and even when my interest drifted away, he gently reminded me of my initial passion. Mr. Carson taught me valuable lessons on how to treat dignitaries and captured my events beautifully with his exceptional talent. His kindness and guidance made a lasting impact on my life.

God be well pleased with him and comfort his family and all who knew him.

Mothyna James-Brightful - March 13, 2025 at 02:53 PM



“ Sending warm thoughts and deepest sympathies ❤️ Mr. Carson was *THE* reason I attended Morgan State University. He came all the way out to Eldersburg, MD to represent Morgan at a college fair. His excitement about Morgan, bright smile and infectious spirit prompted me to schedule a college tour. The rest is history. His presence will be sorely missed.

Nicole - March 13, 2025 at 12:24 PM



“ Mr. Carson was a deeply cherished member of the Greater Baltimore Urban League Guild, and his loss is profoundly felt by all who knew him. For many years, he dedicated his time and energy to serving our community with unwavering commitment. Whenever the Guild reached out for help, Mr. Carson was always there, ready to lend a hand without hesitation.

His belief in the power of education motivated him to generously support school supply drives and other important projects, ensuring that countless students had the resources they needed to succeed. His kindness reached beyond the classroom; he actively participated in voter registration drives and outreach initiatives, helping to register people to vote and providing Thanksgiving dinners to those in need.

Mr. Carson illuminated every life he touched, making the world a better place simply by being in it. As we remember his remarkable spirit, the Greater Baltimore Urban League Guild sends our deepest condolences to his family during this difficult time. He made a positive impact on those who knew him, and he will be deeply missed. 🙏

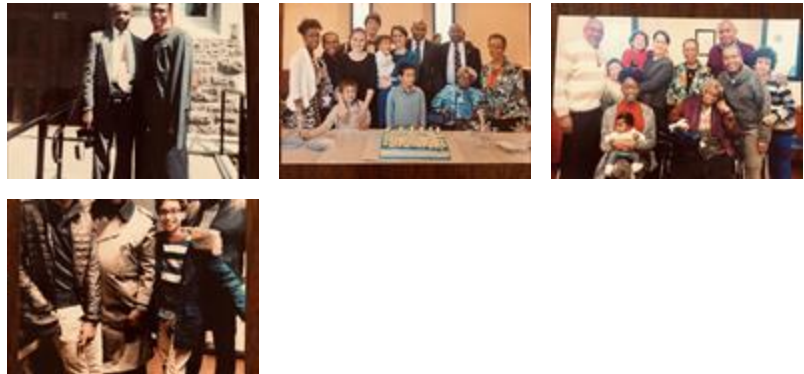
With Sympathy,

*Carliss Maddox
Guild President*



JW

“ 4 files added to the album *SPECIAL FAMILY TIME*



Jane Washington - March 12, 2025 at 06:13 PM



“ *I was just thinking about Mr. Carson recently. He was the first person that believed I could charge my worth as a photographer and trusted that I could shoot a wedding with him! I'll cherish our road trip to Longwood Garden and all the advice and lessons he shared.*

Leneé Freeman - March 12, 2025 at 05:59 PM

MR

“ *Michelle Ridgley lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.*



Michelle Ridgley - March 12, 2025 at 05:02 PM

NW

“ I am deeply saddened by the passing of Mr. Carson. He was truly a light during my time at Morgan State University and beyond. His gentle, warm smile and encouraging words always had a way of lifting my spirit. He touched so many lives, and his kindness and wisdom will never be forgotten. May he rest in peace, knowing the profound impact he made on countless people. He will be dearly missed.



Nia Wilkes - March 12, 2025 at 03:02 PM

RP

“ Mr. Carson was such a wonderful human being. He poured into so many students at Morgan State University and I am a beneficiary of his care. He is someone who would celebrate our achievements and be in the room to document it, while also challenging us to do better when we faltered. He was such a warm person and he modeled what it means to be an elder. I pray that he is resting well, that he knew how much he was loved, and that all of the students he nurtured and supported follow in his footsteps as a champion for young people and a role model for all. Job well done.

Rashida H. Govan, Ph.D. - March 12, 2025 at 02:32 PM

TA

“ Mr. Carson always had such great energy and was always so kind. Post retirement he willingly came to support many of my events with his camera. As a basketball player he always shared inspirational words to me and my teammates.

Condolences to his family and friends. He was truly a great man.

RIP Mr. Carson

Tiny Adams - March 12, 2025 at 02:11 PM

LB

The lost of one of Morgan's finest will be felt by all those who were fortunate to have been touched by Bill. During my tenure at Morgan , Bill was always there with a warm smile and words of encouragement. R.I.P. and thank you for making all my teams special.

Leonard Braxton - March 12, 2025 at 03:47 PM

K(

“ *Mr. Carson made a positive mark on every student to reached at Morgan State, myself included. I am devastated to hear of His passing, may the memory of his impact in the community continue to shine brightly.*



KiAnna DeVille (Walker) - March 12, 2025 at 08:54 AM

FP

“ *As a student at Morgan State University, Mr. Carson was always a delight to converse with. I visited the Career Center often as a work-study student in the Business Department. I was offered an amazing summer internship with Bristol Myers my junior year. This internship catapulted my career in sales immediately following graduation with a pharmaceutical company. Much thanks to Mr. Carson and Dr. Frank Turner. Mr. Carson was a great person and his relationships with campus leadership, administration and students were phenomenal. Thank you family for sharing him with MSU.*

Frenchettia Payne - March 12, 2025 at 08:54 AM

RC

“ *Such an amazing man! He served Moegan State University students well and the community. I was blessed to have always communicated with him.*
With Prayers of Peace and Comfort,
Rev. Dr. Brandon T. Carter, '06
Mr. Morgan 2004-2005



Rev. Dr. Brandon T. Carter - March 12, 2025 at 07:46 AM

DR

“ *Dr. T Joan Robinson lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.*



Dr. T Joan Robinson - March 11, 2025 at 06:19 PM

YW

“ *Yvonne Wynn lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.*



Yvonne Wynn - March 11, 2025 at 04:25 PM

YW

“ *Yvonne Wynn lit a candle in memory of Mr. William Marshall Carson Sr.*



Yvonne Wynn - March 11, 2025 at 04:19 PM

JS

“ To the family of William Marshall Carson. Each soul leaves a legacy of love, each memory a bridge of caring. We are thinking of you at this time and remembering the good times and the love we shared. we are praying that GOD will give you peace and comfort and will cover you the blood of his son Jesus Christ at this difficult time. With deepest sympathy. Janet Fox Sharpe, Joyce Fox Bryan, John Fox, and MacArthur Williams-Johnson.

Janet Fox Sharpe - March 11, 2025 at 03:12 PM

FS

“ Bill had a nose for young people in need of support and mentoring, both students and young staff members. I was very fortunate to be among the people who count him as a mentor and a friend. I never had to ask for his help. When I needed it, he was always there. He was positive, persistent, joyful and wise. His ability to rig solutions to problems rivaled MacGyver. And, he taught me the difference between a good photographer and a bad photographer, is that you never see a good photographers bad pictures. Bill Carson was an extraordinary human being and, while I am so sad to hear of his passing, I truly feel lucky to have known him.

Faith Shearer - March 11, 2025 at 02:46 PM

GH

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about Carson's passing. He was a wonderful mentor who even now has a profound impact on my life. I will always cherish his wise counsel and guidance and the way he always believed in me. His kindness, wisdom, and generosity will never be forgotten. My heart is with you and your family during this difficult time. Wishing you comfort and peace.

Garrya Hatton - March 10, 2025 at 02:19 PM

JF

“ *To The Family Of:
William Marshall Carson, Sr.
I begin today without you, yesterday you were here. Today you are gone 3/5/25.
Enjoy your Heavenly Home.*

*The 50 years plus you were a wonderful friend and an excellent student. You taught us to be cheerful- willing to share, time to listen and you always celebrated the good in others.
Enjoy the Love and Beauty in Heaven.
Love,
Teacher and Friend
Helen Washington-Feaster, DHL*

JOHNSIE FEASTER - March 08, 2025 at 12:46 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 - March 07, 2025 at 04:52 PM

YW

He is just away! May you be blessed with precious memories that will bring you peace and comfort through the days ahead. I am deeply saddened to hear this passing of my formal colleague Mr. Bill Carson rest in peace..

Yvonne Wynn - March 11, 2025 at 04:27 PM