



Willie James Simpson

August 16, 1945 - October 19, 2023

WILLIE JAMES SIMPSON (“W.J.”) was born on August 16, 1945 to the late Henry and Rudine Simpson. He departed this earth on October 19, 2023 at the age of 78. W.J. was born and raised in Ridgeway, South Carolina where he attended St. Mark Baptist Church. He graduated in the Class of 1963 from Fairfield High School in Winnsboro, South Carolina.

W.J. was drafted by the military where he received a purple heart in Vietnam before being honorably discharged in 1966. After serving in the army, W.J. moved to Baltimore, Maryland where he worked as a steelworker for Bethlehem Steel before retiring after 30-plus years.

While in Baltimore, W.J. met Gloria Armstrong; and after a courtship, they were married in 1980. They had two daughters, Terri and Stacy. W.J. was a very sociable guy who loved to talk (sometime a little too much). He would talk to anybody about anything. If you knew W.J., you know he was a “trash talker”, especially when it came to his beloved Pittsburgh Steelers. W.J. was a very kindhearted and giving man who never hesitated to help a loved one in need. He loved a good party and never met a dance floor he didn’t like. W.J. loved his family and friends so much “down home” in South Carolina, he would always ask how they were doing; and whenever he got the chance to go home for a visit, he would try to visit all of his classmates and family to catch up.

W.J. is preceded in death by: his loving wife, Gloria Simpson; two older brothers, John Henry Simpson and Ernest Simpson; eight brothers-in-law, John Harry Shannon, Charleston Cornelius, Nathaniel Lee, Ernest, Samuel, Gregory, James and Don Armstrong; three sisters-in-law, Estelle McFadden, Ernell Taylor and Lillian Armstrong.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his two angels, Terri and Stacy Simpson; two younger brothers, Freddie Lee and Curtis Simpson; four younger sisters, Ruthetta Shannon, Bernice Simpson, Dorothy Simpson- Cornelius, Dianne Simpson; seven sisters-in-law, Margaret, Marjorie, Randy and Patricia Simpson, Theresa Toulson, Michele Branch and Cheryl Armstrong; brother-in-law, Norman Armstrong; and close childhood friend/buddy, Mr. Eddie Lee Addison; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. W.J. was a lot of things but most of all he was a great father, brother and friend.

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

Public Viewing

NOV 7. 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Wake

NOV 8. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

NOV 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Willie James Simpson*



March Funeral Homes - November 02, 2023 at 01:33 PM

DS

“*TERRI and STACY, May GOD provide you with coverings of love, care, guidance and protection in life as you have constantly and unselfishly provided these traits for your Dad (my Brother Willie James “WJ”), especially during his time of illness. And you did so while you each were dealing with various issues of your own.*

Everyone who knew WJ knew he was a kind-hearted person who loved his Daughters, Family, relatives and friends. When calling or visiting people, he wouldn't just ask about the well-being of a group of people collectively, but he asked about or wanted to speak to each individual person. WJ remembered dates of special events (Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.), and he tried to be the first to extend Happy wishes to all.

WJ served his Country in the Military in the Army in which he received a Purple Heart for his bout in the Viet Nam War. He retired from working over 3 Decades with Bethlehem Steel in Baltimore.

WJ apparently thought he was a Pro Dancer on the TV Show “Dancing With The Stars”. When he danced with his Female Relatives and Friends, they admitted that he would toss them up and around in the air as they laughed, even when he sometimes failed to catch them! (WT?... LOL)

At some earlier hometown visits during the initial phases of his illness, WJ tried to hide his physical pains from family members and friends. Although I was aware, my role changed from that of a caring Sister to that of the Protective Hen; not wanting anyone to take advantage of him.

WJ always trash-talked me, but then he would always tell me afterwards “I love my little sister!” Although I constantly asked TERRI and STACY if they would “crack him in the head” for me, they would never do it! (SMILE) On our last Video Chat together, WJ said few words; only periodically smiling to acknowledge the conversation. Before ending our Chat, he said to me in a very low

and weak voice “Why are you so ugly?” Wow! I should have been insulted, but I laughed because: 1) I did look like crap; and 2) His trash-talking was his way of letting me know he was OK! He once again ended our discussion by saying “I love you.” -- GOD Bless You My Brother WJ. – Your Little Sister, Dianne S.



Dianne Simpson - December 10, 2023 at 06:25 PM

DS

“ To my fun loving brother “WJ”, how do I begin to say how I’m feeling cause I’ve got so many thoughts and feelings running through my mind and body. The tears, the sadness and love in my heart for you and all the happy and fond loving memories we have shared. I have so many that I’d have to write a book about how we danced and jocked and teasing each other just clowning around always in the name of love and laughter. We can’t forget about our “PITTSBURGH STEELERS” how we would talk on the phone about the game. How you remembered everybody’s birthday and had to be the first one to call. You’d call me and say Happy Birthday Dot joking telling me I’m so old that I was “OFF THE CALENDAR” and we would laugh. I’m really gonna miss you but I find comfort in knowing that your presence here did not go unnoticed. Thank You For Your Service



Willie James Simpson 💜 🇺🇸 ☐

Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the sky, all is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Rest In Peace In The Father’s House my brother ❤️ 🙏.

Your Loving Sister “DOT” 😘

Dorothy Simpson-Cornelius - November 11, 2023 at 01:20 PM

WM

“ Remember the fun times you spent with WJ. He was a pleasure to be around. May he Rest In Peace. God bless the family with peace and comfort in knowing he’s with God.



Wallace and Henrietta Moore - November 08, 2023 at 09:08 PM

SM

“ St M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willie James Simpson.

St M. - November 07, 2023 at 02:37 PM

SM

“ St M. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Willie James Simpson.



St M. - November 07, 2023 at 02:37 PM

SC

“ Although it's difficult today to see beyond the sorrow,
May looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow.



Our sincere condolences to the Simpson family in the loss of your loved one Willie James. Our prayers are with you.

-Pastor Michael McCoy and the St. Mark Baptist Church Family

ST MARK CHURCH - November 07, 2023 at 01:24 PM

DH

“ May this Yellow Rose symbolize the beautiful friendship that was developed through John Henry Simpson and Margaret Murphy Simpson many years ago. We share yet again in the transitioning of another one of your loved ones. Allow GOD to be your Anchor throughout your bereavement. Because We Really Care, Dorethea, James aka Buddy, Avonne, Delbert and Donna Harris.



Donna Rene'e Harris - November 01, 2023 at 09:56 PM

RT

“ To the families and friends of Willie James I am thinking of you with sympathy and hoping you are finding comfort in your special memories of him.



Roshelle Taylor - November 01, 2023 at 02:14 PM

CS

“ WJ was a good brother and he will be truly missed by many...



Curtis Simpson Sr. - October 28, 2023 at 12:23 PM

IC

We are thinking of you with heartfelt sympathy and much love for the family. We realize that God is in control, however, the human part of our being reach out to you with tears for the passing of WJ. He'll always be remembered for his expression of love to us!

To our Simpson Cousins

From : Your Simpson Cousin cousins , Walter and David Simpson and family.

Inell s. Colvin - November 05, 2023 at 02:48 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 - October 26, 2023 at 12:28 PM