



Mr. James Herbert Purvis

October 15, 1940 - July 22, 2014

James Herbert Purvis, son of the late William Edward Purvis Sr. and the late Mattie Goss Johnson was born October 15, 1940 in Williamston, North Carolina. He departed this life on July 22, 2014 at 4:10 p.m. in Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, North Carolina.

“Herbert” or “Rip” as he was affectionately called, graduated from E. J. Hayes High School in 1960. He later went to serve his country in the United States Army. Herbert served during the Vietnam War and was honorably discharged in 1972. After his tour of duty, he worked for over 30 years in several counties within New Jersey and the state of New Jersey.

After returning to Williamston about seven years ago, Herbert became a member of Strict and Straight Church under the leadership of Pastor William Braddock Pearsall. He loved his church and was a faithful member.

Herbert had a servant’s heart. He was always doing what he could to help and aid others. Just to name a few, Herbert was involved in Habitat for Humanity, Meal on Wheels, and a Red Cross volunteer, but AMVets post 227 was his passion. Herbert touched the lives of many people with his infectious smile and generosity. He maintained his trademark sense of humor all the way to the end.

Herbert is preceded in death by two sisters, Annie M. Jones and Mary Lou

Thompson; two brothers, Wardell Goss and Robert Lee Purvis.

Herbert leaves to cherish his memory two sons, James Herbert Massenburg of Raleigh, NC, Stephan Massenburg (Sonya) of Philadelphia, PA; four grandchildren, Stephan II, Sean, Sache' and Jamelia; seven great grandchildren; three brothers, Russell Goss (Vera) of Philadelphia, PA, William Purvis (Eula) and David E. Purvis all of Williamston, NC; two sisters, Verna Ewell of Philadelphia, PA, Adele Bond of Bronx, NY; two sisters-in-law, Virginia Goss of Suitland, MD and Thelma Purvis both of Williamston, NC, a loving, loyal friend and companion, Mary E. Williams of Williamston, NC, a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

299 W Pine Street
Williamston, NC 27892

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Cedar Hill Missionary Baptist Church
2131 Rodgers School Rd
Williamston, NC 27892

Service

JUL 27. 3:00 PM (ET)

Cedar Hill Missionary Baptist Church
2131 Rodgers School Rd
Williamston, NC 27892

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. James Herbert Purvis*

October 06, 2023 at 05:52 AM



“ *Still praying for the family.*

Barbara So Bless Matthewson - July 30, 2014 at 04:30 PM



“ *James Herbert had a smile that no one could imitate. Whenever you encountered his presence, he had that smile and it made you feel like you were the most important person on earth. He was a friendly and had a personality that we can all learn from. James Herbert did not meet any strangers.*

Condolences and prayers to the family. The Lord is your strength and your refuge in times like these.

ELHedgebeth

E. Hedgebeth - July 26, 2014 at 08:25 AM