

In Loving Memory of



Walter McClary

SUNRISE: MARCH 12, 1934 ~ SUNSET: JANUARY 30, 2024

Funeral Service

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 AT 10:00A.M.

BENTA'S FUNERAL HOME

630 St. Nicholas Avenue • New York, New York 10030

REVEREND NIKISHA TURNER, *Officiating*
BRVON NEAL, *Minister of Music*

Entombment

TRINITY CHURCH CEMETERY & MAUSOLEUM

New York, NY



Order of Service

ORGAN PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Rev. Nikisha Turner

SELECTION

"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Psalm 23 – by Starlene Coleman

New Testament: John 14, verses 1-6 – by Elizabeth Washington

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Rev. Nikisha Turner

REFLECTIONS

Chosen Family & Friends (2 minutes please)

MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE

E. Lashawn McClary

EULOGY

Rev. Nikisha Turner

SELECTION

"Precious Lord"

COMMITTAL & BENEDICTION

FINAL VIEWING

RECESSIONAL

Obituary

WALTER McCLARY, 89, departed this earthly life on January 30, 2024 at the home of his caregiver and granddaughter, Tamika Harris, in New York, New York.

Born on March 12, 1934, to the late Mary Lee Washington and the late Henry Wilson Sr., Walter was raised in a Christian home in Mayesville, South Carolina. In his youth he accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and became a member of Galilee Baptist Church along with his family.

Walter was educated in the public schools of Sumter County at the Mayesville Institute. He loved his family but knew that he wanted to see the world. So, after leaving school Walter enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served during the Korean War and trained to be a boxer. During this time, he met and married the late Willie Mae Marshall McClary. After the Army, Walter and his wife headed north – first stop Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and later on to New York City, which would be his beloved home for the remainder of his life.

Walter's life in NYC was filled with the love and light of family, deep friendships, and the connection he had to the Sugar Hill neighborhood. Sugar Hill was special to Walter for many reasons, but one important one is that he built homes there with two special life partners who preceded him in death – Dorothy Hill and Carol Johnson. He called himself the “Mayor of Sugar Hill” and if you were lucky, you got to hang out with him, his brother Hallie, and their friends, on the corners of Saint Nicholas Place – you would get life advice, laugh until you cried, and get cursed out all in the same conversation! But always, there was love.

Walter loved fishing and would still go out until a few years ago. The pandemic slowed him down quite a bit, but he was still taking walks in his beloved Sugar Hill up until a few months ago. Since he couldn't get out as much as he would have liked, he made the best of it and loved being “up in the middle of his bed” watching his favorite tv shows like Judge Judy and Snapped, old black and white westerns, and wrestling, while snacking on his Lorna Doones and Ginger Snaps.

Walter made sure that all of his family-- whether biological or by love-- was taken care of and knew how much he cared about them. He leaves to cherish his memory: two daughters, Jerrildine Jefferson-Jones of Mayesville, SC and Darlene M. B. Titus (Grandell) of Sumter, SC; two special caregivers, Tamika Harris (granddaughter) and Joey Hill (son by love), both of NYC; nine additional children by love, Donald Carr, Cynthia Hill, Freddie Hill, Charles Hill, Tammy Hill, Jola Hill, Janel Hill, Markeith Davis, and Zhane Adamson; twenty additional grandchildren, Eichakeem McClary, Shaquana McClary, Rickey McClary Sr., Walter Brown, Kendall Jefferson, Latoya Jefferson, Starlene Coleman, Shannel Hodge, Kevin Hodge, Danielle Smalls, Donald Hill Jr., Donald Henderson, Sir Carr, Destiny Hill, Daizjha Hill, Cherokee Hill, Charles Hill Jr., Zaire Hill, Jaleel Hill, and Chasity Davis; fifteen great-grandchildren, Ashley Harris, Amir Harris, Francisco Maysonet, Rickey McClary Jr., Amaya Denton, Mason McClary, Jermaine Francisco, Kendall Jefferson, Kenyatta Jefferson, Malik Roundtree, Amadi Coleman, Heaven Hodge, K'mayah Hill, Shoney Jones, and Johari Jones; and one great-great granddaughter, Amara Harris.

He also leaves: one brother, Silas Washington (Mildred) of Columbia, SC; one sister, Josephine Lay of Savannah, GA; one sister-in-law, Henrietta Wilson of Mayesville, SC; two god children, Sharon Cohen and Henrey Allen; and those he held dear to his heart and helped to raise: Rev. Vermelle M. Humes, Delores Davis, Yvonne Carter, Harrell Marshall, Rev. Sammi L. Marshall, Rosa Mae Howard, Bertha Solomon, Lucilla Solomon, Hallie McClary III, Vanessa McClary, Silas Washington Jr., Tammy Barriffe, Jacqueline Washington, Johnny Howard, and James Howard; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents and loving wife, Walter was preceded in death by his stepson, Willie H. Marshall III; son by love, Freddie Hill; son-in-law Fred Jones; great-grandson, Anthony Shane Harris; stepmother Eliza Wilson; in-laws Willie H. Marshall Jr. and Anna Marshall; sisters, Hattie B. Plowden, Pauline Cooper, Mary W. Moses, Sue Mae Wells, Marie Wilson, Bertha Scarborough, and Mary D. Reid; brothers, Hallie McClary, Henry Wilson Jr., Zachary Wilson, John Wilson, and Robert Wilson; sisters-in-law, Mary L. Singleton, Christine Howard, Margie Richardson, and Sallie Ann Wilson; brothers-in-law, Johnny Howard Sr., Alvin Singleton, and Robert Richardson; niece, Glenda Mayfield; and nephew, Irvin Marshall.

The Broken Chain

We could not have predicted the night that God was going to call your name.

Daddy, in life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you. You did not go alone.

For part of us went with you the night that God called you home.

You left us peaceful memories.

Our family chain is broken.

Nothing seems the same.

But as God calls us one by one, the chains will link again.

~ Your Loving Daughters,

Darlene and Jerrildine



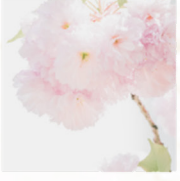
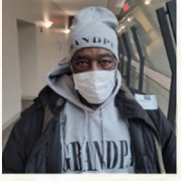


*You are in
our hearts*

WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH







A Message from Walter McClary:

Dear Family and Friends:

Please be advised that I have moved. I received a call on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, from God, and He informed me that my new home was complete and that I could move in. So, He told me to go ahead and change my address.

I must say here on earth, I loved all my kids, grands, great grands, great-great grands, and more family than I can name. I also loved fishing. Fishing was truly my hobby since I was a boy growing up from the South, and I've had my rod and bucket at my side since I came up North. I taught many to fish because with that hobby, you will never go hungry. My favorite color is blue, and I looked good in it too.

Now I can talk with my Savior and remain at peace. There is peace here along with joy, happiness, no pain, only serenity. Family and Friends don't worry, live your life, stay strong and most importantly, keep your heads held up. Family, knit together as you should. As I lay here at peace, no worries or care, say a silent prayer as I am your angel. I could go on and on about my life and new home, but instead I am going to pray that you get to move here yourself one day...But, before I go, let me give you my new address:

*Walter McClary
777 Heavenly Circle
Godstown, Heaven 13024*

