

A Conversation Between A Father And Daughter

There weren't many occasions growing up where I had an opportunity to sit and talk to my father. He worked a lot, even on holidays. However, time made time for time! During his last few months, we had many conversations. Dad confessed that he only knew me about 75% and we chuckled at that because I was surprised that the number was even that high. I knew him about 35%. During this period of his challenge, we talked about his childhood, and he recalled buying his first bike after picking blackberries for pay. He reminisced about his parents and how his father and mother loved the Word of God. He bragged about being the best on the football team in high school as a running-back, thus where "The Best in Class" running theme comes from. He talked about his wife and how they met; and was a doting husband. On one occasion he said "Betty always knew what to say, and not only that, when to say it." He went on to say that I (Yolanda) have that same quality. Each visit was full of compliments, laughter, singing praise and worship, food and we always closed out with prayer.

I'm grateful for these conversations, each one I recorded for keeps sake. Dads' words will carry me a long way in life. He asked God to bless me and every step I take and his final words to me were "I love you too, doll, with all my heart." I kissed his forehead and held his hand.



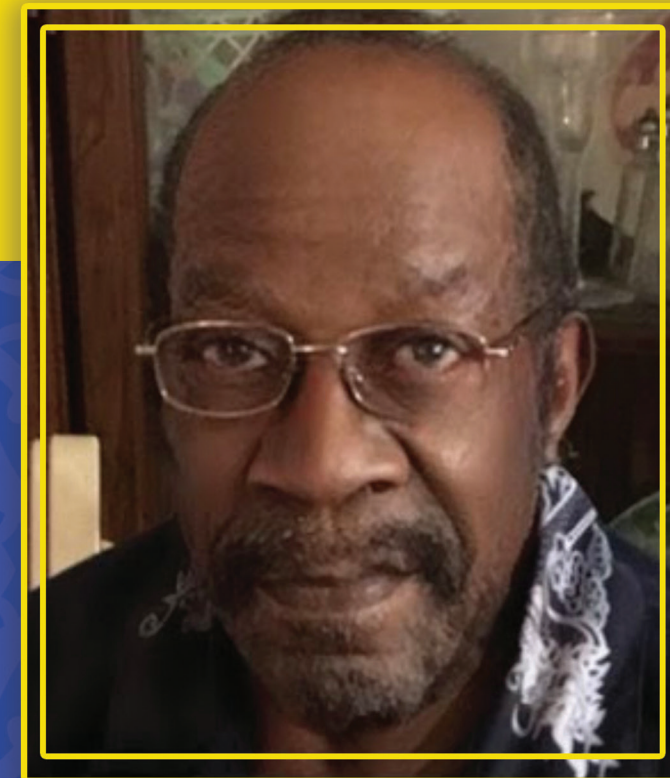
The family would like to thank Capitol City Rehabilitation Center, Le Detroit Baptist Church, Christ Way Cathedral, and all of our family and friends for your love and support.

Professional services provided by J.B. Jenkins Funeral Home

Honoring The Life of

JOSEPH LEE PATTERSON

SUNRISE: JANUARY 2, 1941 SUNSET: MAY 11, 2022



"JESUS SAID UNTO HER, I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE: HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE: AND WHOSOEVER LIVETH AND BELIEVETH IN ME SHALL NEVER DIE."

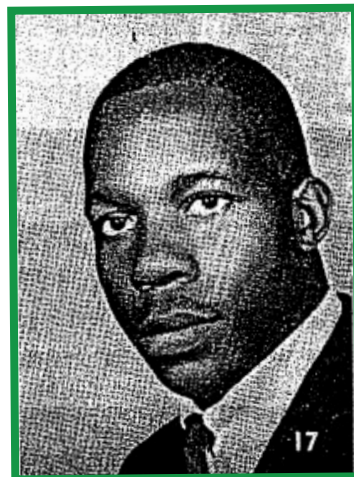
JOHN 11:25 -26

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2022 J.B. JENKINS FUNERAL HOME

**6:30PM VIEWING | 7:15PM CELEBRATION
OFFICIANT | PASTOR ADRIAN REEVES,
CHRIST KINGDOM CHURCH, DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD
EULOGIST | PASTOR WAYNE BUMBRY
LE DETROIT BAPTIST CHURCH, OXON HILL, MD**

Best in Class – the Man

Joseph Lee Patterson, 81, originally from Smithfield, NC, entered eternal rest on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. He was the second youngest child of the late Bishop Connie Patterson and Mary Patterson. Joseph moved to Washington, DC in 1961. He retired in the late 1990s after 30 years of Government service with Veterans Administration Hospital. Joseph passed away at Capitol City Rehabilitation Center, Washington, DC, where he resided under their auspicious medical team.



Best in Class – the Man of God

Joseph was a proud member of Le Detroit Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Wayne Bumbry. When he rededicated his life to Christ, he never looked back! He joined Le Detroit circa 2005 and was an active member of the ministry. He participated in Sunday school, was a member of the male chorus and prepared food for their many festivities. He loved serving God and his community. Joseph was the first “Uber/Lyft” driver in the DMV – some 20 plus years ago. After retirement and all the fishing he could do, he provided transportation to those who needed it to/from the grocery store. He was well known and loved in his neighborhood.

Best in Class – football, fellowship and fishing

In high school, Joseph excelled in many sports. He was a fullback on the football team. Because of his athletic strength and ability he was affectionately known as Bear. Bear graduated from Johnston County Training School (JCTS) with a full football scholarship. His career path was redirected and he went on to become a dietician who was dedicated to serving Veterans. Each year, he would return to Smithfield to attend his high school reunion. In his spare time, he loved being outdoors, spending time with his family, and volunteering in church functions. Joseph loved fishing and often went on trips of night-fishing with his church family. He also loved to cook and was noted for his exceptional carving skills.



Best in Class – husband, father, uncle, and brother

Joseph was a kind and loving husband to his wife, Betty, as well as an amazing father to their son, Jeffery and daughter, Yolanda. Joseph instilled the importance of hard work to his children. His wife, Betty, preceded him in death on September 6, 2020. They had been married for 59 years. On June 28, 2020, Joseph and his wife, Betty, became ill within 8 hours apart. It would be the last time they spent together. Joseph cultivated a household of respect and honor. He was quiet in nature, meek, peaceful, and kind.



Joseph’s nieces and nephews loved visits from him. He always had a joke to tell and entertained them with a spot on imitation of Louis Armstrong. On Thanksgiving, they looked forward to watching him carve the turkey and putting it back together like it was never cut. His nephew, Terrence Fitzgerald, was exceptionally close to him and offered support to the family during his challenges, by picking up prescriptions, handling financial obligations, bringing lunch and toting his wardrobe between home and the nursing facility.

Joseph was a beloved younger brother. He shared a special bond with his brothers and sisters. He was so inspired by two of them, his brother Elroy and his sister Juanita that he followed them to the Washington, DC area. They all remained close until the time of his passing. His surviving siblings Rev. Juanita Wilson, Sakeenah Muhammad, Elroy Patterson (Vernola), and Retha Fitzgerald; sisters-in-law Delores Kirby, Joan Bundy, and Peggy Hyatte will forever hold him dearly in their hearts. Preceding him in death were 3 sisters, Shirley, Mary Magdalene, and Dorothy Mae and 3 brothers, Charlie, James and Earl.

In addition to being survived by his siblings, he also leaves to cherish his memory his two children, Jeffery and Yolanda; three grandchildren, Miles, Kirby and Nelson Patterson, all of Jacksonville, FL; one daughter-in-law, Wanda Patterson and a host of nephews and nieces, cousins and friends.