



In Loving Memory of
Lee Van Whitaker, Jr.
“June”

Sunrise
November 24, 1954

Sunset
June 19, 2011

Service

Monday, June 27, 2011 - 10:00 a.m.

ST. LUKE BAPTIST CHURCH

139 AM Tyler Place
Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Kenneth D.R. Clayton, Officiating

Reflections of Life

Lee Van Whitaker, Jr., affectionately known as “June” was born on November 24, 1954 to Lee Van, Sr. and Ola Mae Whitaker in Jackson, North Carolina.

His parents later moved to Paterson, NJ when Lee was two years old.

Lee attended PS#6 and Tech Vocational School in Wayne, where he taught himself to play the guitar. After graduating, he began driving trucks for Riverside Linen Co. where he remained employed for twenty years until the company closed. Later began driving trucks for Yankee Linen, where he was employed for the past eighteen years until he took ill. Lee loved his job and took it very seriously.

In his earlier years of playing the guitar Lee formed many musical bands such as the Five Wonders of Soul, Five Wonders of Soul Plus 2, the Chosen Few and many more. Lee also had the opportunity to play back up for many well known bands. He had a smile and sense of humor that would brighten any one’s day. June was a positive influence in many lives.

In 1987, Lee “June” met his wife, Suprena Porter, they dated for ten years before they married on December 27th, 1997. June loved his wife no matter what. Their union united together five children.

June loved his mother and was considered a “momma’s boy.” He loved being a Dad and enjoyed family outings and vacations. He was full of humility and always was the peace maker. His courage and strength showed in his everyday life.

Family was everything to him, but most of all he loved the Lord and Lee was an active member of St. Luke Baptist Church in Paterson, where he sang on the men’s choir.

He was preceded in death by his mother-in-law, Essie Lena Porter, two brothers-in-law, James, Jr. and William Porter and a best friend, Kirt Hicks.

Lee is survived by: his loving wife, Suprena Porter Whitaker of Paterson; parents, Lee Van, Sr. and Ola Mae Whitaker; two daughters, Tenisha Whitaker-Tate of Newark, NJ and Zanaya Porter McCutchen of Paterson, NJ; three sons, Levonte Pickett, Zamaire Barden and Kyano Stratford all of Paterson; two sisters, Vonzola Whitaker and Joann Whitaker; two sons-in-law, William Tate and Demetrius McCutchen; two brothers-in-law, Anthony Porter and Sam Saddler of Paterson, NJ; two sisters-in-law, Marcella Porter and Patricia Barden of Paterson; two grandsons, Onaji Tate of Newark, NJ and Levonte Pickett, Jr. of Paterson, NJ; two granddaughters, Quanaija Herring and YaHinis McCutchen of Paterson, NJ; godson, Bryan Cox of Paterson; three aunts, Sarah Flood and Nannie Mae Harrell of Paterson, NJ and Rena Devarou of Rich Sq, NC; two uncles, Allvester Jacobs of Paterson and Roosevelt Jacobs of Buffalo, NY; best friend, Alexis Barrier of Paterson; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

The Hymn of Comfort #325 “We’ll Understand It Better By And By”

The Reading of God’s Word

Old Testament - Psalm 23

New Testament - Romans 8:28-37

Prayer of Comfort Guided

The Hymn of Hope and Assurance #27 “Blessed Assurance”

Expressions of Sympathy and Comfort Guided

Acknowledgements and Reflections of Life

Selection Connie Leverett

Message of Comfort Pastor Kenneth D.R. Clayton

Recessional

Interment

Laurel Grove Cemetery

Totowa, New Jersey

Change Of Address

Dear Family and Friends,

I want you to know that I have moved. I received a call from God, the Chief Architect, who informed me that my new house is ready and I could move immediately. Well, my new home is finished and its such a beautiful sight to behold. It is located in an exclusive estate area and it sits behind a beautiful pearly gate.

There is peace, joy and happiness here with no more pain to bear, no strife or discontent. I could go on exploring around my new home but I have to get fitted for my wings. Let me give you my new address because I highly recommend you make plans to live here too.

Lee Van Whitaker

*12 Gates to the City Avenue
Godstown, Heaven 77777.*

Oh yeah! Let me tell you this , I don't have a telephone yet, but first call God. If you don't have His number, He is listed in the Good Book on every page. Contact Him.

Acknowledgement

The family of Lee Van Whitaker, Jr. acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

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An Extra-Ordinary Man

We made it... To God Be The Glory

The past twenty-three years have been nothing short of a miracle for you and I. We've struggled through many obstacles and somehow made it through. No one thought we would make it, however God held all the plans. You stayed through time and ordinary man would have walked away. You had patience, I never understood your courage and faith in God. Always inspired me to go on in spite of what it looked like, you encouraged me to believe in myself and when I didn't you still did. Your love and kindness was extended not only to me but to everyone. You blessed all who's life you graced. You were an Extra-Ordinary man in life and so you left behind some Extra-Ordinary memories that I will cherish for the rest of my days. I've talked to many friends and family and no one had a harsh word to say about you. You left a legacy any man would be proud to leave. Even on your bed of affliction you still saw fit to praise God and encourage the next man. You were an Extra-Ordinary Husband, Dad, Son and Friend. So I say to my Extra-Ordinary Husband... Rest in the arms of the almighty until we meet again.

*Love Always,
Your Wife, Suprena*

