

In Loving Memory of
Winfield Backus Jr.

“Sonny”

Sunrise
February 26, 1930

Sunset
May 25, 2012



Service

Saturday, June 2, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. James Logan, Officiating
Convent Avenue Baptist Church, New York, NY

Marvin Hadley, Organist

Obituary

Winfield Backus Jr. affectionately known as Sonny was born on February 26, 1930 in Hampton, Virginia to the late Winfield Backus Sr. and Dorothy Mildred Combs. Sonny was the eldest of four children.

Sonny was educated in Virginia and New York City. In 1950, Sonny joined the U.S. 82 Airborne and was stationed in Korea. He received an honorable discharge in 1955. Sonny was employed at the U.S. Postal Service then he became a Special Officer for NYC Health and Hospital for twenty-six and a half years before retiring in 1991.

Sonny enjoyed his life and was known for his great sense of humor. He was a fun loving person who made everyone comfortable in his presence. Sonny was a loving grandfather and adored being called Grandpop and PooPa by his great grandchildren. All of his family enjoyed his Sunday morning breakfast that he made purely with his love. Sonny was an avid Jazz Music lover, which he enjoyed playing daily.

Although he was not a church going member, he prayed all the time and prayer is the lifeline for you to have an intimate relationship with Father God.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his devoted wife, Shirley; two daughters, Diane Letsome and Pamela Milhouse; two sons, Ronald and Tyrone; one son-in-law, Daryl; one grandson, Dwayne; six granddaughters, LaToya Johnson, Joycelyn, Sytonia, Tyiesha, Caprice and Tamara; one grandson-in-law, Jevon Johnson; five great grandsons; seven great granddaughters; one sister, Eleanor Jones; one brother-in-law, William Jones Sr.; two brothers, Samuel Backus and Richard Backus; one sister-in-law, Barbara; first cousin and best friend, Milton Irvis; a loving sister-in-law, Doris Weekes; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Lovingly Submitted,
The Family

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

“Precious Lord”

Scripture

Old Testament - Psalm 23

New Testament - I John 4

Prayer

Selection

“Amazing Grace”

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

“Never Would Have Made It”

Eulogy

Rev. James Logan

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Mount Rest Cemetery

Butler, New Jersey

A Grandfather's Love by Emily Matthews

A grandfather's love is special,
For it's love grown
Through all the years of ups and downs
With a family of his own.
He understands a grandchild's heart-
The dreams and wishes there-
He turns tears into laughter
With his gentle, loving care...
A grandfather's love is special,
Unconditional, and true-
It's a precious joy and blessing
We can count on all life through
Thank you Grandpop for all the things you did,
For the happy moments and special memories.
Thank you for lifetime of love

Sonny, God saw you were getting tired,
And a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you
And said Sonny, Come to Me.
Although we loved you dearly,
We could not make you stay.
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.
We love you.

Acknowledgement

We the Family deeply appreciate and wish to express our profound gratitude for the kindness, concern thoughts, prayers and love shown during our time of bereavement. It was through God's love and His strength that we found comfort and peace.

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