

# Homegoing Service For Willie James Irby



Sunrise  
April 22, 1931

Sunset  
July 27, 2015

## Service

Wednesday, August 5, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

## **TRUE GOSPEL HOLINESS CHURCH**

361 Ocean Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

*Bishop Howell, Officiating*

# Reflections of Life

**Willie James Irby**, son of the late Wilburt and Helen Irby, was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina on April 22, 1931, the eldest of nine siblings. Willie was educated in the Spartanburg school system, and in 1952, enlisted in the U.S. military where he rose in rank to Corporal. Following his honorable discharge from the military, he traveled to Kansas City, MO and later relocated to Jersey City, NJ where he lived until the end of 2013. In 2013, he was moved to New Vista Nursing Facility in Newark, NJ where he resided until his untimely demise on July 27, 2015. During his career, he was employed by the Jersey City, ASPCA, and it was there he earned the nickname “Dog Catcher”. In 1973, Willie became employed by Jersey Mill Works where he worked until he retired in 2000. Not many people know Willie was an athlete and that he played baseball for the Jersey City Cardinals.

Willie was a family man. A devoted husband, loving father, and loyal friend. He also had an excellent work ethic. He had an amazing sense of humor and was very giving. Most importantly, he was a God fearing man. One of his pastimes was to sit on his porch and speak with his neighbors and citizens in his community. He had a love for Pepsi Cola and could easily be remembered with one in his hand.

Willie met the woman who was to become his wife in the early 1960's, and in 1980, he married his second and loving wife, Betty Louise Irby (nee Weston), and to this union a daughter, Lisa, was born.

Willie is preceded in death by son, Nate Irby, and brothers, Horace Lee Irby, John Robert Irby, and Henry Irby. He leaves to mourn: his loving wife, Betty Irby; children, Lisa Irby, Dorothy Irby, Will Irby, Rosella Irby, Jackie Irby, Charlisa Irby, Peggy Irby, Mike Irby, Monique Irby, Anthony Irby; and step-son, Leroy Cromer, Jr.; sisters, Iola Smith (Richard), Peggy Tally (Boyd) and Patricia Means (Horace); brothers, Melvin Irby (Gwendolyn) and Freddie Irby (Rosa); 26 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends.

*We thank God for the life of Willie Irby. He will be greatly missed.*

# Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Recessional



## **Interment**

Brigadier General William C. Doyle Memorial Cemetery  
Wrightstown, New Jersey

# Memories of The Heart

Feel no guilt in laughter,  
He knows how much you care.  
Feel no sorrow in a smile  
That he's not here to share.  
You cannot grieve forever,  
He would not want you to.  
He'd hope that you would carry on  
The way you always do.  
So talk about the good times  
And the ways you showed you cared.  
The days you spent together,  
All the happiness you shared.  
Let the memories surround you,  
A word someone may say  
Will suddenly recapture  
A time, an hour, a day.  
That brings him back as clearly  
As though he were still here,  
And fills you with the feelings  
That he is always near.  
For if you keep those memories  
You will never be apart  
And he will live forever  
Locked safe within your heart

## Acknowledgement

The Family of **Willie Irby** acknowledges with deepest appreciation all acts of kindness and support extended to us during this time of bereavement.  
May God bless you and keep you.

**-The Family-**

We would like to thank

### **Sconiers Funeral Service**

736 Clinton Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07108

### **True Gospel Holiness Church**

361 Ocean Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

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