

*Celebrating the Life of*

*James L. Henderson, Jr.*

Sunrise  
June 11, 1949

Sunset  
April 11, 2020

Saturday, April 25, 2020 - 11:00 am

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**  
1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11233  
Rev. E. Tyrone Pittman, Officiating  
Fabien Relph, Organist

# *Obituary*

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**James Luther Henderson, Jr.** affectionately known as “Jimmy”, “Unc”, “Pop” and “June Bug” was born in Toledo, Ohio on June 11, 1949 to the late James L. Henderson, Sr. and Johnnie Mae Stanfield. He was the eldest of two children.

James attended grade school while being raised by his grandparents, John and Katie Stanfield. When James completed his education, he moved to Newark, New Jersey where he attended Central High School. He was an exceptional student. As well, he participated in various activities such as softball, managing the basketball team and a superb drum major. In 1967, James graduated from Central High School and attended one of the nations historical black colleges, Lincoln University. There at Lincoln he made many friends and participated in various activities until he graduated in 1971 with a B.A. degree in Psychology. James had such a passion for learning and exploring the history of the African-American culture that he enrolled into Seton Hall and began pursuing a Masters Degree in Black Studies under the professorship of Gil Noble. Due to family obligations James was unable to fulfill the obligation and left school, shy of 19 credits. However, it did not stop him from taking an occasional class here and there during the summers at Princeton University.

James met the love of his life, Ernestine Darden and was married by Rev. Henry Jenkins in their living room in the presence of family and close friends on August 23, 1975. Through this union one child was born, Jeri Aisha.

James was no stranger to hard work. He worked several different jobs within his lifetime. He worked for Englehart, Zepp Industries and New York City Transit Authority, where he retired in March 2008 after 30 years of dedicated services as a Bus Operator. During his days off when he was employed he volunteered as a teacher with the Christian Board of Education at Union Baptist Church. During his volunteering he helped many adults fulfill their requirements to received there GED Diplomas. He taught math classes on Monday nights.

James had many hobbies. He loved BBQing during the summers. James and Ernestine entertained many family and friends with his ribs, roast pork and other tasty edibles. As well, James loved westerns. Some of his favorites were, The Magnificent Seven, The Alamo, She Wore a Yellow Ribbon and anything with John Wayne. Every day he sat in his chair and watched Gunsmoke. He was also a music lover. He loved the Blues. Such as Bobby Blue Bland and B.B. King. His favorite music artist in the R&B arena was Gladys Knight, Anita Baker, Toni Braxton and many others.

James was not a church goer. However, he did believe in the Lord. He was very knowledgeable of the Bible. One of his favorite scriptures was “If a man dies shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change comes.” - Job 14:14.

On Saturday, April 11, 2020, James departed this life to be with the Lord at 4:44 a.m. in the comfort of his home surrounded by his family. James is preceded in death by his sister, LaVaida Lawrence, his mother and father, Johnnie Mae Stanfield and James L. Henderson, Sr., his grandparents, John and Katie Stanfield, his brothers-in-law, Samuel Darden, Herman Darden, Hollie Darden and Eugene Darden, sisters-in-law, Adell Richardson and Ruby Lee Wright.

James leave to cherish his loving memories: his wife, Ernestine; his only daughter, Jeri Aisha; his godson, Regis Aymond Darden; sisters-in-law, Azalia Darden of Brooklyn, NY and Joan Ann Whitehead of Branchville, VA; brothers-in-law, Lonnie Darden (Martha) of Jamaica, Queens, Jack Wright of Neptune, NJ, James Birchette of Asbury Park, NJ, Eddie F. Darden of Branchville, VA and Michael Darden (Bernita) of Boykins, VA; niece, LaVaida Monique Henderson of Atlanta, GA; a host of family from Charleston, Missouri and San Diego, California; as well as an abundance of nieces, nephews, and friends, especially the neighbors of the 700 Block of Jefferson Avenue.

# Order of Service

Processional

Hymn

Scripture Readings  
Old Testament - Psalm 23  
New Testament - John 14:1-9

Prayer of Comfort

Song

Reflections  
(Three Minutes)

Acknowledgements/Cards

Reading of Obituary

Song

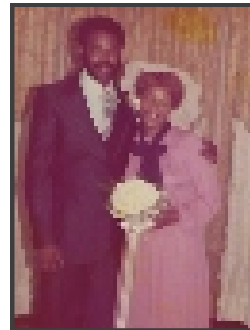
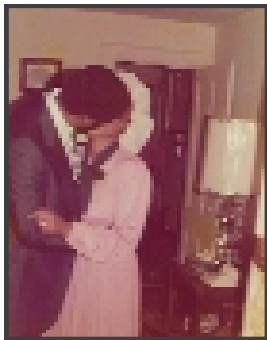
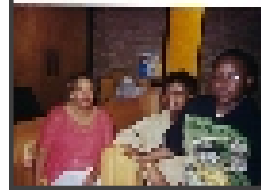
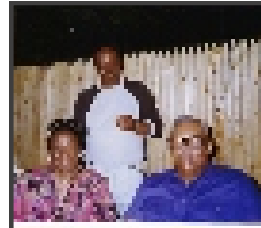
Eulogy  
Rev. E. Tyrone Pittman

Final Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Rising Star Baptist Church Cemetery  
Branchville, Virginia



# Psalm 91

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

## Acknowledgement

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

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