

William "Bruce" Booker

Sunrise February 14, 1953 February 1, 2023

Sunset



Wednesday, February 15, 2023 • 11:00 a.m.

Apostolic Temple of Jesus Christ 137-18 Farmers Blvd Jamaica • New York 11434

Order of Service

Officiating: Pastor Tanya Tucker

Call to Worship
Solo
Scripture Readings: Old Testament New Testament
Prayer of Comfort
Selection/Solo
Remarks (2-3 minutes please)
Poem Reading
Obituary
Selection/Solo
Eulogy Bishop Marcus McKnight
Benediction Bishop Marcus McKnight
Recessional

<u>Interment</u>
Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, New York

Obituary

United States Army Staff Sergeant **William "Bruce" Booker**, 69, died February 1, 2023 in Canton, OH doing what he loved most...WORK!!! Like the military, work gave Bruce a sense of purpose and belonging. Bruce was a dedicated veteran serving 27 years both active and reservist; two tours in Iraq - US Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm, 1990 - 1991; Operation Enduring Freedom 2001 - 2014; and Egypt 2005; Awarded many metals including the Department of the Army Civilian Service Achievement Medal.

William "Bruce" Booker was born on February 14, 1953, in Brooklyn, NY to the late Reverend Willie Booker and Mother Margaret Booker. His parents moved from Brooklyn to Queens where he studied martial arts from the age of 13 at the Black Lion DoJo of Jamaica Queens, NY, achieving the rank of Green Belt. Bruce graduated from Springfield High School in 1971, but while attending high school Bruce discovered his first love of "Football". During his high school years he played for a local amateur football team called the Springfield Rifles, where he quickly developed the nickname, "The Hatchet Man".

Bruce attended Queens College and Devry University, but quickly learned the traditional academic path wasn't for him. He found his true calling with the United States Military - Division of the Army in 1996. Prior to joining the Army Bruce met and later married his first wife Karen Williams; from this union had two children Jason Booker and Dana Booker. Bruce was born on the hallmark heart holiday, which makes perfect sense because he had the biggest heart.

At an early age, Bruce was taught to love the Lord. It wasn't until later in life, the teachings of God revisited his spirit and he was re-baptised and started a consistent regiment of studying the bible on a daily basis proving the teachings of God were taken to heart. In 1999 while working for NYC MTA Bridge and Tunnel Service, Bruce met his forever love Lorraine Briggs. After a long courtship, Lorraine and Bruce were married in Queens, NY in 2004. Over the next 19 years Bruce and Lorraine purchased their first home in Pennsylvania then eventually relocated to Canton, OH where they created a home, a good life, and a love for their community.

Bruce departed this life on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at Aultman Hospital in Canton, OH. He was preceded by his Father Reverend Willie Booker, Mother Margaret Booker; two brothers Ronald Silver, Donald Silver; and three sisters Pamela Lynch, Margaret Gail Powell, and Ava Booker. He leaves to celebrate his life, wife - Lorraine Booker and step-son Duane G. of Canton, OH; two children Jason Booker and Dana Booker; sister Tonya Booker of Rosedale, NY; brother Roger Booker of Jamaica NY. Two grandchildren Daa'liyah Wright and Rhiana Bradley; seven nephews and their wives; Ronald Keith, Islah, Michael and Giselle Charles, Royal and Claudine Powell, Anthony, and Christopher. One niece; Tawana Powell. Great nephew, Michael III and Great nieces; India, Madisyn, and Kennedy. Great-great nephew Michael IV. and a host of family, friends, and coworkers in New York, Atlanta, Virginia, Philadelphia, Ohio, Maryland, North Carolina and other parts of the Country and Europe.

A Hero's Welcome

Time to come home dear brother. Your tour of duty is through. You've given as much as anyone could. We can only imagine, how much was left undone. Time is up, don't worry no more! Just a few steps further. The smoke will start to clear. Others here will guide you home. You have no need of fear. Your children are covered! You have not failed your brothers. You clearly gave it your all and through your heartfelt actions others will hear the call. So take your place of honor. Among those who have gone before you, and know you will be remembered for now and evermore!

Inspired by Author Robert Longley

Hcknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.

Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*Ph (718) 529-3030 • (718) 528-7765
Fax (718) 712-2108 • (718) 528-2575
Email: royl.gilmorefuneralhome@verizon.net

191-02 Linden Blvd. • St. Albans, NY 11412

