

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Words cannot express our heartfelt gratitude to those who called, visited, and has shown any expression of sympathy during our time of bereavement. We are deeply grateful.

Arrangements Entrusted to:

J. B. Jenkins Funeral Home, Inc.
7474 Landover Road
Hyattsville, Maryland

Designed by:
Jennifer L. Flowers

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Jerome Williamson
MAY 12, 1956 - JANUARY 29, 2023

Jerome Williamson was born in Washington, District of Columbia, on May 12, 1956, to the late Walter and Rosetta Williamson. He was the eldest of two children born to that union.

Jerome was educated and graduated with honors from McKinley Technical High School in Washington, D.C. He applied to several colleges and universities and received scholarships from Georgetown University, George Washington University, American University, Howard University, Bowie State University, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to name a few. He eventually selected the HBCU Bowie State University (BSU) because of their offered programs and financial package. He graduated in 1979 Magna Cum Laude, with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. He ranked in the top 1% of his graduating class and was indoctrinated into several national honor societies. Year after year, Jerome was indoctrinated into *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in Black America* for his stellar academics. Even with his insurmountable accomplishments, he rarely felt challenged, and was always striving for greater knowledge.

Because of his natural leadership skills and exemplary character, during his senior year at Bowie, the National Oceanography and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Commissioned Corp recruited him for their Officer's Training Program. As a condition of acceptance into the program, he was required to enroll into a compressed engineer program at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). With their preselection of required coursework, he was finally challenged, and excelled with flying colors. That summer after graduation from UMCP, he reported to the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Greenwich Village, NY, to become a nautical/maritime officer with emphasis on ship handling, marine seamanship, sea navigation, and more importantly, scientific oceanography research. He soon realized the Commander's duties required 9 out of 20 years at sea and it was something he had to reconsider. After completion of his training and speaking with the right officers about transitioning from the military, he was offered a civilian position in NOAA, as an Aeronautical Charting Reviewer. He concluded his 40 years of Federal Service in 2019.

Jerome met Charlene in 1976 at BSU, and after 7 years of dating, they married on July 10, 1983, in Bermuda. They were blessed with two beautiful children, Jared and Lauren.

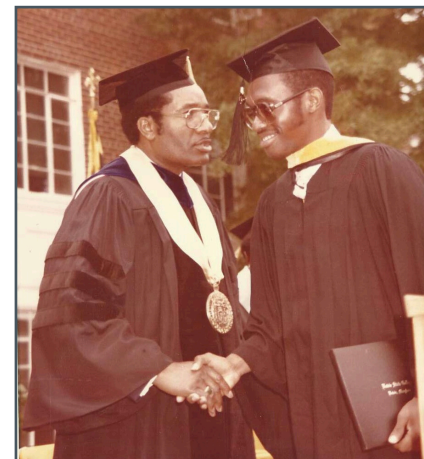
Jerome's favorite pastime was standing over the stove stewing a delectable meal. And not just your traditional meat and potatoes, but a gourmet meal.

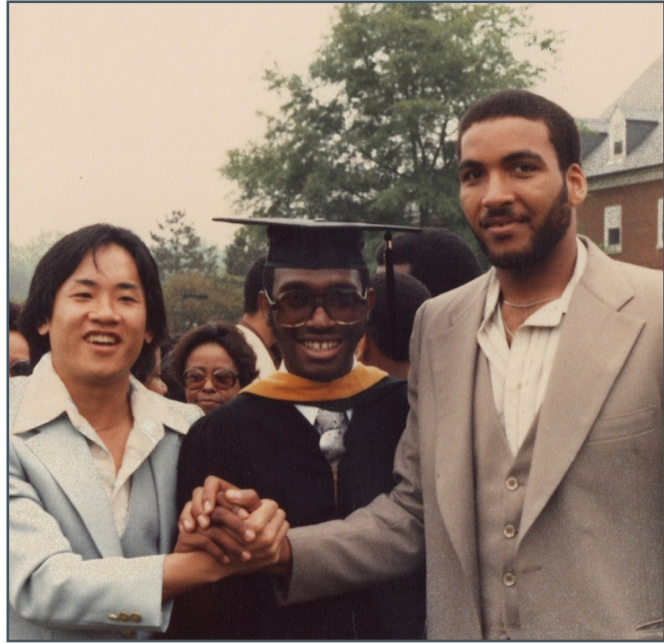


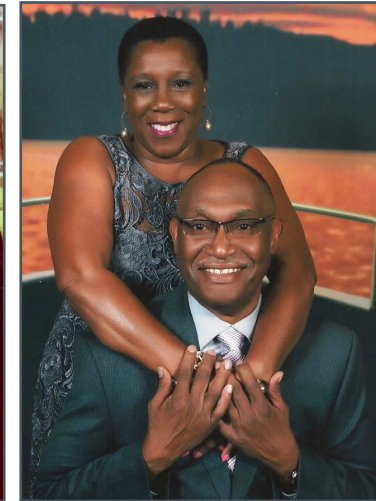
He was a self-taught professional chef and felt he needed the tools of the trade to complete his desired menu. You could find Jerome at the local grocer several times a week perusing produce and the butcher shop. He liked his ingredients fresh! Whenever he found someone that shared his love for satisfying a diverse palette, he would talk their ear off about his latest recipe or newly discovered spice.

He would analyze your habits and imitate your mannerisms to perfection. Once he met you, in his demented mind, he could find a fitting nickname for you. From that moment on, you were only affectionately called by his chosen moniker. He should have been a comedian because he could make an entire room roar with laughter within minutes of entering. He would keep his family, friends, and coworkers in stitches with his antics. But seriously, he always addressed women with such formality, you were Mrs and your last, or Ms and your first name.

Sadly, on January 29, 2023, Jerome passed peacefully, at home, at the age of 66. He was predeceased by his parents and sister, Miranda. He is survived by his wife, Charlene, two children, Jared, and Lauren (Daniel), his granddaughter, Londyn; his brother-in-law, Denton Thomas (Delores), his nieces: Nikita Williamson, Kim Smith, (Wyatt), Belinda Cameron, Sherlita Thomas, and Tamu Thomas, nephews: DeUntay Darrell (Shereika), Chekun Thomas, Isaiah Ejikeme, and Calvin Thomas; aunts: Arsonia Mann, Hattie Stroman, Johnny Mae McCrorey, Carrie Heath, and Gwyneth Lightbourne; uncle: Willard Ed, and a host of other relatives and special friends.







ORDER OF SERVICE

Friday, February 17, 2023
4:00 PM

Reverend French Bryant, Jr., Officiating

Processional.....Reverend French Bryant, Jr

Opening Selection.....Vocalist

Scripture ReadingPatricia Banks

Reading of ObituarySilently

ReflectionsFamily and Friends

Special TributeGregg Leonard

Musical Selection.....Winston Burrows, III

Eulogy.....Reverend French Bryant, Jr

ORDER OF SERVICE

Our Story

Jerome and I met in 1976, at the ages of 19 and 17. He was from a large urban city and I was from a small conservative Island. He knew his ticket in life was through education, and I was excited to finally be

We both have infectious smiles, and love to be social butterflies; comedian. We were both Biology majors, but we had a very different approach to learning. He could be found in the library every day after class, and I was, well, let's say, any place but there! I soon realized that I needed help with my Botany class and needed a tutor. Who needs to know the study of plants?! Jerome, my bookworm, became my tutor for Botany, and I took up tutoring him on anatomy. I think you know the rest.

We were married and honeymooned in the lovely isles of Bermuda in family immediately. We named our first-born Jared. We were young obligations took a toll on us. That is when Jerome took on teaching himself shortly thereafter, our 2nd baby. We named her Lauren. We were too old for a lot of other homes, we had role reversal, he cooked, and I climbed the

We were not always the best at parenting, but we educated and protected our children from life's ills. We were blessed with our first granddaughter, Londyn, in 2022, and her Pop-Pop nicknamed her Snook.

We were privileged to be able to travel internationally during the summer months. We scheduled to travel to Portugal and Morocco in 2020, but that was canceled due to the

The last 4 years have been challenging for us. Jerome retired in January 2019, after 40 years of federal government service. He stopped by the liquor store to buy himself a bottle of champagne, and with that skip in his step, he proceeded to head home, when his heart failed. I got him the medical care needed, and a defibrillator was inserted. Once healed, I was diagnosed with breast cancer, and it was now his turn to take care of me. Prior to the completion of my treatment, we were hit with the only pandemic known to modern day. Months later, my sister, Shernell, passed. Shortly thereafter, Jerome tested positive for COVID, followed by the passing of his mother, Rosetta.

Although he was vaccinated and boosted, COVID ravished his body and he continuously tested positive over several weeks. He was admitted, treated, and released to a rehab center. Days later, he complained about new symptoms, and was readmitted, treated and released back to rehab. He started this revolving door with the hospital and rehab, and each return visit was worse than the previous. Finally, we were informed of his comorbidities, and hospice was introduced as our best option. We opted for in-home hospice and made him as comfortable as possible. Ten days later, Jerome succumbed to his illnesses. The suffering had ended, and he was finally at peace.

With all our challenges and weaknesses, there is one thing that we respected and held on to - our vows, "...In sickness and in health... until death do us part..." You may be gone in the physical, but I am going to take you home and place you on our mantle in our warm home, while you can watch me fumble around in your kitchen, in the house that we built!

Until we meet again, my best friend and husband.

Love you yesterday, today and tomorrow!

Fuzzy



urban city and I was from a small conservative Island. He knew his ticket unsupervised in a big country.

although, he had perfected that art and was supposed to be a approach to learning. He could be found in the library every day realized that I needed help with my Botany class and needed a tutor. became my tutor for Botany, and I took up tutoring him on anatomy.

1983, purchased our first home in our mid-twenties, and started our when we started our family, and life's daily responsibilities and to cook through Maryland Public TV. We purchased our 2nd home, and children by the time we purchased our 3rd home. We were different than a stepladder.

children from life's ills. We were blessed with our first granddaughter, Londyn, in

traveled extensively to 3 continents, and I got the pleasure to travel to 4. We were pandemic. I intend on taking that trip to celebrate our 40th.