

A Celebration of Life for

***Sunrise
March 6, 1932***

***Sunset
January 27, 2022***



William James Perry

Friday, February 18, 2022

Viewing: 10:00 a.m.

Service: 11:00 a.m.

***From the Heart Church Ministries®
Annex at 5055 Allentown Road
Suitland, Maryland 20746***

Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor

Obituary

William James Perry was born on March 6, 1932, to the late Sam and Annie Kennerly Perry in Norway, South Carolina. And in the early morning of January 27, 2022, just hours after having professed his love and gratitude to “his girls,” William quietly transitioned to his heavenly home.

William, the eldest of six siblings, joined church at an early age in the Norway community; and attended schools in the local area. He subsequently enlisted in the U.S. Army and fought in Korea. In 1959, at the rank of sergeant, he was honorably discharged from the military after having served his country for eight years. William returned home to Norway and enrolled in a trade school to study carpentry. Shortly thereafter, his sister introduced him to a friend, Lessie Lee Polite, who later became his wife. From their blessed union, two daughters were born.

Following the birth of their first daughter, William and Lessie relocated to Washington, D.C., for better career opportunities. Their second daughter was born a few years later. With much encouragement from his dear late cousins, Thomas and Betty Kennerly Sr., he obtained additional training and gainful employment. He was a nursing assistant at D.C.’s Old Soldiers’ Home before retiring from the D.C. government’s Rehabilitation Center for Alcoholism in Occoquan, Virginia. However, retirement for William was short-lived, he became a self-employed subcontractor at the Bolling Air Force Base Commissary.

William absolutely loved being at home. He thoroughly enjoyed working around the house, especially using his hands to do carpentry work, gardening, cooking and tackling the television remote. He also loved his church, From the Heart Church Ministries, where he proudly served in the Physical Stewardship Ministry and faithfully attended worship services until his health declined.

Without a shadow of a doubt, William loved and supported his family, and friends too. He adored Lessie, their daughters, and twin granddaughters. Together they were affectionately known as “his girls.” They captured his heart and held his undivided attention. Mr. William James Perry will always be treasured and deeply missed by those who knew and loved him.

William leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 67 years, Lessie; daughters, Lorine Perry of Norway, SC, and Chawleen Perry-Smith of the home; granddaughters, Chanel Nicole Smith and Kendrick Michel Smith; brother, Louis Perry (Irena) of Capitol Heights, MD; sisters, Margaret Hart (Edd) of Washington, D.C., and Daisy Gayles of Forestville, MD; sisters-in-law, Carol Perry and Ella Nora Fields of Norway, SC; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

William was preceded in death by his brothers, Samuel Lee and Hazel “Puddin” Perry.



Order of Service

Invocation

Scripture Reading

*Old Testament: Psalm 23
New Testament: James 1:1-5*

Prayer of Comfort

Selection FTH Psalmist

Acknowledgements

Remarks

*Mr. John Polite, Nephew
Mr. Louis Perry, Brother
Ms. Chanel Smith, Granddaughter and Ms. Chawleen Smith, Daughter*

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation FTH Psalmist


Message of Hope Minister Dyonne M. Gleaton

Call to Christ

Recessional



***Interment**
Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery
11301 Crain Highway
Cheltenham, Maryland
(March 16, 2022)*

Sentiments



*For 28 years, I've
known you as my
Granddaddy. But for the
last few years, you be-
came my best friend. I
love you, Old Man.*

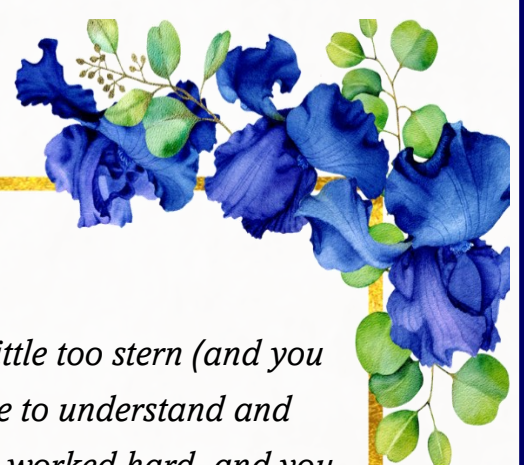
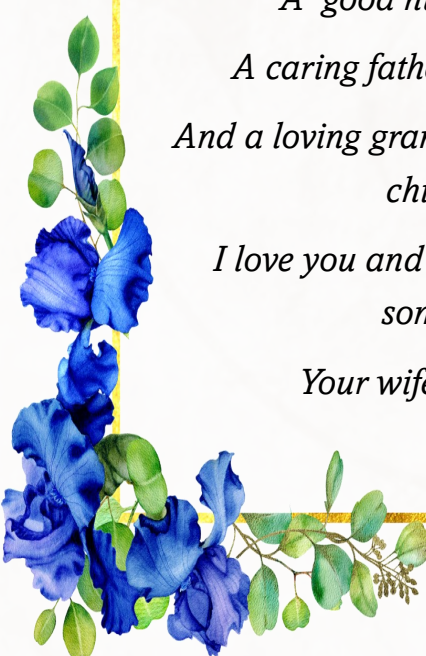
Nelly Nel



*A good husband to me.
A caring father to our children
And a loving grandfather to our grand-
children.*

*I love you and we will meet again
someday.*

Your wife, Lessie Lee



Dear Daddy,
*I remember as I child, I thought you were a little too stern (and you
probably were), but as time went by, I came to understand and
appreciate your true love for your family. You worked hard, and you
took care of us. You gave us what we needed and you were
there when we needed you. To us girls, you have been a great role
model. I pray that you know how much you truly meant to me.*

I will always be proud to call you, my father.

Sincerely,

Your firstborn

Lorine



We all so prayed and hoped that you would come home for us to LOVE and FEED you to recovery. Your favorites: grits slop (half a pack of instant grits, leftover meats, vegetables, garlic powder, etc.); fresh green beans (you snap and I cook); short rib beef or turkey wings; and green tea or a half a cup of coffee. But that didn't happen. Although my heart is heavy with grief, I find peace when I remember your frequent responses to us: "Don't worry about me because Jesus got me! So many roles you were in my life on this earthly realm. I feel like there isn't enough ink or paper in this world that I could use to write or describe them. You Loved us and Provided for us. You Loved us and Protected us. You Loved us and Prayed for Us. You Loved us and now I realize you tried to Prepare us for your departure. You unconditionally Loved Us. Thank You Daddy! I Love You Daddy!

What's your name they always asked?

Your response: "William James Perry" And your birthdate?

Your proud response: "THREE, SIX, THIRTY- TWO."

And who are you they asked me? My response: "I am his youngest daughter."

Your name? My response: "Chawleen" How do you spell it?

My proud response: "C-h-a-W-l-e-e-n. the W is for William since my Dad doesn't have any boys!"

My Mama's HUSBAND; My Sister and My DADDY and my two daughters' GRANDDADDY.

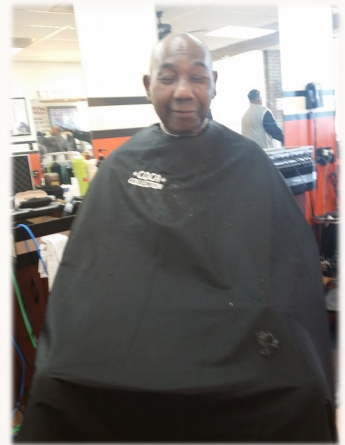
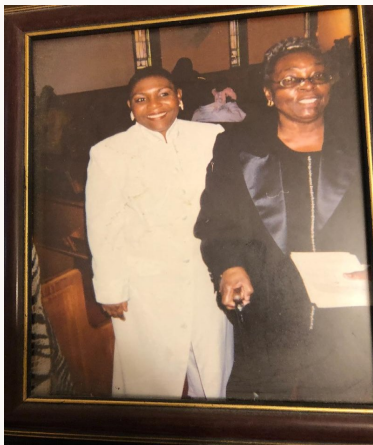
WE ARE AND FOREVER WILL BE YOUR GIRLS!!



Since you've been gone, there have still been moments where I walk by your room, expecting you to still be there; either watching your favorite church program or maybe even a football game. I never truly let myself consider what life would be like without you and now that you're gone, it will be so hard adjusting to it because you leave behind such an unfillable void. You also leave behind so many good memories with you that I will never forget. And even though you lived a long life, it simply doesn't feel like long enough. As you are put to rest this day, I want you to know that your presence was such a key part to my life and that there was not a single day that passed by with you that I didn't feel loved. I am so thankful that I was able to have such a close relationship with you, because I know that not everyone gets that. I couldn't have asked for a better grandfather. I love you and miss you so much already. May you rest in peace, love, and comfort.

Kendrick





Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We thank you so much for all the kindness you have shown. For friendship's healing touch, with gratitude our hearts are full, though words cannot convey the tender thoughts and thankfulness we hold for you today. Love, the family.



Services Entrusted to:
Marshall-March Funeral Home
4308 Suitland Road
Suitland, Maryland 20746