



Leonard Giles Guess

February 7, 1947 - October 10, 2024

It

is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Leonard Giles Guess Jr., a devoted father, esteemed veteran, and retired fire inspector. Leonard departed from his earthly home on October 10, 2024, at the age of 77 at his home under the care of His Daughters:

Dorice and Fallon, and His “Warden” Angel Crayton.

Born

on February 7, 1947, in Chicago, IL, to the late Leonard Guess Sr., and Doris Robinson-Guess. Leonard moved to Benton Harbor, Michigan in 1958.

Leonard

is a proud graduate of the Benton Harbor High School class of 1965. He had a profound sense of duty and patriotism. His noble spirit enabled him to serve in the United States Army, where he exhibited remarkable bravery during the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1968.

His unwavering commitment and resilience earned him the admiration of his fellow servicemen and women, forging lifelong bonds as an United States Veteran.

Leonard

received an honorable discharge from the United States Army and pursued higher learning at Lake Michigan College, obtaining an Associate's Degree. Leonard dedicated his life to protecting others by serving the City of Benton Harbor as a Firefighter and Fire

Inspector for 16 years. In this role, he was instrumental in implementing critical safety measures and educating the community about fire prevention, ultimately saving countless lives. His commitment to public safety and his community was unparalleled. In

1987, Leonard began working at the Michigan Department of Corrections as a Fire Inspector until he retired in 2001.

Known

to his friends and family as Lenny, he was always professional, polite and proud. Lenny was a devoted family man and instilled the values of hard work, kindness and perseverance in everyone who encountered him. He was known for his steady leadership and wisdom.

He also enjoyed watching judge shows, the news and sports in his downtime. Leonard was an avid fisherman, photographer and nature.

Lenny

leaves to cherish, his daughters: Dorice (Monteal) Wilcher of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, Misty (Tony) Brown of South Carolina and Fallon Guess of Atlanta, GA,. One son: Juan Guess of Gainesville, Georgia. Sister in Love: Beverly (Dennis) Scott. Special Friend: Carmen Perry.

Lenny

touched many lives and his legacy will live on through the countless memories he has left behind to manifest in his grandchildren: Riquia Wilcher, Sarea Wilcher, Ryan Guess, Jamaree Guess and Naimah Stephens. Great grandchildren: Demani, Rhaia, Chandler and Erin. Nieces: Niki and Shantan, Nephews: Vincent, Jamal, Brandon, Shawn and Averell.

Due

to the passing of his mother at an early age, Lenny had the privilege of growing up with his extended family: Sheryl Finley, Eric Finley, Donald Finley Jr., Penny Finley, Tyrone Robinson, Danny Clark, Norma Clark, Dana Clark, Gregory Clark, Donald Clark and Kevin Moore.

Lenny

was preceded in death by his parents: Leonard Guess Sr., and Doris Robinson-Guess. Grandparents: Joseph and Nina Finley; Ernest Robinson. Brothers Norman and Robbin Guess. Special Aunts: Beverly Clark and Bonita Finley.

Rest

in peace, Lenny. Your duty here is done, but your legacy will endure forever.

Cemetery Details

Crystal Springs Cemetery

1655 E Napier Ave
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
1053 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 926-7222
staff@florin.net

Celebration of life

OCT 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
1053 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 926-7222
staff@florin.net

Burial

OCT 18 (ET)

Crystal Springs Cemetery
1655 E Napier Ave
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Tribute Wall

ME

“ *MARY NEWCOMB EALY lit a candle in memory of Leonard Giles Guess*



MARY NEWCOMB EALY - October 17, 2024 at 10:46 AM

AB

“ *My heart is so heavy because I have known you for most of my life. I have so many memories of you from when I was a child and as an adult. One that sticks out the most is when I was over your house last summer you said you love me and my husband. And I told you I love you too. You were such a great man and will be missed tremendously. You would tell it like it is, you were kind, generous, and could make a person laugh. R.I.H. Pops*

Angelette (Dillon) Barnes - October 17, 2024 at 07:33 AM

PK

“ *Patricia A King-Williams lit a candle in memory of Leonard Giles Guess*



Patricia A King-Williams - October 16, 2024 at 09:27 PM

JS

“ With love and heartfelt sympathy to Lenny's family. You have our love and prayers during this transitional time.



Josephine Rand-Doss Smith - October 16, 2024 at 08:55 AM

DW

“ Dianna Williams lit a candle in memory of Leonard Giles Guess



Dianna Williams - October 16, 2024 at 07:35 AM

RB

“ Words cannot express how grateful I am to have had you as a pillar in my life, even at a young age. The thing I admired most about you was that you always stood on business and the straight forwardness gave me the get up and go that I have in my life today. You will truly be missed and never forgotten.
Love Raquel "Monnie" Banks-Brown



Raquel "Monnie" Banks-Brown - October 15, 2024 at 10:14 AM

MM

“ *I feel so lucky I got to have you as a goddad
going to miss you* ”



Mendell McBride - October 15, 2024 at 08:07 AM