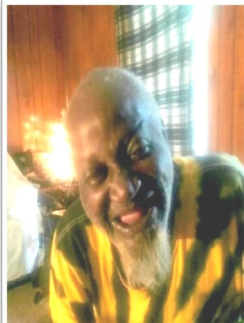
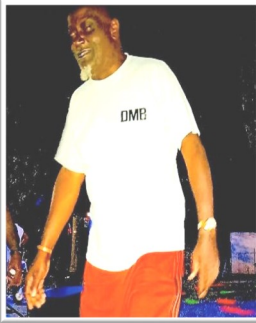


FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS



Roger Gray Blackburn

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me
please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name
and took me by the hand.
The angel said my place was ready
in heaven far above,
And that I'd have to leave behind
all those that I dearly love.
But when I walked through Heaven's gate
I felt so much at home
So, when tomorrow starts without me
Do not think we're apart
For every time you think of me
Remember I'm right here in your heart.*

-David M. Romano (Adapted)

Acknowledgements:

Our thanks to everyone for each expression
of kindness shown to us since the passing of
our beloved "Daisy Mae's Baby Boy".
Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

The Family



727 North Patterson Avenue
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101
336.722.8117
www.clarksbrownandsons.com

IN LOVING MEMORY



MR. ROGER GRAY BLACKBURN

March 14, 1954 - October 13, 2021

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Wednesday, October 20, 2021
2:00 P.M.

Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home Chapel
727 North Patterson Avenue
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101
Reverend Gary Walker, Officiating

OBITUARY

Mr. Roger Gray Blackburn was born to the late Willie Ray Miller and Daisy Mae Blackburn on March 14, 1954. Affectionately known as “Bro Black” and “Daisy Mae’s Baby Boy” He grew up in Pfafftown, NC and attended Bethlehem AME Zion Church.

He received his education from the Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County Public Schools. In 1972 he joined the United States Army. After his tour of duty was over, for 17 years he worked for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

After leaving Reynolds he started his lawn service and doing odd jobs. He tried to fix anything and enjoyed helping people. He also attended Forsyth Technical Institute and earned his degree in Auto Mechanics. Roger loved to work on cars and especially loved going to Drag Races.

He was a straightforward person, never biting his tongue about anything. He never met a stranger. If you needed advice, he would just tell you just like it was. Roger loved his family. His favorite expression was “I’m Daisy Mae’s Baby Boy!” followed by a proud thump on his chest!!! An avid sportsman, he was a diehard Washington Football team fan.

Roger was preceded in death by his parents, Willie Ray Miller and Daisy Mae Blackburn; sisters: Margaret Ann Blackburn, Linda Kay Hardy, Mary Catherine Boles, Karin Elizabeth Crowell; brothers: Robert Benjamin Blackburn and Sam Speas; stepdaughter, Esthelita Pate Byers; nephew, Leon Conrad, Sr.; and great-nephew, Leon Conrad, Jr.

Mr. Blackburn leaves to cherish his memories: stepson, Robert (Sophia) Pate aka “Robbie”; stepdaughter, Immetta Pate (Reginald) Byers aka “Ms. Moot”; adopted sister Diann (Harold) Carter; sisters: Carol Jean Everhart, Alice Blackburn Conrad, Vera Veronica Blackburn, and Debra Blackburn Wallace; brother, Ronald Thomas; three nieces: Jenetta Arnold, LaTonya Blackburn Rice, and Lea Hardy-Wilson; a dear close friend, Dreamer Bailey; and a host of nephews and great-nephews; brother-in-law Sam (Brenda) Conrad; Ms. Rice; and many friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Gathering

Selection

Rachael Nardy Long

Old Testament

Reverend Rita Jones

New Testament

Elder Sophia Pate

Prayer

Ms. Annie Smith

Remarks

Mr. James “Leakie” Blackburn

Obituary Read Silently

(Soft Music)

Eulogy

Reverend Gary Walker

Military Honors

Committal

Benediction

REMEMBER ME

Last Journey

There is a train at the station, with a seat reserved
just for me

I’m excited about its destination as I’ve heard
it sets you free.

The trials and tribulations, the pain and stress we breathe,
don’t exist where I am going only happiness I believe.

I hope that you will be there to wish me on my way,
It’s not a journey you can join in, it’s not your time today.

There’ll be many destinations, some happy, some sad,
Each one a brief reminder of the great times
that we’ve had.

Many friends I knew are waiting, who took an earlier
train to greet and reassure me that nothing
has really changed.

We’ll take the time together to catch up on the past
to build a new beginning, one that will always last.

One day you’ll take your journey on the train just like me,
And I promise that I’ll be there at the station and
you will see.

That life is just a journey enriched by those you meet,
No one can take that from you, it’s always yours to keep.

But now as no seat is vacant you will have
to muddle through,

Make sure you fulfill your ambitions as you know
I’ll be watching you.

And if there’s an occasion to mention who you knew,
Speak kindly of that person, as one day it will be you.

Now I can accept this ending and as it’s time
for me to leave

Please make haste to the reception to enjoy my drinks
they’re free.

-Timothy Coote

We all loved you and will truly miss you!!!

Your family