

Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



Bernard Lee McLendon

April 26, 1982 ~ July 21, 2025

Monday, July 28, 2025
Family Visitation: 1:30 PM
Service: 2:00 PM

Christ Bible Discipleship Worship Center
1019 Unarco Road
Marshville, North Carolina

Apostle David Allen, Pastor
Apostle David Pierre Sr., Eulogist





Order of Service

OFFICIATING.....PASTOR CHRIS THOMAS
PROCESSIONAL.....CLERGY AND FAMILY
FAMILY VISITATION.....1:30-2:00 PM
READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
THE OLD TESTAMENT.....MINISTER DAVID PIERRE
PSALMS 40: 1-6
THE NEW TESTAMENT.....APOSTLE DAVID ALLEN
HEBREWS 11: 8-10
PRAYER OF COMFORT.....PASTOR CHRIS THOMAS
SOLO.....DORCAS MCLENDON
READING OF OBITUARY.....DORNA PIERRE
REMARKS.....TIM BIVENS
JOHNAS MILLER
WILL POTTER
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....HAROLD C. SMITH & EVADNE SMITH
SELECTION.....DORCAS MCLENDON, DORNA PIERRE, LAUREN MCLENDON
EULOGY.....APOSTLE DAVID PIERRE SR.
COMMITTAL
BENEDICTION
RECESSIONAL

~INTERMENT~

BIVENS FAMILY PLOT

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD CEMETERY

MARSHVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA



Our Bernard,

On Monday, April 26, 1982, at 6:24 AM, the Lord blessed us with Bernard Lee McLendon in Wadesboro, North Carolina, at Anson County Hospital. From the very beginning, Bernard brought joy, strength, and an unmistakable light to everyone he encountered.

Raised in the fear of the Lord, Bernard met Jesus at the tender age of 5, beginning a lifelong journey. As a child, he was full of energy, laughter, and a sense of adventure. He spent countless days riding his bike around the neighborhood with his cousin Kendrick, visiting Tim Bivens' house, and tagging along with his beloved sister, Dorcas to the library and Vacation Bible School visiting different locations during the summer.

Sports played a major role in Bernard's life. He played basketball, football, and baseball, but basketball was his true love. He made unforgettable memories on the court—most notably, scoring 23 out of his team's 25 points in a game, competing in tournaments, and leaving it all on the field with home runs and football game-changing interceptions.

Bernard was educated in Union County, attending Marshville Elementary and East Union Middle School before graduating from Forest Hills High School in the Class of 2000. Some high school achievements were AB Honor Roll and Beta Club. He later studied computers at South Piedmont Community College. Gifted with intelligence, Bernard had a natural knack for problem-solving. Whether it was assembling something complicated without instructions or tackling a new challenge, he approached every project with determination and confidence. In addition to his academic and technical talents, Bernard trained for several Spartan races, consistently placing high in his age group. His discipline and drive carried over into every part of his life, including his commitment to fitness and personal growth.

On February 6, 2017, Bernard experienced one of life's greatest joys—the birth of his daughter, Marlee Jade McLendon, his “Tater Head.” From that moment on, she became the center of his universe. He proudly raised her in the same spirit his grandfather, Jim Bivens, had raised him. Where Bernard was, so was Marlee. They shared beautiful memories such as cooking (a gift passed down from his grandmother, Carolyn Bivens), playing mini golf, going to the gym, playing video games, and racing remote control cars. Bernard poured into his daughter with his whole heart—spending time not only having fun, but also engaging in deep, meaningful conversations that helped shape her mind and spirit. He led by example, living each day as a shining model of what a true single father should be--present, devoted, and deeply loving. Though he lived to experience the joy of Christmas 2023, it was also a season of renewal. He rededicated his life to Christ, embracing a fresh spiritual awakening. From then on, “God time” because one of his favorite sayings--an expression of both faith and purpose.

Bernard was known as a sharp thinker and a passionate debater who loved deep conversations and meaningful exchanges. His love for his mother, Doraneal, was unconditional and

overflowing. Every morning, he made it a point to send her a text: “Good morning, beautiful. I love you, Mama.” He cherished his sisters deeply believing Dorcas could create something from anything and affectionately calling Dorna “Sabrina,” often just to say, “I love you.”

Bernard had a special relationship with his bonus father, Andrice Lilly—one built on deep love, mutual respect, and years of shared memories. Andrice was more than a father figure; he was a mentor, and one of Bernard’s greatest supporters. Their bond was unshakable. They shared countless laughs, thoughtful conversations, and a love for sports that sparked many hours of playful debate and connection. Whether talking life or the latest game, Bernard and Andrice’s relationship was one of warmth, joy, and genuine affection—a true example of chosen family at its best.

Bernard also shared a bond with his dad Sylvester through working on cars. Bernard enjoyed getting his hands dirty learning, fixing, and problem-solving alongside his dad. This passion was also something he shared with his late brother, Jonathan Buchanan. The two would often spend time working together, talking, and laughing. Jonathan, who also passed away, held a special place in Bernard’s heart, and their memories together were ones Bernard carried with him always.

In November 2024, Bernard achieved a milestone by landing his dream job at ATI. A natural people-person, he never met a stranger. His kind spirit, infectious laughter, and magnetic personality drew others in and left a lasting impression.

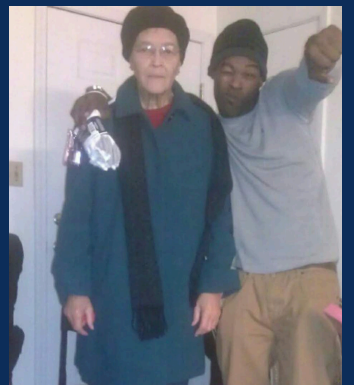
Bernard leaves to cherish his memory, his beloved daughter, Marlee McLendon of Matthews, North Carolina; his devoted mother and loving bonus father, Doraneal and Andrice Lilly of Ansonville, North Carolina; and his father and stepmother, Sylvester and Priscilla McLendon of Peachland North Carolina. He is also survived by his loving sisters, Dorcas McLendon of Monroe, North Carolina, and Dorna Pierre (David) of Kissimmee, Florida; and his cherished aunts, Shirley Bivens, Phyllis Bivens, and Tara Bivens, all of Wingate, North Carolina; Delores Autry of Charlotte, North Carolina; Sarah McLendon of Chesterfield, South Carolina and Hazel Chambers (Danny) of Wingate, North Carolina.

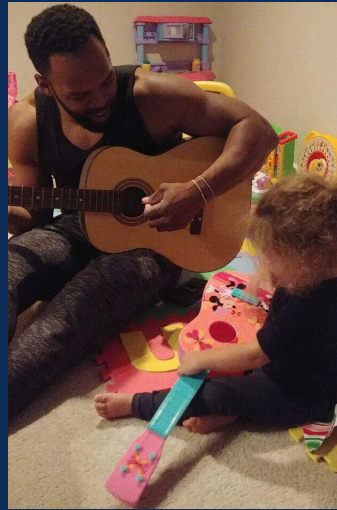
His memory also lives on in his uncle’s Randy Polk and Willie McLendon of Waxhaw, North Carolina; Michael McLendon of Chesterfield, South Carolina; and Jessie McLendon of Charlotte, North Carolina; and his nieces, Lauren McLendon of Wingate, North Carolina; London Maske and Jacelynn Maske of Wadesboro, North Carolina. Also, his nephews Ashton Threatt of Monroe, North Carolina, and Jonathan Buchanan Jr. of Monroe, North Carolina.

Bernard is also survived by a host of cousins, dear friends, and countless individuals whose lives he touched and left better just by being part of them.

Bernard Lee McLendon lived fully, loved deeply, and will be missed beyond measure. He leaves behind a legacy of faith, love, resilience, and purpose—one that will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.









Mama's Answered Prayer

In mama's prayer she asked the Lord, do you have my son's soul?"

On July 23, 2025, I woke up in my dream laughing and to the sound of laughter. While laughing like "Jim Bivens" I said, "Bernard you are so silly, you are so funny." Then, while thinking about his obituary and he appeared to me with a big smile on his face and said, "Mama I made it, I am free." I said, "I am happy for you son." He then said to me "I love you mama." And I said to him "I love you too, son."

"I praise the Lord to the upmost, Hallelujah"

-Doraneal Lilly (Mama)



*Floral Bearers
Family & Friends*

*Pallbearers
Family & Friends*

Funeral Arrangements Entrusted To:

Smith's Funeral Directors

"Small Enough To Know You - Large Enough To Serve You"

604 Salisbury Street, Wadesboro, North Carolina 28170

Telephone: (704) 694-4121