

Willie Thomas Wilson, affectionately known as “**Billy**,” was born on **September 26, 1948**, and peacefully passed away on **January 22, 2026**.

Billy was educated at **Harper High School** and proudly served his country in the **United States Air Force** as an **airplane mechanic**. After his military service, he dedicated many years to public service, retiring from the **City of Atlanta Water Works**, where his final assignment was at the **Bolton Road Water Treatment Plant**.

A man full of life and love, Billy never met a stranger. He was known for his warm spirit, infectious personality, and his habit of greeting people—especially women—with hugs and kisses, whether he knew them or not. He made sure everyone left knowing they were loved, never forgetting to say, “*I love you.*”

Billy had a generous heart and was always ready to give or help others, even when he had little himself. He found joy in **playing cards** and was a proud member of **two card teams**. He also loved **cooking great food**, spending quality time with family, taking walks after holiday dinners with loved ones.

A longtime and faithful member of **Bethlehem United Methodist Church**, Billy lived his life grounded in faith. His favorite saying, “*I'm blessed and highly favored,*” was not just words—it was the way he lived.

Billy was preceded in death by his parents, **Ora Mentorria Wilson** and **Willie Thomas Wilson, Sr.**; his brother-in-law, **James Lamar**; and his nephew, **Drayton Kleckley**.

He is survived by his loving sisters, **Ora Juanita Lamar** and **Beverly Lynn Kleckley** (husband **Henry Kleckley**); **Brenda Cloud**; nieces, **Cheryl Hill**, **Cherita Kempson**, and **D'Shundria Kleckley**; and nephews, **Durante Jenkins** and **Cedric Lamar**, along with a host of extended family, friends, and all whose lives he touched. Willie Thomas Wilson will be deeply missed, but his love, generosity, and joyful spirit will live on forever in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.