

Celebrating
THE LIFE & LEGACY OF
HAROLD LLOYD
James, Jr.

Sunrise
December 21, 1936

Sunset
November 28, 2024



Service
Saturday, December 14, 2024 • 11:00 a.m.

Elmwood United Presbyterian Church
135 Elmwood Avenue - East Orange, New Jersey
Rev. Maria Crompton, Officiating

Obituary

Harold Lloyd James, Jr. was born on December 21, 1936, in Newark, NJ, to Ruth Hill James and Harold Lloyd James Sr., Harold was a guiding light to his family and community. He accepted Christ early in life at St. James Methodist Church and, in his later years, found a spiritual home with his church family at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church in East Orange, NJ.

Harold was the eldest of five siblings and a role model to his brothers and sister: Delores James Crump (deceased), William C. James (deceased), Edward Leo James, and Donald Kevin James (deceased). He shared an enduring and loving partnership with his beloved wife of 59 years, Constance L. Maxey, to whom he provided unwavering care and support. Harold embraced his role as a devoted father and grandfather to Kamara, Geron, Cameron, Connor, and countless others who turned to him for guidance, strength, and love.

A firm believer in the power of education, Harold encouraged and inspired others to pursue their dreams. He attended Morton Street School, Robert Treat Junior High School, and graduated from Central High School in Newark, where he excelled in football and track, Harold carried this passion for learning to Rutgers University, Newark Campus, which he entered in 1955. Decades later, he celebrated with pride as his daughter, son-in-law, and grandson graduated as Scarlet Knights, a testament to the legacy he inspired.

In the early 1960s, Harold served honorably with the Newark Police Department, dedicating himself to protecting his community. He later transitioned into a successful career with Flagstaff Liquor Company, Baxter Wholesales, and Allied Beverage, all while embracing his role as a loving father and family man.

Harold's dedication extended beyond his family to his community. He was an active participant in numerous organizations, including the Junior Leaguers, Bronze Shield Black Police Organization, Juvenile Conference Committee of West Orange, Scavengers Sports Car Club, Scarabs Social Club, Cork and Bottle Club, and the NJPAC Volunteer Program. Harold also proudly served on the Board of Directors of Harrison Park Towers, reflecting his commitment to fostering connection and uplifting others.

Known for his warmth, humor, and infectious joy, Harold touched every life he encountered. Whether sharing his love of traveling, salsa, jazz, sports cars, camping, or golf, Harold lived a life full of passion and purpose. Above all, he found his greatest happiness in the company of his family, friends, and especially his grandsons.

Harold's legacy is one of love, kindness, and laughter. He leaves behind cherished memories and a family that will forever hold him in their hearts. A celebration of Harold's extraordinary life is being held at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church on Saturday, December 14, 2024, 10:00am, where we will honor the man who gave so much to all he met. Rest in peace, Harold. You will be missed beyond measure, but your spirit will live on in the lives you so profoundly touched.

Order of Service

Prelude Organist

Opening..... Rev. Maria Crompton

Opening Selection..... “How Great Thou Art”
Sanctuary Choir/Congregation

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Maria Crompton

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament: Psalms 23 Barry Lathan

New Testament: John 12:1-4 Pamela Lathan

Selection..... Stephen Fuller

Reflections..... (Limited to 2 minutes, please)

Proclamation from City of Newark..... Marcia James-Robinson

Poetry Reading..... Mary Barnett

Reading of the Obituary..... Dr. Valerie Williams-Dargan

Selection..... Stephen Fuller

Eulogy Rev. Maria Crompton

Moment of Silent Reflection “Last Train Home” by Pat Metheny Group
Musical Interlude (recording)

Recession “Going Up Yonder”
Sanctuary Choir

Repat immediately following in the church hall

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

*My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

Acknowledgment

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

CHURCHMAN FUNERAL HOME
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