



Dr. Crawford Lewis

March 21, 1954 - January 28, 2023

With profound sadness we announced the passing of Dr. Crawford Lewis age 68. Celebration of Life service will be held at 11:00 AM Monday, February 6, 2023 at Saint Philip AME Church 240 Candler Road SE Atlanta, GA 30317. Visitation will be held on Sunday, February 5, 2023 from 12:00 PM-6:00 PM at our SOUTH DEKALB CHAPEL 4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy Decatur, GA 30034. At the request of the family in LIEU of FLOWERS please donate to the organizations listed below. The service will be live streamed here on our website. Please express your condolences here on our website. Gregory B. Levett South DeKalb Chapel. (404) 241-5656.

Live Stream; <https://vimeo.com/event/2840602>

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING:

Lithonia First UMC Building Fund <https://lithoniafirstumc.com>
3099 Stone Mountain St, Lithonia, GA 30058

Saint Philip AME Church Building Fund <https://www.saintphilip.org>
240 Candler Rd SE, Atlanta, GA 30317

American Cancer Society <https://www.googleadservices.com/pagead/aclk?sa=L&ai=DChcSEwiC3-37qfL8AhXkFNQBHSZjAWgYABAAGgJvYQ&ohost=ww>

w.google.com&cid=CAESa-D27G_BmvWEtCRXEi8ol3cMU6jzleIJZ3J51rvnSJy5bWDSct5g25-heN0ZazCR9O7wTHwSzXIJ7JyiE5NWQsrxPKrFvHCOUq6Ctlds4KZlonEYRNfw0ITjapUkTFsSslifSCyTBLujbwIh&sig=AOD64_0tIP-zARRZnasBXfDo-9U3OrKsEw&q&adurl&ved=2ahUKEwjhiuH7qfL8AhUSkmoFHVMeBEcQ0Qx6BAgKEAE

Dr. Crawford Lewis' life is a testament to the power of faith and hard work. Dr. Lewis hailed from

Monticello, Georgia with dreams of being successful and touching the lives of others. Throughout high school

and college, he excelled in both athletics and academics and found that he had strong leadership skills. Utilizing

this skill set, he became captain of both his basketball and baseball teams during his senior year at Clark College

(Clark Atlanta University). That year, he would also meet the love of his life – Sandra Scott.

After leaving Clark, he began his career with DeKalb County School System as a Social Studies and Physical

Education teacher at Montgomery Elementary School. During his time at Montgomery, he earned his master's

degree (1981), Education Specialist degree (1985) and Ph.D. (1990). Prior to earning his Education Specialist

degree, Dr. Lewis and Sandra married and decided to start a family – welcoming their daughter, Maria Denise,

in 1982 and son, Matthew Crawford, in 1986. Both children were christened at St. Philip AME Church where Dr.

Lewis and Sandra regularly attended services. Family was a priority. Despite his many professional duties and

responsibilities, he coached and attended all of his son's youth soccer,

baseball and AAU basketball games, and all of his daughter's cheerleading events.

At Montgomery, Dr. Lewis would go on to become assistant principal and later, principal. After receiving his

Ph.D., having moved Montgomery to a School of Excellence, he was reassigned to Snapfinger Elementary with

the expectation that he'd help them achieve the same success. He excelled in this endeavor. Snapfinger not only

became a School of Excellence but a magnet school for math and science.

Following his time at Snapfinger, he

rose through the school system's administrative ranks, earning the titles of executive director, senior director and

eventually superintendent. He was appointed as DeKalb Schools

Superintendent on October 9, 2004, and proudly

served until he retired from the school system in April 2010.

After retirement, Dr. Lewis became more active in church activities. He

regularly volunteered at Lithonia First

United Methodist Church's food bank, served as an usher and later became a lay member and administrative

counsel chair. Dr. Lewis was planning to serve as the church's lay leader for 2023. He will be remembered for

modeling faith, love, kindness and generosity in all aspects of his career and life.

Dr. Crawford Lewis, 68 years of age, passed on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at Emory Decatur Hospital. Dr. Lewis

was born on March 21, 1954, in Monticello, Georgia. He is preceded in death by his beloved parents Dorothy

Pinkney and Israel Pinkney, Sr. He is the third of six siblings.

Recognized for his leadership, accomplishments and commitment to education, Dr. Lewis has been honored

nationally and locally with commendations from senators, governors, state superintendents and state

representatives with notable accomplishments of:

- Principal of Montgomery Elementary School when named a DeKalb School of Excellence
- Principal of Snapfinger Elementary Magnet School when named a Georgia School of Excellence
- DeKalb County Schools Principal of the Year
- Milken Foundation's National Education Award
- Georgia State University Distinguished Alumni Award
- Clark Atlanta University Outstanding Alumni in Education Award
- NAACP Education Award
- Who's Who Guide to Atlanta's Top Educational Leaders, Atlanta Business Chronicle

Dr. Lewis loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He was also a huge University of

Georgia Football fan and a proud alumnus of Clark Atlanta University.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife of 42 years, Sandra S. Lewis; his children, Maria D. Greene

and Matthew C. Lewis; son-in-law, Luke Greene; grandchildren, Luke Lucky Greene and Liberty Sarai Greene;

siblings, John W. Lewis (Shelia), Belinda Epps, Israel J. Pinkney, Jr., C. Ann Whidby (Thomas), S. DeWayne

Pinkney (Angela); aunt, Ella Standifer; sisters-in-law, Doris Crenshaw, Valerie

D. Shannon (Tilman); brothers-in-law, Morris Gordon, Jr. (Yvonne), Donald C.

Scott (Phyllis), Michael Q. Scott (Collette), nieces, nephews, cousins,

and a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Melwood Cemetery

5170 East Ponce De Leon Avenue
Stone Mountain, GA 30083-121

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

South DeKalb Chapel
4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy.
Decatur, GA 30034
(404) 241-5656
info@levettfuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life (Mask Required)

FEB 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Philip AME Church
240 Candler Rd SE
Atlanta, GA 30317-3436
(404) 371-0749

Burial

FEB 6 (ET)

Melwood Cemetery
5170 East Ponce De Leon Avenue
Stone Mountain, GA 30083-121

Tribute Wall



“Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Crawford Lewis

 Tribute Video

Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc. - January 31, 2023
at 03:15 PM

LY

Sending prayers and our deepest condolences.

Lyndsey and Brian Orsini

Lyndsey - February 02, 2023 at 09:06 AM

LC

Lifting Sandra and the Lewis family in comforting prayers. We were blessed to know and call Crawford our friend. The blessing of loving memories for the Lewis family are everlasting. Bill and LaVerne

LaVerne Carter - February 05, 2023 at 12:06 PM

SH

Dr. Lewis, I will never forget all the support you gave me as a teacher in Dekalb County Schools. Thanks for believing in me. May your kind soul sleep in perfect peace.

Simone Monique Hand - February 23, 2023 at 06:04 PM

TD

“ Dr. Lewiw was my elementary principal as Snapfinger. One of my favorite memories is how he use to end the morning announcements. “Today is February 7th, 2023. It will never come again, make it a great day! “ He was a great principal!

Toni Daniel - February 07, 2023 at 09:48 AM

BC

“ Dr. Lewis was my sons principal at SnapFinger Elementary. He was outstanding as a leader and cared about his students. I'm am saddened by his loss. I pray for his wife and 2 adult children. May he Rest In Peace.

Betty Miller Cleveland - February 06, 2023 at 10:33 PM

MK

“ Sending my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Crawford Lewis. I pray that you are surrounded by God's comforting love.

Michelle S. Kelley - February 06, 2023 at 01:23 PM

PA

“ Sending condolences and prayers to the Lewis family. Please know that God is a comforter and keeper. He will strengthen and keep you as you bid farewell to your love one on this side. The Lord is your shepherd. Rest well Dr Lewis.
Perry & Julia Abrams.

Perry Abrams - February 05, 2023 at 10:08 PM

BS

“ Crawford and I were classmates in elementary and high school in Monticello Georgia. I have fond memories of him. He was smart, friendly and fun to be around. Although I haven't seen him in years, my heart was deeply saddened to hear of his passing. Please know that you (family and friends) are in my thoughts and prayers. May God give you peace, strength and comfort during this time.
Beatrice Washington Stewart (Maryland)

Beatrice Washington Stewart - February 05, 2023 at 09:08 PM

TP

“ *Extending sincere condolences to Sandra and family. I have you all in my thoughts and prayers.*

Toni Price and family (Michigan)

Toni Price - February 02, 2023 at 07:21 PM



JN

“ *Prayers and condolences to the Lewis/Pinkney family during your time of loss. May you find comfort and peace in the memories you hold dear to your hearts.*

June L. Neal

June L. Neal - February 02, 2023 at 02:58 PM



JB

“ *Our sincere condolences to the Lewis/Pinkney Families. May God continue to keep and cover you during this difficult time. We pray for strength, comfort, and peace in the days ahead.*

With Heartfelt Sympathy, The Burgess Family

Jeannie Burgess - February 02, 2023 at 10:43 AM



JP

“ On behalf of the Pinkney/Delaine Family Reunion Members, I would like to express our deepest condolences to Sandra, the children, Matt and Denise, grandchildren, Luke and Libby, and to Crawford’s siblings: John, Linda, Israel, Ann, and Dewayne during this time of sorrow. Our thoughts are with each and every one of you as we grieve the loss of our beloved, Crawford. He will be deeply missed at our family reunions. May the memories of Crawford bring comfort and strength to all of us as we grieve! “The memory of the righteous is a blessing” (Proverbs 10:7).
With our deepest sympathy, Cousin, Jeannie Pinkney-Burgess



Jeannie Pinkney-Burgess - February 02, 2023 at 09:26 AM

RV

“ Someone as special as Crawford Lewis won’t ever fade from our hearts and memories. He lived with such passion and everyone who knew them, myself included, was blessed by his presence. I met him over 40 years ago when my daughter attended Snapfinger. He was one of the best principals I have ever met. God bless those closest to him.

Rosalee Vance - February 01, 2023 at 09:48 PM

MM

“ Sandra, Denise & Matthew,
Wishing you peace to bring comfort,
courage to face the days ahead and
loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

Michelle Momon - February 01, 2023 at 06:52 PM

LI

“ *The Montgomery Elementary Class of '84 was blessed to have Mr. Lewis as a teacher, mentor and principal. He was a fantastic PE teacher and an even better principal. He was a pioneer to us, leading the way in pursuing his dreams and impacting the lives of students. We loved you so. Prayers of comfort to his family and friends. See you on the other side, Coach Lewis.*

Laine Blackburn Ingle - February 01, 2023 at 08:39 AM

AH

Sincere Condolences, Sympathy and Prayers for Dr. Lewis' Family IN JESUS' NAME.

Annette Howard - February 01, 2023 at 06:05 PM

CM

“ *Sandra - my deepest sympathies to you and your family.*



Cassandra Minnifield - February 01, 2023 at 04:53 AM

DB

“ *Regrets to hear of the passing of Dr. Lewis. Dr. Lewis was a very fine person and education leader in DeKalb County. May he rest in peace. Dr. and Mrs. Johnny E. Brown*

Dr. Johnny E. Brown - January 31, 2023 at 11:56 PM

BR

“ Sending my heartfelt condolences to the Lewis family. I was a student during his tenure as Principal at Snapfinger Elementary and have carried the lessons he taught me. Praying for his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Brittani Riddle - January 31, 2023 at 11:39 PM

DY

“ Thank you Dr.Lewis for all the good you did for Dekalb County. Much Appreciated

Dana Young - January 31, 2023 at 09:51 PM

CC

“ We are thinking of your entire family during this difficult time. Cheryl Carter & Family of Betty Wilson.

Cheryl Carter - January 31, 2023 at 02:20 PM

JW

Thank Dr. Lewis for your leadership in the Dekalb School system. It was a joy knowing you. R.I.P.

John Whiting - January 31, 2023 at 10:13 PM

LB

Sandra, it is with heartfelt sympathy that I offer my condolences to you and your entire family as you grieve the loss of your beloved Crawford. Grieving is never easy, which is why we lean on the Lord for comfort. Because of his love for us he describes grieving in the beautiful scriptures of Beatitudes- (Matthew 5:3-12) Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Crawford was kind, courageous, a fierce leader, a conqueror, classmate, friend and colleague. My prayers are with you and your beautiful family my sweet friend. Please know that I am thinking of you. Rest in Peace Crawford, my 'CC classmate and friend,
Lorene Bromfield - CC'78

Lorene Bromfield - February 01, 2023 at 11:25 AM

AW

“ To San, Denise, Matthews and the entire Lewis family: Please accept sympathies, love, support and condolences from the Weads and Kimbroughs. Crawford is a loving friend, 'CC classmate, college basketball star, our DeKalb County Schools Superintendent and importantly, the greatest elementary-7th grade Principal for Earl and Jocelyn. As a parent, I can speak to Crawford's tremendous leadership. He shaped lives that are forever changed. Love never dies. I know God has you. No words can adequately describe our last conversation. I am grateful. Bless you dear Brother.

Ann WeadKimbrough - January 31, 2023 at 12:55 PM

DR

“ Sincere Condolences for the Lewis family.

Dennis Roberts - January 31, 2023 at 12:00 PM

RM

“ Sending my condolences and deepest sympathies to the Lewis family. I worked under his leadership at Snapfinger Elementary and will forever be grateful for those years. May he rest in peace and may his family take comfort in knowing they will be united with him!

REBEKAH MINCEY - January 31, 2023 at 10:33 AM

VB

“ Condolences to Dr. Lewis family and friends. I had the pleasure to know Crawford as a member of Clark College's SIAC championship team. He was exciting as a player and a gentleman outside of the basketball court. The entire Panther family mourns his loss. He represented us well on the court and after graduating from Clark College. God Bless you and may God comfort this family.

Veverly Byrd-Davis - January 30, 2023 at 08:41 PM

HW

Too God be the Glory! He makes no mistakes! My Condolences to the Family and Friends! Look to the Hills!

Harriett Washington - January 30, 2023 at 09:13 PM

LJ

My condolences to San and all the Lewis family. I remember when you and Crawford met, I didn't know then and now I know how much love I was being a witness to in the beginning. Crawford will always be remembered by me as the kindest and gentlest man I knew. Much love to the family ❤️

Lloyd A Jones - January 31, 2023 at 12:45 AM

EG

*My condolences goes out to the family of Dr. Crawford Lewis .
Elder Ida Gartrell*

Elder Ida Gartrell - January 31, 2023 at 10:26 AM

CF

Sincere Condolences for the Lewis family.

Curtis & Jewel Fears

Curtis & Jewel Fears - January 31, 2023 at 04:27 PM

DJ

My sincere condolences and prayers to Crawford's family. Crawford and I played basketball at Monticello high school. Crawford was our point guard and leader of the team. God's continuing blessings to his family!!.

Douglas Jackson - February 01, 2023 at 01:06 AM

HJ

Thoughts of sympathy to the family of Dr. Crawford Lewis. I am a former employee of DeKalb County School System. Dr. Crawford was a great Superintendent. I am sure he will be greatly missed. May GOD continue to bless the family.

Hattie Johnson

Hattie Johnson - February 02, 2023 at 08:35 PM

JF

Dear Maria,

My sincere condolences to you and your family in the loss of your father. I remember the last conversation I had with him when we happened to cross paths a few years ago. He knew that you and I were friends, and he wanted to talk about you. It was evident that family meant everything to him, and he was so proud of you.

Our conversation was quite joyful, and now it gives me a wonderful memory of Crawford Lewis. My hope is that many such memories will help sustain you and your loved ones in the days ahead.

Much love to you, Maria, and to all of your family,

Julie Freeman

Julie Freeman - February 03, 2023 at 02:05 PM

AL

Much love to the Family.... Alberta Carter

Alberta - February 06, 2023 at 11:33 AM