



## Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham

July 4, 1959 - April 6, 2018

Celebration of Life Services for Jesse "Jay" Cunningham, former DeKalb County School Board Member and Owner of Jesse's Restaurant & Lounge will be held on Monday, April 14, 2018 at 12PM at Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church-1879 Glenwood Ave SE, Atlanta GA. Senior Pastor, Dr. William E. Flippin, Sr.

Viewing/Visitation SUNDAY, April 15, 2018 from 12PM-7PM with a WAKE from 5-7pm at the South DeKalb Chapel of Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes-4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy, Decatur, GA. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Jesse "Jay" Cunningham Foundation at WellsFargo Bank.

Burial at Hillandale Memorial Gardens-6201 Hillandale Dr, Lithonia GA.

Please express your condolences here on our website.

Services entrusted to Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home, South Dekalb Chapel. 4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy, Decatur GA 30034. 404-241-5656.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **15**. 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Wake Service

APR **15**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Celebration of Life

APR **16**. 12:00 PM (ET)

The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church  
1879 Glenwood Avenue, S. E.  
Atlanta, GA 30316

# Tribute Wall

FE

“ Dear Cunningham Family: Please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of your loved one. May the love and support of family and friends comfort you greatly during this difficult time. The Bible also gives us comfort and hope to see our loved ones again right here on earth by means of the resurrection. “There will be a resurrection of the righteous and the unrighteous “ May you have peace as you think about this beautiful hope for the future.



---

**Faye Ethridge** - November 01, 2018 at 04:23 AM

VA

“ Hi Monique, it's been a long time since we worked the drive\_thru at McDonalds on Glenwood 😊. Your brother, Jay, took a chance and gave me my very first job when he was store manager at McDonalds on Flat Shoals in 1980. Now THAT was quite some time ago. Jays BIG personality and wit was undeniable. I only knew him as my employer, but during my tenure there at McDonalds, Jay displayed great leadership being only 21/22. He was attentive and showed concern for his employees. He was stern but FAIR. His had a certain Presence about himself. Once a person meets Jay, they could never forget him.

I'm truly sorry for your loss as I can relate. I lost my VERY Dear sister in January and am still in disbelief. I know there are NO words that can be said to ease the pain as you will never heal from this but learn to cope. And though we don't understand GODS Wisdom, we MUST Trust HIS Will. Ma GODS unconditional love be your fortress, may His Oeave be your comfort and may His Grace and Mercy catty you in the days ahead as you adjust to life without your Beloved.

I pray you allow GOD to be ALL that you n the Family need HIM to be, hence forth now and forever more.

God Bless,  
Veleria

---

veleria askew - April 21, 2018 at 08:00 AM



“ *My, Big Brother Jay! Oh how am missing you since that phone call from Mom on April 6th. It is still breaking my soul. I must say thank you for introducing me to all your friends and bragging about what I was doing with my business. Because of you and your service to community, people and children I can hold my head up high and continue this beautiful legacy that you started. Thank you to all his friends and the whole DeKalb County Community for loving my Big Brother Jay! May God's Grace and Peace Be with us All! Again thank you all for your support and prayers.*

*Monique "Nikki" Cunningham-Thomas*

---

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:46 AM



“ *Jay was neighbor of 13 years & was one of the 1st people in the community to welcome me. He was vey compassionate about education & helping out. We definitely lost a good one! God Bless his family and friends and may he rest in eternal peace.*

*Nichole & Dee*

---

**Nichole Rose Turner** - April 16, 2018 at 08:19 AM



*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭*

---

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:28 AM



“ *My condolences to the family!!!  
I met Jesse at his restaurant, he was very nice to meet.  
May peace be with the family at this time.*

---

**Shirley Walker** - April 15, 2018 at 04:54 PM



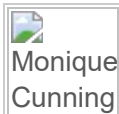
*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭*

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:28 AM



*“ My condolence to the Cunningham family.  
I knew Mr Cunningham from Arabia mountain high school.  
Praying for your strength.*

**Valerie Bolton** - April 15, 2018 at 06:16 AM



*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭*

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:28 AM



*“ Genevieve and Blaise Mvilongo purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.*



**Genevieve and Blaise Mvilongo** - April 14, 2018 at 10:47 PM



*“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.*



April 14, 2018 at 06:23 PM

BF

“ We are so sorry to hear Jay. May the God of all comfort continue to be with you and your family during this difficult time. We all look forward to a better future when death will be no more-Rev 21:4. Our prayers are with you.

Boyd Family - April 14, 2018 at 02:51 PM



Monique Cunning

Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭

Monique Cunningham-Thomas - April 21, 2018 at 12:29 AM

CA

“ Sending my deepest sympathy and condolences to the Cunningham Family. This is from Cran " DJ Life " Amos.



Cran " DJ Life " Amos - April 14, 2018 at 01:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.



April 14, 2018 at 08:08 AM

TL

“ My condolences goes out to the Cunningham family, and I pray that God will pour out His love and comfort among the family; the same love and comfort that He gave me in the midst of my tribulations. May the presence of God surrounds the Cunningham family; may the love of God enfolds you, and the power of God protects you!

T. LAMAR - April 14, 2018 at 04:58 AM



Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 🙏

Monique Cunningham-Thomas - April 21, 2018 at 12:30 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.



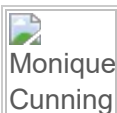
April 14, 2018 at 01:37 AM

VT

“ Jay was a hard working, unpretentious public servant. He lived like a bright burning flame and served the community ! We will all miss him .....

Verdaillia Turner,  
Georgia Federation of Teachers

Verdaillia Turner - April 13, 2018 at 11:25 PM



Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 🙏

Monique Cunningham-Thomas - April 21, 2018 at 12:30 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.*



April 13, 2018 at 08:03 PM



“ *The Fantastic Freedom Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.*



**The Fantastic Freedom Family** - April 13, 2018 at 10:19 AM



“ *To Malcolm and The entire Cunningham Family, we send sincere condolences to you all. The Wallace's will keep your family uplifted in prayer through this bereavement season. Rest in knowing he's in peace with The Heavenly Father. Amen.*  
*Gregory and Reo Wallace*

**Reo Wallace** - April 12, 2018 at 08:08 PM



*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 🙏*

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:30 AM

BW

“ Dearest Sequoyah (Coco),

*There are no words to say how sorry I am for your loss. Just know that I am thinking of you and praying for comfort for you and your family. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do for you in this time of sorrow.*

*Brenda Williams (Johnathan's mom)*

---

**Brenda Williams** - April 12, 2018 at 11:59 AM



Monique  
Cunning

*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 🙏*

---

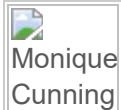
**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:33 AM

CL

“ *We all have special memories from the old days. You will be truthley missed. Conethia Lewis class of 1980.*

---

**Conethia Lewis** - April 11, 2018 at 08:53 PM



Monique  
Cunning

*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 🙏*

---

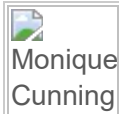
**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:33 AM

DS

“ Jesse Jay Cunningham was Mr MLK he cared about the people and kids especially. When you had fundraisers he tried to help you out He wanted success for kids and staff. Rest in peace till we see you again



Dr Derek Willis Media Specialist - April 11, 2018 at 07:05 PM



Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭

Monique Cunningham-Thomas - April 21, 2018 at 12:33 AM

PP

“ Jay I met you when you owned Davido's on Panola Road. I would frequent your establishment so often, that you started bringing my food over to my part time job. You said Police eat free, it's on me! I want to thank you for many years of friendship. I'm really going to miss you coming over to the supermarket every week. You were a great person and this is a huge loss to the community. God Bless the family, my prayers are with you for strength through this difficult time.

Princess Poyntz - April 10, 2018 at 06:31 PM



Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭

Monique Cunningham-Thomas - April 21, 2018 at 12:34 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Jesse "Jay" Cunningham.*



April 10, 2018 at 02:10 PM



“ *Jay always would have smile on his face... if he was having a bad day you wouldn't have known for his smile said other wise...thanks for your warm hugs of hello when where we saw you!!! You will be missed greatly... but we will never forget you!!! RIP Jay...*

**Pok Hui Terrentine** - April 10, 2018 at 12:25 PM



*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭*

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:34 AM



“ *Jesse you did a lot for Dekalb County schools, thank you, you will be missed*

**Shirley Procter** - April 09, 2018 at 11:36 PM



*Thank you so much, May God's Grace and Peace be with you and your family. Monique Cunningham-Thomas, Jay's sister 😭*

**Monique Cunningham-Thomas** - April 21, 2018 at 12:36 AM

MC

“ I want to thank everyone for all the support you've shown to our family it means the world to us! Jay was the eldest and by far one of the most giving I knew. He will be missed by everyone who knew my brother! I remember when I was little growing up saying that's my big brother that's my big brother. He was the best and I will always cherish the time we had as a family.

*I love you Jay!!! Malcolm*

---

**Malcolm Cunningham** - April 09, 2018 at 08:57 PM

SW

*My condolences to this wonderful family. I didn't know Jesse long but the length of time I knew him he was a good man and cared for his family.*

*Yes he will be missed.*

*Shirley C Walker,  
Decatur*

---

**Shirley Walker** - April 10, 2018 at 10:09 AM

BF

*To the family*

*My deepest sympathy and condolences to you. Jay has left us to rest. He was a good person and a peaceful person. He had a gift for networking. He never gave a second thought about doing was was good and right for the children of Dekalb County. He knew the struggle and he had a plan. He demonstrate to us all, that you have to be persistent in getting the job done about what you believe in. As his classmate and friend, I will miss him dearly. My prayers and thoughts are with you all.*

*Brenda Durham Ford  
WHS CLass of 77*

---

**Brenda Ford** - April 10, 2018 at 09:11 PM

AR

*No one can prepare you for a loss; it comes like a swift wind and that's exactly how you left us. Even though it was evident that you were tired you were persistent on completing tasks for yourself as well as many ventures in the community! I am honored and blessed to have known you as a classmate but more importantly as my Friend for over forty-six years! I became a listening ear on many of your business adventures which I'm glad to say I was there . . . Your passion for people is overwhelming and the love and patience you exhibited towards everyone was extraordinary. Although you have departed this earth, I know that you are still alive in my heart and thoughts, you will live on.*

*Angela Norris Robinson  
Walker HS - Class of 1977*

---

**Angela Robinson** - April 11, 2018 at 10:44 AM

PM

*Rest Well Jay. You served your community and a job well done. Thank you for all you did for school and the community of Lithonia and Decatur. One thing you can say about Jay, He love his schools he was responsible for and his community. Well done Jay... Well done. Condolences to the family and friends.*

---

**Pam Muckle** - April 11, 2018 at 11:54 AM

TS

*To the Family of Jay Cunningham, I was sadden to hear of the passing of Jay. I met Jay over 30 years ago in Omaha, Nebraska when he was a manager at a McDonalds. He was a good man who will be sorely missed. I pray your faith and strength in God will get you through this difficult time. I will keep your family in prayer. Peace and Blessings  
Tricia Scott - Omaha Ne*

---

**Tricia Scott** - April 12, 2018 at 08:47 PM

SD

*Having knowing Jay for 44 years of our lives,I can truly say that he was the most blessed person that I knew. He had various opportunities in life,and he wasn't afraid to take them. We became friends in the 10th grade,from then on we have been friends since.We fed off each others hopes and dreams as we became older. You were Mr. Walker High School class of 1977. You contribute so much to your school as well as your community, I'm was always proud of you.R.I.P. my beloved friend.*

*Sheila Dorsey*

---

**sheila dorsey** - April 14, 2018 at 05:10 PM