



## Luther James Lesure

July 3, 1937 - February 21, 2021

Luther James Lesure was born on July 3, 1937, in Holly Springs, MS to his late parents, Ernest Estelle and Gladys Lesure. He moved to Jackson, TN at an early age and was co-parented by his loving aunt Clara Hill-Briton and his uncle Fred Briton.

After graduating from Merry High School, he joined the United States Navy and served for six years, with an honorable discharge. Afterward, Chicago, IL would become the site of the encounter of his beloved wife of 60 years, Ruthie Potts of Detroit, Michigan — whom he affectionately called “Sweetie”. He would extend this love and care to his two later-born sons and four grandchildren.

James accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior in the early 1970’s, leading him to serve in his role as a deacon at Greater Grace Temple of the Apostolic Faith Church in Detroit, MI.

James joined the Detroit Police Department in 1965. He retired after 25 years.

Later, he and his wife moved to Atlanta, where he worked at the Dekalb County Sheriff’s Department and worshipped at Bethesda Temple and New Mercies Christian Church where he also served as a deacon. For the last ten years, he has worshipped and served as a deacon at Hopewell Missionary

Baptist Church under the leadership of his pastor Bishop William L. Sheals. Up until his final days, he served as Coordinator of the Radical Love Marriage Ministry. He and his wife have been blessed to touch the lives and partnerships of over a thousand couples.

His impact, wisdom, and love will be experienced by the world forever.

James is survived by his loving wife Ruth, two sons Jacques (Kimberly) and Darryl (Candice), late daughter-in-love Abby, four grandchildren (Ceora, Jacques, Vanessa, Evan), and his siblings Earnest Estelle Jr. (deceased) (Rosetta), LaRue, Linda (Robert R.), Edward (Eldrena), Douglas (Beulah), Charles (Colleen), Michael, and Richard, sister-in-law Earnestine Williams (Delvin), previously married to Robert Harrington (deceased) and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Celebration of Life for Mr. Luther James Lesure will be held Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 9am in our Gwinnett Chapel. Burial at Georgia National Cemetery. Visitation will be held Friday, February 26, 2021 from 3pm-7pm at Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home, 914 Scenic Hwy., Lawrenceville, GA., 30045.

Please visit the link to view livestream services.

<https://vimeo.com/515501872>

# Cemetery Details

## Georgia National Cemetery

2025 Mount Carmel Church Lane  
Canton, GA 30114-7670  
<http://www.georgianationalcemetery.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **26**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Gregory B. Levett and Sons - Gwinnett Chapel  
914 Scenic Hwy  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045

## Celebration of Life Service - Live Streamed

FEB **27**. 9:00 AM (ET)

Gregory B. Levett and Sons - Gwinnett Chapel  
914 Scenic Hwy  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045

# Tribute Wall

KF

“*To the entire Lesure Family and especially Mrs. Lesure, I hope you know how much you've touched my life. Serving you at the OK Cafe was one of my true joys. When you sat at my table my day INSTANTLY became better. Your smile was infectious and your love of life just exuded from EVERYWHERE!! You'll truly be missed by all, but we'll take care of your Sweetie. RIP sweet man.*

*Kathy Franklin*

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**Kathy Franklin** - March 23, 2021 at 10:16 AM

SH

“*Unable are the loved to die, for love is immortality.*”  
—*Emily Dickinson*

*Our sincere condolences and prayers for peace are with the Lesure Family.*

*Love, Shalondra Henry and Parker McNeil*

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**Shalondra Henry** - March 05, 2021 at 02:49 PM

BP

“ Dearest Ruth,

*You must know my heart beats for you in the loss of "Sweetie", your beloved husband of over 60 years. During our thirty years of friendship, it was a pleasure to be in you and James' presence, because you both always exuded joy with an irresistible smile. Unfortunately, James you never found me the husband you promised, but you tried! So James, rest in Heavenly peace, perhaps think about a "Marriage Ministry."*



*My deepest sympathy to you, Ruth, Jacques, Darryl, grandchildren and daughters-in-love. Praying that God will quickly send his Comforter to abide with you and fill your hearts with everlasting sweet memories of James.*

*With love and sympathy,*

*Betty Palmer*

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**Betty Palmer** - March 03, 2021 at 09:47 PM

GW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We are happy and blessed to have known Deacon Lesure . . .he will truly be missed. We celebrate with you a life well lived.  
-George and Valerie Wayland.

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**George & Valerie Wayland** - February 28, 2021 at 11:03 AM

AK

“ Sister Lesure and the entire family, please know that you have our condolences and sincere prayers that the Most High will strengthen and comfort you. Endless blessings!

*Johnny and Aquilla Kellar and Family*

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**AK** - February 27, 2021 at 05:00 PM

DJ

“ Our sincere condolences and prayers of comfort to you and your family Mother Lesure. Your Sweetie's life is a testimony of a true servant. "Well done thou good and faithful servant..." Blessings!!!

*Min. Dwayne and Debra Jackson*

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**Dwayne & Debra Jackson** - February 27, 2021 at 01:54 PM

FJ

“ Our sincere condolence to Mother Lesure and family. We will certainly miss the beautiful infectious smile of Deacon Lesure! We are forever grateful for the love, prayers and wisdom he poured into our lives/marriage. Thank you for loving us as you have. May God comfort the family is our prayer.

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**Fred & Helen Jones** - February 27, 2021 at 12:44 PM

JW

“Dad Lesure, you're one of God's great giants in the realm, your light so shine that who came near to you were able to see the unconditional Love of God in you. I am truly better person after crossing your path.

*I've learned how love without unrealistic expectations. I'll forever cherish the moments we share together talking you were like the father I never had, I am left with the last time me spoke on New Years Day January 2020 before I departed from Georgia not knowing it would be our last time together, I know for sure that you're smiling with the Lord. My prayers for mom Lesure is that the piece of God keep her cover until you two meet again.*

*Love Always*

*James Williams*

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**James Williams** - February 27, 2021 at 11:20 AM

JW

*Dad Lesure, you're one of God's great giants in the realm, your light so shine that whoever came near you were able to see the unconditional Love of God in you. I am truly a better person after crossing your path.*

*I've learned how love without unrealistic expectations. I'll forever cherish the moments we share together talking. You were like the father I never had, I am left with the memories of the last time me spoke on New Years Day January 2020 before I departed from Georgia not knowing it would be our last time together, I know for sure that you're smiling with the Lord. My prayers for mom Lesure is that the piece of God keep her cover until you two meet again.*

*Love Always*

*James Williams*

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**James Williams** - February 27, 2021 at 11:30 AM

CJ

“ A life that has made a difference in so many other lives will be well remembered.

*A soul that has lifted up other souls and encouraged the climb will be well honored.*

*A person who turned the spirit of God’s love into living action will be well revered.*

*This is who “DADDY LESURE” was. You and he have BLESSED so many and WE LOVE YOU. Praying that God’s love will comfort you and your family, reminding you again and again and again that you are not alone*

*With Deepest Sympathy and Love — Carolyn Jones-Williams*

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**Carolyn Jones** - February 27, 2021 at 10:58 AM



“ *“Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.” My loving thoughts and prayers are extended to you my Sister/friend and Family of Luther James Lesure. Although you're a distance from our family, the times we shared at Greater Grace Temple will always be in my heart.*

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**Cena Ellis-Washington** - February 27, 2021 at 10:41 AM

EW

“ *Our prayers and thoughts for you Sis. Lesure and the entire family. Sweetie will be truly missed by his Hopewell Family. The impactful conversations, exchange of pleasantries, smiles, and laughter will be forever etched on our hearts and minds. We love you!*

*Elder George & Minister Vicki Wormsby*

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**Elder George & Minister Vicki Wormsby** - February 27, 2021 at 10:36 AM

ZA

“ *RIP My dear brother!!!!!! PRAYERS TO FAMILY.*



**ZENNIA ALLEN** - February 27, 2021 at 10:27 AM

CW

“ *My deepest condolences to Mother Ruth Lesure and the entire Lesure family. Deacon Lesure will truly be missed. Prayers for your strength and comfort during this time. Love you dearly*

**Christine Williams** - February 27, 2021 at 09:41 AM



“ *Deacon James and Ruth Lesure, we love you! You will always hold a special place in our heart. Thank you for your labor of love in the Radical Love Ministry. You guys were our first mentors as we got in engaged and married. We cannot thank you enough. Wonderful memories from the couples retreats and events will live on in our hearts. Thanks again. God bless and keep your lovely family..... Minister Brandon and Tamika Howard*

**Tamika Howard** - February 27, 2021 at 09:28 AM

JR

“ *Our Prayers, Thoughts, and Love to Ruth and Family. Please remember that God and time heals all pain. God Bless You All. Love Michael and Juanita Rose*

**Juanita Rose** - February 27, 2021 at 09:07 AM



“ *Our sincere condolences to the Lesure Family. Gary and I were blessed to have been in the presence of Deacon Lesure during Radical Love and what a true blessing it was. So much wisdom and love he gave to all who knew him, for that and much more, we thank you. You will truly be missed!*

*RIH Deacon Lesure (Sweetie)*

*Gary and Angalique Wright*

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**Angalique Ashe-Wright** - February 27, 2021 at 08:51 AM



“ *I miss the talks you had with me and uncle Jesse  
God has blessed you*

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**james lesure** - February 27, 2021 at 08:06 AM



“ *Words can't express my Gratitude for the role the Dad James served in the lives of my wife and I. Right now, there's a great void with him not being here. We credit him along with Mother Ruth with saving our marriage and gaining another Son and Daughter for life. I reflect on all of the conversations and how he imparted his wisdom which helped me become a better man and husband. His smile could move mountains!!! The times that I spent with him just talking one on one are forever engraved in my heart!!! I will really missed him!! To Mom Ruth and the entire Lesure Family, We send our sincere condolences and we pray for GOD's continued comfort during the time. We love you and just a call away.*

*Thomas and Bridget Jackson*

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**Thomas Jackson** - February 26, 2021 at 10:09 PM

MT

“ Our deepest condolences to Mother Ruth Lesure and the entire Lesure family. Deacon James Lesure was a true servant of God! We will truly miss him. Prayers of comfort!  
Minister Thomas and Zara Taylor

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**Minister Thomas and Zara Taylor** - February 26, 2021 at 10:07 PM

JW

“ Deaconess LeSure. You are such a gracious and Godly woman, and my husband and me are keeping you and your family lifted up in continual prayer during your time of tremendous loss and grief. We love you.  
Michael & Minister Janet Washington.



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**Janet Washington** - February 26, 2021 at 10:06 PM

MS

“ We have been truly blessed to know Deacon Lesure. He was such a gentle spirit and had lots of humor about himself. Horace and I were blessed to have him as one of our facilitators in Radical Love. The future Radicals will miss out on a jewel.  
We love you Mr. Sweetie ❤️  
Min. Horace & Diana Sheals 🦋

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**Minister Horace and Diana Sheals** - February 26, 2021 at 09:03 PM

CC

“ Our deepest condolences to Mother Lesure and the entire Lesure family. We Love to hear deacon speak, sing and laugh, He definitely had a way with crowds. He kept us laughing and thinking. His profound way of making you reflect changed so much for our family. We will never forget him. Love Michael, Tae, Deven and Dysten Cross.



Contacia Cross - February 26, 2021 at 08:21 PM

ML

“ We thank God for the time he allowed us to serve in ministry with Deacon James Lesure. He always had a kind word to share that brought us so much joy. We offer our condolences to the family. we will truly miss him. Min. James and Annie Love

Min. James and Annie Love - February 26, 2021 at 07:41 PM

J(

“ Mother Joyce Smarr  
I will miss my Church Boyfriend so much. He brought me so much joy to see his smile I will miss him so so. If you need any thing for I know sixty years is a long time. I love you. Please call anytime.



Joyce Smarr (Mother) - February 26, 2021 at 06:52 PM

KG

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with The Lesure Family. My husband and I will cherish every memory from our Radical Love Class under the awesome and inspiring leadership of Our "Sweeties" : Mr. & Mrs. Luther James Lesure.

Kimberly Goodloe - February 26, 2021 at 06:05 PM

MS

“ *Such an awesome gentleman and husband to beautiful Ruth. We met them at New Birth and loved them immediately. I loved hearing his Detroit stories about when Fred Hammond was a naughty kid at church. We are praying for your peace and comfort during this time.*

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**Michael & Rosemary Sims** - February 26, 2021 at 05:03 PM

TD

“ *Condolences from the Dillard Family.*



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**Tyrone Dillard** - February 26, 2021 at 04:13 PM

CJ

“ *I never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Lesure, but I've heard great things. My friendship with Darryl speaks volumes to the type of man he must have been. May he rest in peace and his family be comforted at this difficult time.*

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**Camill N. Jones** - February 26, 2021 at 03:35 PM

PB

“ *I am sorry for your loss. Pete and Maureen*

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**Pete Bancheri** - February 26, 2021 at 03:27 PM



“ *Gerberas and Palms Spray* was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



February 26, 2021 at 08:09 AM



“ *Randolph Sanks purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum* for the family of Luther James Lesure.



**Randolph Sanks** - February 25, 2021 at 08:56 PM



“ *Heavenly Sentiments Spray* was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



February 25, 2021 at 07:05 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



February 25, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



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February 25, 2021 at 02:22 PM



“ Dearest Mom Lesure,  
Truly appreciate you and Pop Lesure for your love and kindness.  
Praying for the entire family.

Much love!  
The Mack Family

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**Valeria Mack** - February 25, 2021 at 02:17 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



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February 25, 2021 at 10:28 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



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February 25, 2021 at 10:04 AM

NS

“ NMCC Marriage (Joneses, Williams, Smiths, Swanns) purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Luther James Lesure.



NMCC Marriage (Joneses, Williams, Smiths, Swanns) -  
February 25, 2021 at 09:43 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



February 24, 2021 at 10:08 PM

LS

“ Louise Smith purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Luther James Lesure.



Louise Smith - February 24, 2021 at 08:13 PM

MS

“ Maurice, Taunya, Jeremy and Lauren Smith purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Luther James Lesure.



Maurice, Taunya, Jeremy and Lauren Smith - February 24,  
2021 at 08:08 PM

JJ

“ Our deepest condolences to the Lesure family. We love you all. Praying for God's continued comfort and to give you peace.

*Love Joe & Jerolynn Hood*



**Joe & Jerolynn** - February 24, 2021 at 06:41 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Luther James Lesure.



February 24, 2021 at 06:08 PM

CC

“ Chick-fil-A Supply Chain purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Luther James Lesure.



**Chick-fil-A Supply Chain** - February 24, 2021 at 09:27 AM

LF

“ Love, Carrie Simmons and Mission Foods purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Luther James Lesure.



**Love, Carrie Simmons and Mission Foods** - February 24, 2021 at 07:53 AM



“ *Stately Lilies* was purchased for the family of *Luther James Lesure*.



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February 23, 2021 at 05:26 PM