



## Mr William H Leonard Jr

June 15, 1943 - September 2, 2023

William Henry Leonard, Jr. ("Sonny" as he was affectionately called by his family)

was born on June 15, 1943, in Columbus, Ga. He was the first child of eight of William Henry Leonard, Sr and Lillian Louise Moore. He attended both Brookfield.

and Radcliff Elementary Schools and was a member of Spencer High School's class.

of 1961.

In the year of 1960, he became a father to a son, Gwuana R. Thomas, Sr.

During the summer of 1961, he met a young woman by the name of Ruth Martin

from Columbus, Ga. On November 15, 1964, they were married in holy matrimony.

at Peace Baptist Church in Columbus and were together for a total of 56 years until Ruth's death in 2021.

Shortly after his marriage, Sonny enlisted in the United States Army where he gained the rank of Sergeant and served in the Vietnam War. He has shared many.

stories of his life during this tumultuous time in history.

In 1972, Sonny and Ruth moved north to Atlanta, GA and purchased a home in

Decatur, Georgia where they both lived until their passing. They welcomed a

baby

girl, Antonia Fion (deceased), a son, William H. Leonard, III and another daughter

Makeba Zonda.

Upon his move to Atlanta, Sonny took employment as a taxicab driver through the streets of downtown. It was through this job he learned Atlanta like the “back of his hand.” Shortly after, he gained employment with General Motors at

the Lakewood plant. This also gave him the opportunity to live and work for GM

in Bowling Green, KY and Baltimore, MD. Working for GM gave him access to free

education. Therefore, Sonny pursued several technical degrees to hone his craft.

This led him to his beloved “side hustle” HVAC and the founding of his own company, Leonard’s Complete Heating and Air. He retired from GM at his 30-year

mark but maintained his independent heating and AC company.

In 2015, Sonny began his journey of pursuing the Jehovah Witness faith. He met

countless brothers and sisters who welcomed him with open arms and made his

transition seamless. He loved attending services and was excited when it was his

turn to share a reading. He remained a devout Witness until his passing.

Preceding in him in death are his parents, William Henry Leonard, Sr. and Lillian

Louise Moore, his wife Ruth Martin Leonard, his daughter Antonia, and his sister,

Lilla Marsha (Leonard) Edwards. He leaves to cherish his memory, his two sons,

Gwuana R. Thomas, Sr. and William H. Leonard, III, a daughter, Makeba Leonard,  
six brothers, Walker Dean, Leland Wayne, Myron, Osbert, Zelford and Roderick Leonard and a host of grandchildren: Gwuana, Jr., Alexander, Marretta Louise, Jazzmond, Erielle, several great grands, and a plethora of other family members.

# Cemetery Details

## Georgia National Cemetery

1080 Scott Hudgens Dr  
Canton, GA 30114

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 13. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Gregory B. Levett and Sons - Rockdale Chapel  
1999 Hwy 138 SE  
Conyers, GA 30013

## Family Hour (6PM-8PM)

SEP 13 (ET)

Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory-Rockdale  
1999 Hwy. 138 SE  
Conyers, GA 30013

## Celebration of Life Service - Live Streamed

SEP 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses  
1565 Columbia Dr.  
Decatur, GA 30032

## Burial w/ Military Honors

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SEP **15**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Georgia National Cemetery  
1080 Scott Hudgens Drive  
Canton, Ga 30114

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory created a <https://vimeo.com/event/3704575> in memory of Mr William H Leonard Jr*



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**Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc.** - September 11, 2023 at 05:26 PM



“ *Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr William H Leonard Jr*



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**Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc.** - September 11, 2023 at 05:26 PM

EJ

“ *In Remembrance and Honor for a God of Reconciliation and Grace.*

*My Sympathies are with Reverend Gwuana, Desiree and the Family.*

*Your Sister in Christ,  
EJ Johnson  
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church  
Anchorage AK*

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**EJ** - September 14, 2023 at 01:42 PM

MR

“ *May the Spirit of God provide great comfort to the Family.*

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**Mickey Rutledge** - September 14, 2023 at 01:38 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr William H Leonard Jr.*



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September 13, 2023 at 03:04 PM

RM

“ *We will miss our Dear Bro Leonard who loved Jehovah, his Family & friends.  
He would say. "Just Let Me Tell You This" And would tell all who listen.  
We Pray. for the comfort of the Family Matthew 5:4  
We Thank Bro Leonard "For Being Our Friend"*



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**Reg & Jackie Murphy** - September 13, 2023 at 08:52 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr William H Leonard.

September 12, 2023 at 11:35 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr William H Leonard Jr.



September 12, 2023 at 11:35 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr William H Leonard Jr.



September 11, 2023 at 09:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr William H Leonards.

September 11, 2023 at 01:48 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr William H Leonard Jr.*



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September 11, 2023 at 01:43 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr William H Leonard Jr.*



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September 09, 2023 at 05:22 PM