



William Alan Winfield

January 21, 1956 - October 15, 2020

Mr. William “Billy” Alan Winfield

William “Billy” Alan Winfield was born on January 21, 1956 in Memphis, TN. to the late William and Bernice Winfield. The Winfield’s were proud to have three sons in which Billy was the eldest. In 1963 the Winfield’s relocated to their new home of Detroit, MI. passionately known as “Motown.” Billy was scholar-athlete at Detroit’s Redford High School. After graduating, Billy enrolled at Jackson State University in Jackson, MS. where he studied Communications while entertaining listeners on radio airwaves. Upon completing his degree, Billy was hired by Delta Airlines where he went on to have a successful career that spanned nearly thirty years. In 1986 Billy decided that the cold winters in Detroit were enough and he moved to sunny Los Angeles. Upon arriving in Los Angeles he met his best friend and soulmate Gretchen Gardner. Miss Gardner was raising a young son and the three of them became inseparable. Billy and Gretchen went on to become married in 1996 in Marina Del Rey, CA. Billy served numerous years as a member of First AME Church of Los Angeles prior to moving to Atlanta, GA. in 1998 where he retired from Delta Airlines. He was a lifelong Detroit Pistons, Lions and Tigers fans and you would hear him yelling passionately at the television while watching the game. Billy leaves behind a wife Gretchen S. Winfield, children Sylvia (21), Matthew (21), William-Darius (20), Joshua (19), Isaiah (18), Sara-Lena (15) and stepson Samuel (Shonn) Gardner III, Cherry Hill, NJ. grandsons, Samuel IV

and Miles. Brothers Vincent, Snellville, GA. and Brian (Jackson, MS.) along with a host nieces, nephews and cousins. Billy and Gretchen were fortunate to provide care for sixty-three foster children over the years. Billy will always be remembered for being a great man of God who only knew love and he always gave his best to everyone.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

Eternal Hills Memorial Gardens
3700 Stone Mountain Hwy
Snellville, GA 30039

Tribute Wall



“ *Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory created a [Click Here For Live Stream in memory of William Alan Winfield](#)* ”



Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc. - November 05, 2020 at 08:19 PM



“ *♥ Love you Dear Heart♥* ”

Gretchen S Winfield - December 03, 2020 at 07:11 AM



“ *♥ I love you Dear Heart♥* ”

Gretchen Winfield - November 22, 2020 at 02:33 PM



“ *♥ Love and miss you Dear Heart♥* ”



Gretchen Winfield - November 18, 2020 at 08:49 AM

GW

“ *Love and honor dear heart*

Gretchen Winfield - November 12, 2020 at 10:36 AM

GW

“ ❤️ *Rest in heavenly peace dear heart* ❤️

Gretchen Winfield - November 07, 2020 at 08:57 AM



“ *Samuel Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:59 AM



“ *Sarah-lena Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:59 AM



“ *Isaiah Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *Joshua Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *William-darius Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *Matthew Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *Sylvia Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:57 AM



“ *Gretchen Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:56 AM



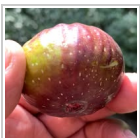
“ *Brian A Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:56 AM



“ *Vincent K Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:55 AM



“ *Bernice Blanche Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:55 AM



“ *William Armstead Winfield was added to the Family Tree.*

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:54 AM



“ I've been thinking and loving on Billy a lot these past few weeks. My cousin. My brother. What keeps coming to me most powerfully is his spirit. Always positive. Always upbeat. Always a kind word and a note of encouragement. Even when he was ragging on our Detroit/Chicago sports rivalries. My memories go back to the many visits we would make from Chicago to Detroit. Or the reverse trip they would make. The somewhat intermediate location, however, was the most memorable. The trips to Gary Indiana where they would most often stay at our aunt Lenetta's house. Before Brian, I was the youngest boy although Vincent was not far ahead of me. These visits were at the heart of my getting to know my kin. All the Brookins' siblings in the area, our parents, aunts, and uncles, would be there. And the rambunctious boys. Billy was at the heart of it all for me. "Ghee." To this day I don't know what that word was all about or where it came from. Vincent and Brian are going to have to tell me.

In the last few years, Billy would make a point of calling to check on us. That was much appreciated, even though he would always butcher saying my adopted name, Kwesi. It didn't matter. He made a point of honoring me with the effort. And when he didn't use that name, he would delight in calling me by the name my father used, "Craigay!" And he said it just like my father. Always gave him a chuckle.

Rest in Power, my brother. We are missing you.

Craig (Kwesi) Brookins

Kwesi Mtundu - November 06, 2020 at 10:50 AM



“ *When I think how much I'll miss brother Bill. I'm reminded as of this writing the laughter he filled everyone in the room with his presence just being himself.*

One of the many high points of our friendship was out of college we embarked upon an adventure to the Caribbean neither one of us had ever been out of the country and we had a memorable and enjoyable time. Shortly thereafter returning to the states , Billy relocated to Los Angeles and had the pleasure of meeting Gretchen and that was a very proud moment for me to see Billy find his soulmate.

The two wonderfully set out on a life of selflessness further blessed by having wonderful sons and daughters to share and teach life's experiences too. Brother Bill dollar bill as I used to call em! Your life was a blessing your memory a treasure and you are loved beyond words and Missed beyond measure.

Heartfelt regards,.....Steve Brookins

Steve Brookins - November 05, 2020 at 09:51 PM

KE

“ What can I say about billious? A straight brother to me my entire life. I was so excited we he decided to move to LA from Detroit. He was in my life we would act silly all the time. Billy was always smiling always upbeat you fed off his energy! I remember when we picked up Magic Johnson in my car on slauson because his limo broke down. He and bill talked about Michigan and the fine girls on campus 😊 that same night we ran into James worthy at a club. U know bill love to club back in the day. He loved people and people loved him. My father always treated him like a son. Haven't stop thinking bout him sense he was escorted into the presence of God bye the angels of the Lord. Enter into thy rest, my good and faithful servant 😊 I know all our loved ones who are in heaven were overjoyed to meet him when he arrived. I know he and my dad been talking about the dodgers and lakers 🏀. Well I could go on and on about billy he lived life to the fullest. Was blessed to have a wife who stayed by his side until his transition. Gretchen thank you for being his help meet all these years. You are a great woman of god and he loved you eternally. We will see him again one day until then he will live in our hearts and minds forever. Goodnight sweet prince I'll see you in the morning 🙌🙌🙌❤️❤️❤️🙏👑👑

kevin - November 01, 2020 at 09:22 PM

DB

“ Billy you were one of a kind. Full of Energy at Laughter at ALL times. Cousin, it was truly a blessing for me to stop by for a short visit earlier this year. You will be truly missed by folks from the West to the East Coast.

Cousin Dex Brookins

Dexter M Brookins - October 29, 2020 at 10:36 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Alan Winfield.*



October 27, 2020 at 01:37 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of William Alan Winfield.*



October 27, 2020 at 01:31 AM



“ *Our Thoughts and Prayers to Gretchen and the kids. Bill was such a wonderful neighbor.*

Gayland & Melanie

gayland mitchell - October 26, 2020 at 02:57 AM



“ *One of my favorite cousins that I love to get in trouble with his father. I can still here Uncle Bill yelling at Billy, "Boy, you better stop bothering that girl!"*

Lynn Brookins - October 25, 2020 at 06:46 PM

GW

“ Love you dear heart




Gretchen Winfield - October 25, 2020 at 01:55 PM

DN

“ My fondest memory of Bill is from our church, Global Empowerment Ministries in Stone Mountain, Ga. He would come with the kids for Sunday school and tell each of them something different as they filed out of the SUV. He was so fun to be around and such a loving husband and man of God. Though I have not seen the family in church for a while. I miss their presence in the balcony or the back of the church. Gretchen, I'm just a phone call away.. Love you! Rest in the arms of Jesus Bill.

Donna A Nelms - October 25, 2020 at 08:12 AM

 Kandie Berry

“ I never got a chance to meet William Alan but I know he was a great husband to my cousin Gretchen and a great father. God bless you and your family cousin. We will be praying for you.

Kandie Berry - October 24, 2020 at 09:09 PM

LI

“ One of the sweetest men I know. A loving husband, father and friend! My heart aches for his beautiful wife and children. I love you sweet man!

Linda - October 24, 2020 at 08:10 PM

RC

“ To Gretchen and the Kids, we love you and we're praying for you.
Billy was a wonderful friend and will be truly missed 💕

Rita Cochran - October 24, 2020 at 05:57 PM

DJ

“ MR MOTOWN AS I CALLED HIM WAS ONE OF THE BEST PEOPLE I HAVE EVER MET IN MY LIFETIME.....HAD THE PLEASURE TO MEET AND WORK WITH BILLY ON THE RAMP WITH DELTA AIR LINES IN 1987 IN LOS ANGELES....WE IMMEDIATELY BONDED AND BECAME GOOD GOOD FRIENDS.....HE WAS A STRONG STRONG CHRISTIAN SOLDIER AND I WILL FOREVER MISS HIM.....RIP MY BROTHER BILL AND THRU MY BELIEFS I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN.....

Duane Jones - October 24, 2020 at 05:54 PM

BN

Met Billy at work in the rain we both talk back and forth the hold time been friends with him and Gretchen ever since had Dinner with them and talked God let me meet two of the most beautiful and kindest soul on this earth thank you God! Although we lived in different states I thought of them all the time.

Broderick Neal - October 25, 2020 at 05:06 PM

PW

“ Will miss him he was part of our family just as u and the children are. Praying strength to u Gret .
The Walker Family .Love to all

Pamela Walker - October 24, 2020 at 05:31 PM