



## *The Moment That You Died*

*The moment that you died  
My heart was torn in two,  
One side filled with heartache  
And the other died with you.*

*I often lie awake at night,  
When the world is fast asleep,  
And take a walk down memory lane,  
With tears upon my cheeks.*

*Remembering you is easy,  
I do it everyday,  
But missing you is heartbreak  
That never goes away.*

*I hold you tightly within my heart  
And there you will remain  
Until the joyous day arrives,  
That we'll meet again.*

*Love, Karen*

## *Repast*

American Defenders – Post 968  
2111 West Tioga | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19140

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family of Willis Garner would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions. Your phone calls, visits, flowers, thoughts, and prayers have all helped greatly during our time of bereavement. May God continue to bless each of you, is our prayer.*

## *Professional Services Entrusted To*



**G. CHOICE**  
FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC.

2530 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia Pennsylvania 19132  
215-227-0100 (Office) | 215-225-1256 (Fax)  
www.gchoicefc.com | Britin' Choice-Cartwright, Supervisor

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF



# *Willis* **GARNER**

*Sunrise*  
January 11, 1942

*Sunset*  
June 22, 2023

Saturday, July 1, 2023  
10:00 AM

**G. CHOICE FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC.**  
2530 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132

# Obituary

WILLIS GARNER, 81, of Philadelphia, PA, was called home to his final resting place on June 22, 2023. Willis was born in Philadelphia to Joseph Moses and Josephine Garner on January 11, 1942. Growing up, he was affectionately known as “Bro” and “Snooki.” Willis loved working on cars as a child. He was educated in the Philadelphia school system and graduated from BOK High School studying to be an auto mechanic. His employment history included working at Straight Trailer as a Spot Welder, SEPTA as a Painter, and ended his work career at the Sanitation Department of Philadelphia, retiring in 2005 after dedicating 29 years with them.

Willis accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior in 2018. Willis was blessed with four sons, Willis Garner Jr., Sean Ward, Dwain Garner, and Demetrius Garner. In 1965, he married Katherine Odom-Henderson in Philadelphia. Their long union came to an end in 1996. In 2002, he met his life-long partner, Karen Neal, who already had children whom he fathered as his own, Latoya, Keshia, Antonio, Vaughn, Kaleal, and Brad.

Together, Willis and Karen enjoyed playing cards, especially the game 500, going to the movies, eating crabs, and overall being together. He was a faithful member of the Nine Gents, a club exclusively made up of family members only. His hobbies included singing with his brothers, you could always catch him humming a good oldies tune especially during his DIY projects at home. He loved hanging with the fellas and cracking jokes. He was the master jokester. He was one of the best in shuffle boarding and putting together model cars. He loved sports but was an all time Eagles fan and collected whatever fan gear he could get his hands on. He loved NASCAR and drag racing, and he frequently visited Atco to catch a good race.

Willis had a giving heart. He would give his last with a smile and a good lecture/wisdom to go along with it, and don't forget that black and white book. He had quite a few all-time sayings, some of them were... “OH BOY!!!” “Always be real with yourself,” “Always keep something in your pocket for a rainy day,” “You don't owe anyone but yourself,” and “I ain't got it,” (but would always give). Even after falling ill, he still remained the same with his spunk.

Willis was preceded in death by father, Joseph Moses; mother, Josephine Garner; sister, Queen Esther Hawkins; brother, Rodney Moses; son, Willis Garner, Jr.; and two grandsons, Dyshon Garner and Daequan Garner.

Willis is survived by his spouse, Karen Neal; children, Sean Ward (Lynn), Dwain Garner (Monica), Demetrius Garner, Latoya, Keshia, Antonio (Tanasha), Vaughn, Kaleal, and Brad; brother, Joseph Moses, Jr. (Corliss); sisters, Yvonne Cartwright and Phaedra Saunders; mom, Gertrude Moses; 28 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren; special cousin who was more like a brother, Spider; and along with a host of other family members and friends.

# Order of Service

Hymn – *Blessed Assurance* .....Christine Henry  
 Prayer..... Minister Stanley Riley  
 Selection.....Lance James  
 Scripture Reading ..... Minister Stanley Riley  
 Obituary Reading  
 Remarks  
 Selection.....Lance James  
 Eulogy.....Minister Andrew Muse

## Interment

Private

## Remember Me

*Remember me with smiles not tears,  
 For all the joy through all the years.  
 Recall the closeness that was ours,  
 A love as sweet as fragrant flowers.*

*Don't dwell on thoughts that cause you pain,*

*We'll see each other once again.*

*I am at peace... try to believe.*

*It was my time... I had to leave.*

*But “what a view” I have from here,*

*I see your face, I feel you near,*

*I follow you throughout the day,*

*You're not alone along the way.*

*And when God calls you... you will be*

*Right by my side... right here with me.*

*Till then, I'll wait by heavens by doors,*

*We'll be united, ever the more.*

