

Acknowledgement

The family of William Henry Lucas III would like to deeply express their appreciation and sincerely thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy. Your cards, food, calls, flowers, prayers, love and support were truly a blessing, and we will be forever grateful. Special thank you : Fresenius Clayton Taylor Dialysis Center, Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Center, Marlan Gary Chapel of Peace, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, OhioHealth Hospice ** Capital Home Health

PALLBEARERS

KYREE MULLEN ~ CHARLES BROWN ~ ARTIS M. ROWN
JAMES LUCAS ~ SHAWN LUCAS ~ WILLIAM LUCAS IV

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

KENNETH BROWN ~ ARTIS MCKINNY ~ CECIL BROWN
MELVIN BROWN ~ JOHN BROWN ~ WILLIAM E. BROWN

Beyond Life's Gateway

There's an open gate at the end of the road,
Through which each must go alone.
And there is a light we cannot see,
Our Father claims His own.

Beyond the gate my loved one
Finds Happiness and rest,
And there's a comfort in the thought,
That a loving God knows best.

To offer condolences to Lucas Family,
visit www.TheChapelofPeace.com

We Entrusted Our Loved One to the Caring Professionals At

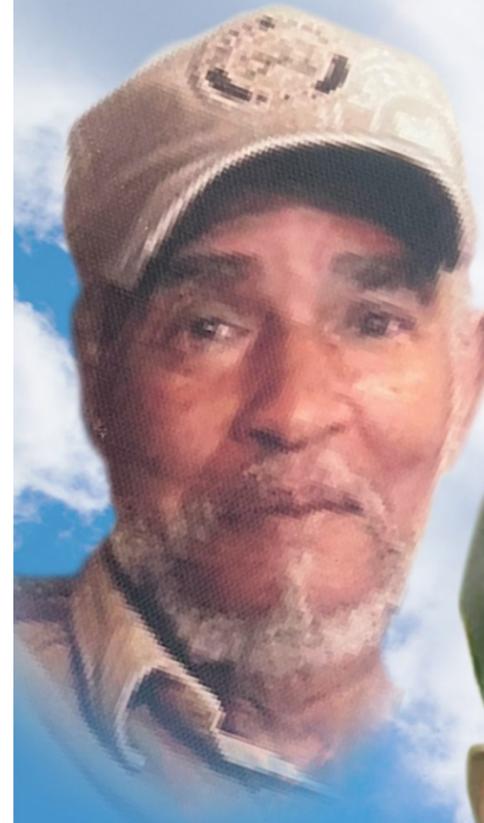


**MARLAN GARY FUNERAL HOME
CHAPEL OF PEACE**

NORTH: 2500 CLEVELAND AVENUE EAST: 5456 E. LIVINGSTON AVE
614-267-8310
www.THECHAPELOFPEACE.com



*A
Celebration
of the
Life of*



Sunrise:
May 24, 1947

Sunset:
August 18, 2021

William Henry
LUCAS, III

~Service~

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021 ~ 12:00 PM
SPRINGHILL BAPTIST CHURCH
2000 East 17th Avenue
Columbus, Ohio
PASTOR TWILA LUCAS EULOGIST
PASTOR MILDRED TATE OFFICIANT

Obituary

William Henry Lucas III, 74, passed away on August 18th. Bill, as he is known, was born in Columbus, Ohio. He was a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend. He was a grandson of the first African American Pure Oil franchisee in Ohio. In time, Bill's parents took over Lucas Pure Oil/Lucas Union 76 on the corners of Atcheson and 20th Streets. Bill worked by their side and learned, firsthand, the importance of civic responsibility. He carried the lesson with him as he struck out on his own and ultimately joined the U. S. Army. Upon his return, Bill's career path included working with Columbus Public Schools before flexing his entrepreneurial spirit and founding his own industrial cleaning company.

Family has always been the center of his being. As a child, extended Lucas clan traditions included Sunday Dinners with all family members present and Midnight Masses on Christmas Eve at St. Dominic's Church, followed by early morning breakfasts at his grandparent's home. Bill was at ease in almost every situation. He spent summers hanging with his city cousins in Dayton and helping his country cousins care for farm animals in Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

After marrying the love of his life, the two carried forward the community legacy established by her parents. A grieving neighbor from the old recently said that "You couldn't live in the neighborhood and not have stepped foot in the Brown's house!" As the Lucas' fashioned a home their own, Bill "held court" on his front porch many a day for young men needing encouragement, guidance, and correction. His advice was real; some of it lived; all of it given with a sincere desire to see future generations make wiser decisions. In the '70s and '80s, Bill was proud to be the "neighborhood Dad."

As his family grew, a special twinkle in his eyes appeared any time a family gathering occurred. Last spring, in preparation for his vow renewal, his sons, Will, Shawn, James, and son-like nephew Max, took him to be fitted for a tuxedo and out to lunch. This simple outing was one of the brightest spots in his final months. Bill enjoyed having everyone together whether the family caravan made its way to Niagara Falls, New York, or Deer Creek Lodge in Mt. Sterling, Ohio. On trips, he had a captive audience to involve others in his two favorite pastimes: music and fishing. Bill also used that time making family laugh with sly remarks, cracking jokes, and discussing history, current events, politics, and God. He always found time and a quiet spot to sit and marvel at nature's beauty on these trips.

While aspects of his spiritual life continued to be rooted in his Catholic heritage, he and his wife of fifty years delighted in attending services at Acts of Faith Community Crusade Church, where they were members in good standing. His granddaughter Nia and daughters Tiffany and Twila were ordained as Youth Director, Evangelist, and Lead Pastor, respectively.

Never one to meet a stranger, Bill had a gift for building relationships. Staff members and fellow patients at the OSU Clayton Taylor Dialysis Center were like his second family. Together, this team helped Billy, a proud man and a giver at heart, see the beauty in receiving support. He, in turn, helped create community with others at the facility. Over the years, his pride in being a Viet Nam veteran deepened. Those close to Bill knew he didn't leave his home without a veteran's baseball cap on his head. Bill will be laid to rest with full military honors at Dayton National Cemetery.

You need not look hard to see Bill's values. His legacy will be the smooth way he communicated with people from all walks of life. He reminded us that those who were down on their luck were as deserved of respect as those held in high esteem. His legacy challenges us to give from the heart, without expecting recognition. Bill reminded us that God could do anything so don't give up on life. William Henry Lucas III taught us to love, and to him, we say rest in peace, knowing your legacy will continue.

Bill is survived by his wife of fifty years, Roberta (Brown) Lucas, sons William (Linda) Lucas IV, Shawn Lucas, James Lucas, Daughters Tiffany (Gregory) Gates, Twila Lucas. Grandchildren Nia, Darius, Bria, Jena, Jada, Madison, Kyree, Brooklyn, Kam'ron, and Kayla; great-grandson Levi; sister, Mary Teresa Lucas; special friend, James Jones, and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, William Henry Lucas, Jr. and Mildred Elizabeth (Sims) Lucas

May I Go Now?

*May I go now?
Do you think the time is right?
May I say goodbye to pain filled days
and endless lonely nights?
I've lived my life and done my best,
an example tried to be.
So can I take that step beyond
and set my spirit free?*

*I didn't want to go at first,
I fought with all my might.
But something seems to draw me now
to a warm and loving light.
I want to go, I really do.
It's difficult to stay.
But I will try as best I can
to live just one more day.*

*To give you time to care for me
and share your love and fears.
I know you're sad and afraid,
because I see your tears.
I'll not be far,
I promise that, and hope you'll always know
that my spirit will be close to you
wherever you may go.*

*Thank you so for loving me.
You know I love you too,
that's why it's hard to say goodbye
and end this life with you.
So hold me now just one more time
and let me hear you say,
because you care so much for me,
you'll let me go today.*

