



## Arthur James Lewis

August 6, 1944 - January 11, 2023

Arthur James Lewis (78), affectionately known as “Art,” “Big Art” and “Herc,” transitioned from this life on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, from complications associated with Alzheimer’s Disease. Art was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on Sunday, August 6, 1944, to Timothy Lewis and Alberta (Donald) Lewis.

Art was educated in the Harrisburg School District where he was an outstanding athlete. He played the position of Right Guard wearing #64 throughout his football career. In 1961, he was chosen to play for Pennsylvania’s Big 33 Football Classic in Hershey, Pennsylvania. He was offered scholarships from several colleges and universities. He graciously accepted a full football scholarship to Virginia Union University in Richmond, VA. Because of his huge passion for sports and his phenomenal athletic accomplishments, in 1967, Art went on to play semi-professional football for the Montreal Beavers in the Canadian Football League in Montreal, Canada. During the late 60’s and early 70’s, he also played for the Harrisburg Capitols, the Chambersburg Cardinals and the Hagerstown Bears. In 1978, he began coaching for Susquehanna Township’s Midget Football League and coached little league basketball for four seasons.

In his early years, Art was a great mechanic and lover of drag racing custom building his own race car that he named “Hard Times.” He won numerous

trophies for quarter mile races at Quarter Aces Drag Strip. He later customized a Dodge van that was featured in a national car and van magazine. Art was also an avid lover of Oldies music from the 60's and 70's and was known to sing along passionately when his favorite song was playing (even if he didn't know the words).

Art was a natural born businessman establishing his construction business, Hercules Enterprises in 1974. Here he mastered a multitude of construction projects including demolition, dump truck rentals and home repairs. He soon developed a passion for real estate and property management, specializing in rehabilitating abandoned properties turning them into showplaces. Utilizing the skills acquired in his construction business, Art built his longtime dream custom home where he lived for many years.

Art had a quick wit and an infectious laugh. He was kindhearted, had a compassionate spirit and an unforgettable smile. He was a firm believer in God and never strayed far from his religious upbringing. He was baptized in 1979 at Tabernacle Baptist Church and later became a member of Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church in Harrisburg. In the early 90's, he reunited with his childhood and family church, The North 17th Street Church of God where he remained a dedicated member.

Art was preceded in death by his parents, the late Timothy and Alberta Lewis; and his brother, George Richard Lewis. He leaves to cherish his memory six children, Antonio (Tony) Flood, Tanya Kirkland-Alfonso (Alexis), Karla Taylor (Michael), Aaron Lewis and (twins) Arthur Jr. and Rachael Lewis; his grandchildren, Julian Sellers (Shi'Mara), (twins) Jhoedi and Jhordyn Sellers, Chandler Lewis, Jalen Lewis, Gabriel Lewis, Alexis Ann Alfonso, Erika Alfonso and Kristian Alfonso; great-granddaughters, Jada Sullivan, Ava Neubaum and Bailey Sellers; and three brothers, Thomas Lewis, Leonard (LT) Lewis and Eugene Lewis. Also cherishing his memory are his devoted and longtime

sweetheart and caregiver, Mary Hill, and a loving host of family members, friends and business associates.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CLICK ON THE SHARE A MEMORY TAB TO POST VIDEOS, SHARE MEMORIES, CONDOLENCES, REFLECTIONS OR SIMPLY LEAVE YOUR NAME.

# Cemetery Details

## William Howard Day Cemetery

Lincoln and Carlisle Streets  
Steelton, PA 17113

# Previous Events

## Flower Delivery

JAN 21. 8:30 AM (ET)

Tabernacle Baptist Church  
2730 Booser Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA, PA 17103

## Viewing

JAN 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Tabernacle Baptist Church  
2730 Booser Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA, PA 17103

## Service

JAN 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Tabernacle Baptist Church  
2730 Booser Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA, PA 17103



# Tribute Wall

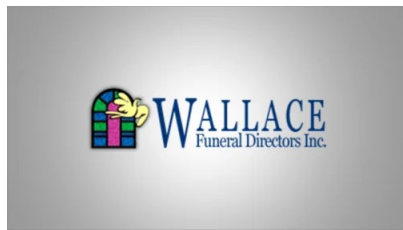


“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Wallace Funeral Directors - January 20, 2023 at 12:35 PM



“ *Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Arthur James Lewis*



Wallace Funeral Directors - January 21, 2023 at 10:23 AM

DS

“ *I was saddened to hear of Mr. Lewis's passing last year. My father was one of his coaches when he played minor league football for the Chambersburg Cardinals and Hagerstown Bears. Here's a shot of him with the Bears in 1973 doing some impressive run blocking (#64). Rest easy, old friend.*



Don Shipley - August 11, 2024 at 12:32 AM

JH

“ I remember Art when I was 14 years old in 1970  
I hung around watching him and LT working on their cars. I learned  
how to turn a wrench and bump the starter when LT was adjusting  
valve lash on the cam shaft. Art looked out for me caring that I didn't  
get into trouble. He Nick named me "blood" for young blood. I have  
good memories of those days.

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**Jairus Hughes** - January 29, 2023 at 02:21 PM

JH

*In memorium.*

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**Jairus Hughes** - January 30, 2023 at 12:04 PM

AS

“ To the Lewis Family. God never makes a  
mistake...Art is in perfect peace. To be absent  
from the body is to be present with the Lord.  
I knew Art from school.  
Allean Stanton



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**Allean Stanton** - January 27, 2023 at 10:17 PM

CR

“ Dear Cousin Art: Glad you are no longer bound to this earthly life. You made us all proud with everything you accomplished. It was awesome when my husband Kenny & I would hang out with you & you were never too busy to make sure we spent quality AND quantity time together.



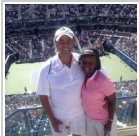
When Cousin Gary (Lewis) sent me the text on the day we knew you were battling Alzheimer's the last few years. Being so far away from my HBG family, we kept in touch thru Aunt Roberta, Aunt Juanita & of course Aunt Clara. We know life is short, and getting shorter every moment. But the moments we spent with you running around the city, listening to you telling us about all your projects, etc. dining at those all-you-can-eat buffets, and watching you as a dad to Rachel & Artie, it was pretty amazing you could keep up with them as well as you did.

Cousin Tommy & I had a good talk today (Jan 23). Glad we are connected with our spiritual & physical DNA. #LewisLegacy Say hi to your Uncle (my Dad Jay) in Heaven's Meeting Room with the Lewises.

Your little Cousin,  
Cynthia K. Lewis Reed  
Yorktown, IN

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**Cynth'ya (Cynthia) Lewis Reed** - January 23, 2023 at 09:57 PM



“ Much love and prayers for Art's family - he touched so many people through the years.

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**Patilla Mitchell** - January 22, 2023 at 05:47 PM

YD

“ Yvonne Donald lit a candle in memory of Arthur James Lewis



Yvonne Donald - January 22, 2023 at 05:02 PM



“ My dear sweet cousin, Arthur, (Herc) always had this infectious smile which I will always remember . Love U much! Your cousin - Catherine Jennings.

Catherine Jennings - January 21, 2023 at 06:04 AM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arthur James Lewis.



January 21, 2023 at 03:14 AM

MB

“ Mary Eckhardt, Becky Hess & Laura Bailey purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Arthur James Lewis.



Mary Eckhardt, Becky Hess & Laura Bailey - January 20, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arthur James Lewis.*



January 19, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ *Carla H Phifer lit a candle in memory of Arthur James Lewis*



**Carla H Phifer** - January 19, 2023 at 01:12 PM



“ *Douggie, Edie, & Erma Shadd purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Arthur James Lewis.*



**Douggie, Edie, & Erma Shadd** - January 19, 2023 at 01:12 PM



“ *I can remember all the family times at grandma Lewis house. The most joyful times*



**Felecia Scales** - January 18, 2023 at 10:22 PM



“ *Georgia Chisolm lit a candle in memory of Arthur James Lewis*



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**Georgia Chisolm** - January 18, 2023 at 08:54 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Arthur James Lewis.*



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January 17, 2023 at 03:55 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arthur James Lewis.*



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January 17, 2023 at 03:44 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Arthur James Lewis.*



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January 17, 2023 at 03:27 PM

RJ

“ *My Deepest Sympathy to the Lewis Family may you get through this difficult time, through prayers & the comfort of friends and family.*



Rob Jackson - January 17, 2023 at 02:22 PM

CD

“ *My sincere condolences go out to all the Lewis family & close friends of a true giant whom was not only physically strong but also had a strong compassionate heart with a great sense of humor. RIP my brother!!!*



Craig Doleman - January 17, 2023 at 01:49 PM



“ *My Sincere Condolences To The Family Praying For Strength,Healing And Comfort Rest In Glory Art God Bless*



Michael Poole - January 17, 2023 at 11:25 AM

JS

“ *James H Spencer lit a candle in memory of Arthur James Lewis*



James H Spencer - January 17, 2023 at 10:25 AM

SH

“ Art was a great person full of happiness and joy. He loved to come over and see me with Mary. I would ask him what my name was and he would say Hoochie Koochie. That was our little joke. I am sorry for your loss but he is at peace now.

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**sharon offer** - January 16, 2023 at 11:11 PM

AC

“ As a kid hanging out with Karla Mr. Lewis would take to the back roads with us in the back of the van and my goodness it felt like we were on a roller coast. He had skills wheeling that van on the road, he was always kind and welcoming as a neighbor.

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**Anji Cooley Codner** - January 16, 2023 at 06:16 PM

LL

*I meant art AKA Hercules in September of 1965. I was a brand new freshman at Virginia Union University in Richmond Virginia. He was a junior and a football player. We were immediately attracted and our lives were forever changed that was over 56 years ago. After 15 years of marriage and a whole lot of other things that happen in life we still remain close friends. Rest in Heavenly peace. Thanks for the early years and for the beautiful home the cars and especially Karla and Aaron our 2 beautiful children.*

*Laverne lewis-Hudnell*

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**Laverne lewis-hudnell** - January 17, 2023 at 07:51 PM

CL

*Christine Lewis. I have many fond memories of Arthur. He enjoyed people and shared his good humor with me whenever I saw him at our family reunions. He loved his family dearly and will be missed. Rest In Peace Arthur. Your spirit will live on in the heart of your many loved ones.*

*A Lavender Sympathy Standing basket has been purchased at Roger Flower Shop and will be delivered to Wallace Funeral Home on Saturday morning. The sales person said that the funeral home had requested that the flowers be handled this way.*

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**Christine Lewis** - January 20, 2023 at 03:15 PM



*Clewis9294@gmail.com*  
*202/903-5879*

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**Christine Lewis** - January 20, 2023 at 04:56 PM