



## Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.

March 6, 1953 - May 6, 2025

Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr., son of the late Richard Gilchrist and Janet Gilchrist, was born on March 6, 1953, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

At an early age, Calvin endured a life changing leg injury. He called out to God and stated that if He would heal him, he would walk for the Lord for the rest of his days; and he upheld that promise.

Calvin was a proud graduate of William Penn High School, Class of 1971. Upon graduation, he received his bachelor's degree from Messiah College and continued his graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Calvin loved his community having served two terms on City Council as one of the city's First African American candidates to win in the 1980's without a party's endorsement. One of his proudest moments was naming the Martin Luther King Building. Within his time elected, along with his colleagues, he fought to preserve the community in which he grew up and opened doors for future community leaders. He worked for the state government as well and retired as management for the State Treasury Department.

Calvin believed in giving back his time to the youth in the community. From assistant coaching for the Harrisburg Packers, to coaching baseball for his beloved Fraternity Omega Psi Phi, as well as Chaplin for the Harrisburg

Cougars Football Team, he played his role in impacting the lives of his community's future. Calvin was passionate about music as he played drums and percussion instruments that began in his childhood years. As he perfected his craft, he performed in many engagements from gigs with his "Aces," concerts with his beloved friend, Loni Gamble, to serving God every Sunday service. As a God-fearing man who desired to grow closer to the Lord daily, he was a dedicated servant of God and was one of the founding members of DaySpring Ministries.

As a great man of faith, Calvin was confident that he knew exactly where his soul was headed, and on the evening of May 6, 2025, Calvin transitioned to heaven with the Lord reuniting with his parents and his brother, Richard Darryl Gilchrist.

Calvin leaves loving memories to his wife, Karren Gilchrist; children, Lisa Gilchrist and Calvin Gilchrist II; sister, Kim Gilchrist Jarrett; brother, Dwayne Gilchrist; five grandchildren, Nadiyah Powell, Calvin Gilchrist III, Joey Powell Jr., Nasir Powell, and Harper Kellam; as well as a host of family and friends.

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

## Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens

6701 Jonestown Rd  
Harrisburg, PA 17112

# Previous Events

## Flower Delivery

MAY 16. 8:30 AM (ET)

DaySpring Ministries  
1600 Spring Garden Drive  
Middletown, PA 17057

## Viewing

MAY 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

DaySpring Ministries  
1600 Spring Garden Drive  
Middletown, PA 17057

## Service

MAY 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

DaySpring Ministries  
1600 Spring Garden Drive  
Middletown, PA 17057



# Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



Wallace Funeral Directors - May 17, 2025 at 09:31 AM

JB

*My heart is saddened and stunned by the loss of my old friend. Such a wonderful person and community advocate. May God's blessings and comfort be upon his loved ones now and in the days to come. Sadly submitted. Rev. Jocelyn Barbee*

Jocelyn Barbee - May 20, 2025 at 07:45 AM

WB

“ Wes And Faye Bair lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



Wes and Faye Bair - June 10, 2025 at 08:49 AM

JW

“ My heart is broken in pieces! I've lost a wonderful lifetime friend, former boss, confidant and mentor. His ilasting impression and infectious smile will remain forever in my heart ❤️ Fly Calvin Fly.

Jocelyn Wadley - May 19, 2025 at 10:27 AM

SR

“ *Sheila Rucker lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.*



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**Sheila Rucker** - May 18, 2025 at 06:13 AM

JS

*Knowing Calvin from a childhood friend who loved everyone. Worked with Calvin giving a word of encouragement and supporting you with the word of God. To Calvin's family and colleagues He was/is truly missed.*

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**Jessie Stern** - May 19, 2025 at 10:49 AM

RC

“ *Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers.*  
*Rev. Dr. Brandon T. Carter*



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**Rev. Dr. Brandon T. Carter** - May 16, 2025 at 02:14 PM

BJ

“ *My condolences to the Gilchrist family. Calvin was the definition of a friend and will be missed. RIP Bruh in Omega Chapter*



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**Bro. Robert Jackson-KRS** - May 16, 2025 at 11:46 AM

MT

“ *Martha Thames lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.*



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**Martha Thames** - May 16, 2025 at 03:09 AM

LL

*My condolences to family and friends, will be TRUELY miss. ❤️🙏*

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**Lionel Leater** - May 16, 2025 at 05:37 PM

MT

“ *My condolences to the Gilchrist family. I knew Calvin since grade school. Always a gentleman and a friend.*

*Martha Thames*

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**Martha Thames** - May 16, 2025 at 03:06 AM

SP

“ *I will miss your smile and crazy sense of humor. My football buddy and lifelong friend. Rest well Calvin. Sandra Myers Pharris*



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**Sandra Myers Pharris** - May 16, 2025 at 12:41 AM

CS

“ Hello I'm Cynthia . Mr Calvin,  
A man of God, great husband and father. I knew him before the  
grands came along but an absolutely great granddad.Mr Calvin  
treated me like a daughter and I will forever love and miss his  
presence .

Cynthia Sawyer - May 15, 2025 at 11:14 PM

1E

“ 10 Shades of Ebony purchased the A Full Life for  
the family of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..



10 Shades of Ebony - May 15, 2025 at 08:38 PM

CH

“ Calvin was always so nice and friendly to me. I will miss his warm  
smile and loving hugs. RIP

Christine Henry - May 15, 2025 at 08:26 PM

BC

“ Benj Collier lit a candle in memory of Calvin  
Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



benj collier - May 15, 2025 at 07:11 PM

RM

“ *Reizdan B Moore purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..*



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**Reizdan B Moore** - May 15, 2025 at 06:57 PM

EG

“ *Emmett Green lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.*



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**Emmett Green** - May 15, 2025 at 01:33 PM

LB

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the family, my wife and I are praying for peace, comfort and healing to the family. Calvin and I have been friends since junior high, but became close friends in high school and even closer the past 25 to 30 years after both followed our careers and grew our families. He was a true friend, family man and follower of Christ. I've lived in Florida since 1987. I remember one particular visit from Calvin when I arranged an job interview trying to get him to move to Florida. Over the years every time I returned to Harrisburg to visit family Calvin and a couple other highschool friends always made it a point to meet up for breakfast or lunch to talk about old times. I really looked forward to these get togethers and our frequent calls and text. RIP Calvin my friend.*

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**Larry Eugene Baxter** - May 14, 2025 at 10:54 PM

SR

*My condolences and prayers of comfort to the family. My best memory of Calvin was when we went to Hamilton Elementary School. We were on the playground during recess and Calvin bet me that I couldn't run as fast as him. We started off running and there was a metal pole right where we were running. I went around the pole but Calvin ran right into the pole. It knocked him down. He said that he didn't see the pole. Everything time that we would run into each other we would have a big laugh about that day. Rest in Heavenly Peace Calvin.*

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**Sarah Guider - Robinson** - May 15, 2025 at 03:18 PM

CB

*My Prayers and Condolences to the Family. Calvin and I grew up on 4th across from each other. Gone but never forgotten, I can see him in his band uniform so vividly right now. Rest in Peace Calvin.*

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**clarence banks** - May 15, 2025 at 04:06 PM

DG


*My condolences to your family. I worked with Calvin at the Department of Treasury. He was a great person. My thoughts and prayers are with your family in this time of sorrow.*

*Debbie Gardner*

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**Debbie Gardner** - May 19, 2025 at 10:36 PM

LW

*Wow Calvin and I go way back, from the time of his body cast from a fall till highschool and beyond, friends to the End, God rest his SOUL*  


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**Leonard White** - May 20, 2025 at 02:06 PM

RA

“ Sending my deepest condolences and sympathy to the family. I've know Calvin since I was a teenager and he was always the same. He was a dear friend of my entire family. He helped me land my first co op job back in the day. He will truly be missed. RIP until we meet again.



Robin Anderson - May 14, 2025 at 10:21 PM

EF

“ Eric Myers family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..



Eric Myers family - May 14, 2025 at 07:56 PM

EF

“ Eric Myers family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..

Eric Myers family - May 14, 2025 at 07:56 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..



May 14, 2025 at 07:52 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..

May 14, 2025 at 07:52 PM



“ Valerie Pittman, Joyette Williams purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..



Valerie Pittman, Joyette Williams - May 14, 2025 at 06:05 PM



“ Rest In Peace Cousin

Lae - May 14, 2025 at 04:25 PM



“ Condolences to the family.

Linda Henderson

Linda Henderson - May 14, 2025 at 02:31 PM

NP

“ My heartfelt condolences to the family, my wife and I are praying for peace, comfort and healing. Calvin and I have been friends since 1978. We have shared many days of conversation, laughter, up and downs through the years. He was a man of many talents and strengths. He was a wealth of information, a coach, a mentor, a concerned citizen and contributor of the political realm in the City of Harrisburg. While on City Council Calvin enjoyed telling people that he was my boss as he rode with me, while I patrolled the streets in the city neighborhoods. He will surely be missed. I am forever grateful for all that he has done for me. Rest easy my friend.

Norman J. Patterson - May 14, 2025 at 01:46 PM

KM

“ Very saddened to learn of the passing of Calvin, we were always glad to see one another around town and spend precious memories together as we grew up over the years. Calvin and Ricky were good friends with my brother-in-law, Pinchot Phoenix and their entire family. Calvin was always a very polite and respectful person and it was a joy to spend time with him at Peachtree. God bless you and may God comfort your family and loved ones. In Jesus name I pray.

Keith D Mitchell - May 14, 2025 at 01:45 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..



May 14, 2025 at 12:59 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr..

May 14, 2025 at 12:59 PM



“ My Deepest Condolences and Prayers for Comfort to the Family. Calvin was a Great Friend and Leader in the City. He strived to improve the quality of life for all by supporting candidates with a similar vision. I will miss our political conversations. Take Your Seat at the Ancestors Table Soldier. Job Well Done Warrior. 💔👊🙏



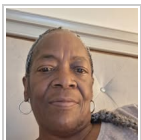
Charla 'Peggy' Plaines - May 14, 2025 at 11:31 AM



“ Rose Banks lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



Rose Banks - May 14, 2025 at 10:01 AM



“ Kimberly Barnes lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



Kimberly Barnes - May 14, 2025 at 09:52 AM

MB

“ My heartfelt condolences. May he rest well.  
Job well done.

*Michele Branch*



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**Michele Branch** - May 14, 2025 at 08:48 AM

LS

“ Sending hugs 🤗 with love to Shelly, Dwayne,  
Karen, Lisa and Lil' Calvin, family and friends.  
Keeping everyone in my prayers 🙏🙏🙏

*Growing up I looked up to my Cousins Calvin,  
Ricky and Dwayne. I thought they were the coolest. The next best  
thing to Tropical Punch Kool Aid. Calvin was an amazing man who  
had wisdom, talents, leadership, determination, dedication and heart  
❤️ of love 💕💕 .. He touched so many people's life. I admire his love  
💕 for his wife Karen, children Lisa and lil' Calvin, family and  
friends.*

*Rest In Heavenly Peace Cousin Calvin. We love you and will be  
missed by many.*

*Sadly submitted by,  
Laurie McKinney-Stroble and Family*



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**Laurie Stroble** - May 14, 2025 at 12:34 AM

AC

“ Sending prayers, condolences & hugs to the family from the Cobb  
Family... xoxo

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**Anna Cobb** - May 13, 2025 at 09:24 PM



“ My Dear Friend of 50+ Years I will miss our "Carrotier" Conversations which gave us both the Biggest Laughs. You were the BEST Conga Percussionist ever !! I will miss you My OMEGA BROTHER, A Life well lived Sleep in Heavenly Peace 💜💛❤️🕊  
My Deepest Condolences to the Gilchrist Family, Calvin was #1 !!  
❤️❤️❤�



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Linda M. Cammack - May 13, 2025 at 08:30 PM



“ In sympathy and prayer. May you vrest peacefully.



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Donna Maldonado - May 13, 2025 at 08:04 PM



“ Condolences to Family gilchrist R I P



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Tiny Livingston - May 13, 2025 at 06:01 PM

FA

“ Florence Alton, Bragg lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



Florence Alton, Bragg - May 13, 2025 at 05:34 PM

FA

*My deepest condolences to the family my prayers are with you all*

Florence Alton, Bragg - May 13, 2025 at 05:36 PM

LR

“ Lucille Ray lit a candle in memory of Calvin Eugene Gilchrist Sr.



Lucille Ray - May 13, 2025 at 04:28 PM

KC

*Shelley, Dwayne & family sending our heartfelt love during this difficult time. We've always known Calvin as a man of integrity with a caring heart towards others. May God's peace comfort you all as He has called your faithful brother home.*

*Karen, Aunt Gwen, & Tommy*

Karen Clark - May 14, 2025 at 01:26 PM