



Ernest Wilson Harper

October 5, 1956 - September 11, 2021

Ernest Wilson Harper, son of the late Ernest Wilson Harper Sr. and the late Helen Pierce Ellerbee, was born Friday, October 5, 1956, in Harrisburg, PA.

Known as “Bossman” by family and friends, Ernest graduated from Harrisburg High School, Class of 1974. In 1982, he studied Business (Music) at the New School for Social Research, New York City; and in 1995, he studied Retail Marketing at Harrisburg Area Community College.

Ernest’s employment and career path included Assistant Manager at Eddie’s Men’s Store, Harrisburg, from 1977 – 1980; Sales Associate at 5th Avenue Lord & Taylor’s, New York City, from 1980 – 1983; Parts Clerk at Sears from 1984 – 1986; owner and operator of Boss Corporation, a small business he started over two decades ago; and in his younger years, he worked in the community at the local YMCA.

Ernest was united in Christian fellowship with Mount Calvary Church of God in Christ, Harrisburg, under the pastorate of Elder D. R. Gilmore.

An involved people-person, Ernest was never shy when it came to conversing with anyone. He kept abreast of current and social issues. An avid reader, he especially enjoyed reading business publications and biographies. Ernest was always well-dressed in his stylish suits. Additionally, not to mention, he loved

to cook and proved himself to be a very good cook.

Ernest had a heart-of-gold expressed by the love he shared with his family and the commitments he made to his community. He was so proud of his children; there was nothing he wouldn't do for his family. He made positive contributions to his community and was honored by the Mayor's Office for his unselfish and benevolent efforts. He was known for his citywide cabarets, and on one occasion, he paid cash to a group of teenagers to pick up litter in the neighborhood.

In Steelton, PA, on Friday, September 11, 2021, at sixty-four years of age, Ernest transitioned from time to eternity joining his parents and his sister, Cherry N. Thomas.

Treasured memories will be shared by his daughter, Kabrina Johnson of Baltimore, MD; son, Kwame Dickson of York, PA; sisters, Audria Miller and Teresa Harper, both of Harrisburg, and Alicia Harper-Morris of Pensacola, FL; stepbrother, Rickey Robertson of Madison, AL; stepfather, Joseph Ellerbee of Pittsburgh, PA; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

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

CLICK ON THE PHOTOS & VIDEOS ON-LINE STREAMING OF SERVICE TAB OR MEDIA TAB (MOBILE) AND TRIBUTE WEBCAST TO VIEW SERVICE.

Cemetery Details

William Howard Day Cemetery

Lincoln and Carlisle Streets
Steelton, PA 17113

Previous Events

Flower Delivery

SEP 30. 8:30 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Visitation

SEP 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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Service

SEP **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Ernest Wilson Harper



Wallace Funeral Directors - September 29, 2021 at 05:30 PM

CS

“ In remembrance of my cousin Ernest Harper (AKA) Bossman. He was the son of my favorite Aunt the Late Helen Ellerbee. My condolences and prayers goes out to his children and all of my cousins. Continue to trust God and He will see you through.

Your Cousin Clergy Rev. Jasper Dewitt Sr.
North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Clergy , Rev Jasper Dewitt Sr. - September 30, 2021 at 10:58 AM

RG

“ I will forever remember Bossman for his loving smile and generous greetings. He will be sadly missed by family and friends. I first met Bossman in 1970's when they lived on 6th and Woodbine St, and we remained friends from that day forward. I send my deepest sincere condolences to my nieces and nephew, Patrice, Jabar, and Shane, I love you and you are all in my prayers 🙏💕💕



Ruby Giles-Baylor - September 30, 2021 at 12:36 AM

DJ

“ I'm so sad shocked my dear childhood friend who we both returned back to Harrisburg around same time we hadn't seen each other in 30 years. He was very intelligent and interesting always a gentleman kind caring sharing sweet and generous to all the ladies also his longtime buddies he was BOSSMAN that's what his true friends called him always sharp and making deals to bring some entertainment and fashion shows to Harrisburg he would give his shirt off his back feed them anyone who was down and out and hungry homeless loved his children always talked about them very proud of them ..Rest In Heaven you will truly be missed BOSSMAN..My Sincere Condolences to his children and family



Debra James - September 28, 2021 at 11:04 PM

RH

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Ernest! There are really no words to express in the passing of a loved one! You all have my sympathy in this time of bereavement. Carry on his legacy and cherish his memories, hold them dear to your hearts!

Rhonda J. Horne - September 28, 2021 at 10:54 PM

DS

“ It is with a heavy heart that I offer my condolences to the children, sisters and family of my friend, brother and business partner of many years, I pray that God will ease your grieving and mine also. He will surely be missed but never forgotten. SMIB!!!

Darryl Brown Sr - September 28, 2021 at 04:39 PM

DS

“ Rip my longtime friend 🙏 boss man. From Daryl Simpson of DelrayBeach Florida, condolences to the family.

Daryl Simpson - September 27, 2021 at 11:50 AM

WM

“ I remember still this Day my Brother n Law and I got pulled over for going through a Red light And me being cooperative being silent Ernie wasn't Shy of telling telling Officers how he felt I knew then he had my back Surly going to miss my Brother

William Morris - September 26, 2021 at 10:45 AM

CN

“ You will be Missed Uptown Friend. God Rest Your Soul Bossy. Definetly had A Light On You. Prayers fir His Entire Family & Friends. Sadly Missed..Never Forgotten. Crystal Newkirk



Crytal Newkirk - September 25, 2021 at 01:57 PM

DP

“ I'm proud to say that he stayed in Cleveland, Ohio with me for 5 days. The Cleveland clinic did their best to prolong his wonderful life. Love Dr P

Derrick Pledger - September 25, 2021 at 01:05 PM

GP

“ O my saw my friend couple of months back at gas station...at 6 and Meclay street gas spoke for awhile and he was letting me no he was yet hanging in there and to keep him in Prayer....wow...never new that would be the last time I would see him...Prayers to his family...

Georgie Potts - September 25, 2021 at 08:22 AM