



Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr.

August 29, 1932 - November 15, 2025

Harvey Leonard Monroe, Sr., known for his perseverance, hearty laughter, and his joy for life, was born on Monday, August 29, 1932, in Briscoe, Virginia, to the late Alphonso P. and Mary (Pollard) Monroe.

Harvey received his education at King and Queen Training School in King and Queen County, Virginia, where he participated in track, basketball, baseball, and football (defense). He was well-loved by his family and friends. His siblings affectionately knew him as “Chester,” while many others called him “Dick.” He accepted Jesus Christ early in life and was baptized at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Bruington, Virginia. After relocating to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, he united in Christian fellowship at Bethany A.M.E. Church, where he served faithfully as a steward. In later years, he joined his family at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Steelton, Pennsylvania, under the pastorate of Rev. T. Orestus Wilson.

Harvey proudly served his country as an Airman in the United States Air Force, where he worked as a tail gunner and heavy equipment operator. His service during the Korean War allowed him to travel the world, Texas, Oklahoma, Andrews Air Force Base, Guam, Japan, and the Philippines. It was during this time, in 1952, that he met and married Mary Robinson of Oklahoma City, and from that union, one son, Harvey L. Monroe, Jr., was born.

After being honorably discharged, Harvey moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where he lived with his beloved Aunt Marie and Uncle William “Biggie” Smallwood at their boarding house on Lafayette Avenue. Those were cherished years, and many family members met their spouses there, Harvey included. It was in that home that he met his wife of 43 years, Josephine W. Hunter Monroe, with whom he shared the blessing of raising Hazel Yvonne, Veronica Laverne, Jennifer Willene, and Napier Ewell.

Harvey held many jobs throughout his life, including longshoreman at Sparrow Point in Baltimore, working at Baltimore Bethlehem Steel, trucking for a men’s clothing manufacturer, and driving a cab in Brooklyn, New York, among other employment. Harvey and Josephine enjoyed traveling with their senior group to destinations such as New Orleans, Tennessee, Myrtle Beach, and Hilton Head, South Carolina.

Harvey cherished spending his summers visiting family in St. Stephens Church, Virginia, enjoying the fellowship of his brothers Purcell, Clarence, and Bill, and visiting his beloved sisters, Sister (Mary Lillian), Ella, Adele, and Hattie. He looked forward to his mother's delicious dishes, especially her well-known pound cake. Each Christmas, she sent him a package filled with love, canned fruit, preserves, relishes, a smoked ham shoulder, and her famous pound cakes, which he rarely shared.

In 1962, at just 29 years old, Harvey suffered a brain aneurysm that left him in a coma for six months and paralyzed on his left side. Despite overwhelming odds, he pressed through with remarkable courage. Recovery was slim in those days, but Harvey’s determination never wavered. His mind stayed sharp throughout his life, and he became the family’s historian, the go-to storyteller for the many adventures and shenanigans of his past. He loved helping others complete documents, find the resources they needed, and accompany them

to appointments. His life stood as a powerful testimony of endurance and faith.

Harvey was a die-hard Dallas Cowboys and Los Angeles Dodgers fan. He was an avid reader, going through many Kindles supplied by his daughter Veronica, and he enjoyed listening to jazz. In his younger years, he was known as “Dapper Dan” for his impeccable style, and even in later years, he could always be found wearing one of his hats from his children’s trips.

Harvey never complained. He knew what was best for his well-being and voiced it with wisdom. In July 2011, he requested to be placed in a care facility for additional support. He became a resident of Colonial Park Care and Rehabilitation Center, later renamed River Bend Rehabilitation Center, where he lived until his passing. Harvey was an early riser and was rarely found in his room—he stayed active, delivering newspapers to other residents, participating in activities (his favorite being bingo), and serving as a graduate of the Peer Board of Dauphin County and a peer leader. One year, he was even crowned King of the Colonial Park Care Center.

On Saturday, November 15, 2025, at the age of ninety-three, Harvey peacefully transitioned into eternal life at UPMC Community Osteopathic Hospital, surrounded by his loving family. He was preceded in death by his parents; his beloved wife, Josephine W. Monroe; three brothers, A. Percell Monroe, Clarence Monroe, and William Lewis Monroe; three sisters, Mary Lillian Holmes, Ella Monroe, and Adele Johnson; his son-in-law, Elder Kaylor W. Jackson; grandsons, Eric D. Washington Sr., Shawntaey L. Alexander, Javon G. King, and Sheldon Coffield; and great-grandchildren, Iroh R. H. Weatherford and Odyn O.N. Weatherford.

Harvey leaves to cherish his loving memory, his children, Harvey L. Monroe Jr.

(Diane), Hazel Y. Washington, Veronica L. Monroe, Jennifer W. Jackson, Napier E. Monroe (Towana), Australia Yolanda Monroe, and Cynthia Monroe; his sister, Hattie Smith; and the grandchildren he helped raise, Leonard A. Monroe (Martissa), Kevin Washington Jr., Shauntay M. Diggs (Tyrone), Jonnee` Tonsel (Darryl), Emmanuel W. Jackson (Alexis), Shaniece J. Jackson, Naterra Tonsel, Napier E. Monroe, Jr. (Ciara), JoMarae` Monroe; 14 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren, and 17 great-great-grandchildren; his Godson, Charles L. White; and a host of other relatives and friends who will forever cherish his memory.

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.

Flower delivery, 8:30 a.m., Monday, December 1, at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

Cemetery Details

Indiantown Gap National

Indiantown Gap Road
Anville, PA 17003

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
20 Locust Street
Steelton, PA

Service

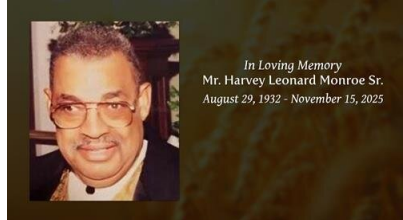
DEC 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
20 Locust Street
Steelton, PA

Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Tribute Video in memory of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr.



Wallace Funeral Directors - December 03, 2025 at 04:03 PM

AY

“ Australia Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr..

Australia Y. - November 29, 2025 at 11:20 AM

CM

“ Cynthia M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr..

Cynthia M. - November 29, 2025 at 11:14 AM

DM

“ Diane M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr..

Diane M. - November 27, 2025 at 06:47 PM

DR

“ To Yvonne, Veronica, Jennifer and Nate,

I want to express my deepest condolences for the loss of your father. Though words may not be enough, know that you are always in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time."

Your cousin,

Dr. Deirdre G. Robinson



Deirdre Robinson - November 25, 2025 at 07:57 AM

JJ

Blessings Dee...we love you Cousin ❤️🙏❤️

Jennifer Jackson - November 25, 2025 at 08:32 AM

BD

"But joy comes in the morning".....

*Veronica, condolences to you and your family.
May God allow memorials to always sustain you.*

(Soror) Barbara A. DeLoach-Pugh

Barbara A. DeLoach-Pugh - November 30, 2025 at 09:48 PM

SS

“ So Sorry To Hear This 🙁 My Sincerest Condolences And Prayers Go Out To The Monroe Family 🙏 My Childhood Neighbors From 18th & Walnut St. For Many Years. My Blessings To The Family At This Time Of Sorrow For The Loss Of Your Father 🙁 RIP Mr. Monroe 😊💖

Sharon Sloane - November 25, 2025 at 01:09 AM

L(

“ Always good to be in his company. I will miss him. To the family love and prayers.

Lance L Burgess Jr (Butch) - November 24, 2025 at 09:31 PM

SJ

“ To Mr Harvey's Family:
I am so,so sorry for your loss.
I met Mr Harvey as a friend of his daughters while speaking on the phone.
I always received a warm greeting from him, which I will miss.
I pray that your family will find solace in the legacy, memories and generations that he has left behind.
I know he will be missed



Peace and Blessings To All
Ms Susan

S jose - November 23, 2025 at 06:21 PM

HW

“ Daddy you will forever more live in the Hearts of Your Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. You have Fought a Grand Fight. I Love You and Rest In Peace until we Meet Again 🙏💕🙏



Hazel Y Washington - November 23, 2025 at 09:30 AM

NS

“ Even though you was a Dallas cowboy fan, I never held it against you.

I'm gonna miss you, pop.

You will forever be my hero.

Napier Monroe Sr - November 23, 2025 at 04:54 AM

SD

Same. :)

Shauntay Diggs - November 23, 2025 at 07:11 AM

NS

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Napier Monroe Sr - November 23, 2025 at 04:37 AM

CD

“ Charmaine Lynn Dorsey lit a candle in memory of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr.



Charmaine Lynn Dorsey - November 23, 2025 at 01:47 AM

CD

I Thank God For Allowing Harvey For Being A Big Part Of Life. From About 7yrs Until 72 Year Always With A Listening Hear And Words Of Wisdom. I Thank Harvey For Always Being My Friend I Shell Miss Our Talks About 424 To 909 🌹 Harvey Rest In Heavenly Power. My Condolences Cousin's Love Always As He Word Call Me Dorsey ☐

Charmaine Lynn Dorsey - November 23, 2025 at 02:00 AM

SJ

“ Sarah, Frances ,Elaine & Joeretta purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr..



Sarah, Frances ,Elaine & Joeretta - November 22, 2025 at 11:31 PM

SJ

“ Sarah, Frances ,Elaine & Joeretta planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Harvey Leonard Monroe Sr..

Sarah, Frances ,Elaine & Joeretta - November 22, 2025 at 11:31 PM

SD

“ Pop Pop, you had no business leaving up out of here. Forever had your name on it. It was truly an honor to be loved, raised, cared for, and thought of by you up until your last days. We have so many memories that I will cherish until I see you again. You are (were) one of a kind. It wasn't a rule I wouldn't break for you. Job well done. I know you are elated to be with your Patti again, just don't go stressing my granny out 😞. Goodnight, I will see you in the morning. -Scootaboo ..Tay ..numero uno ❤️💔



Shauntay Diggs - November 22, 2025 at 10:10 PM

CC

My Condolences to the family sorry for your loss Rest In Peace Mr. Monroe 🙏🙏

Cecilia Crosson - November 27, 2025 at 03:23 PM