



Lester Jay Preston III

April 7, 1951 - April 13, 2026

“I shall not be afraid to go into this land I do not know. I will go without fear to Him who blessed me while I was here. As I reach out and take His hand, I am not alone. Remember, there are our loved ones who have gone before to meet me as I pass through the door.”

Jay was born on Saturday, April 7, 1951, to the late Lester Jay Preston, Jr. and Gloria Ann Preston in York, Pennsylvania.

Hawk, as he was affectionately called, received his formal education in the York School District, York, Pennsylvania, and graduated from the Job Corps in Kentucky. He was a retired employee of the Ingram Micro Company in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

At a very young age, Hawk attended Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in York, Pennsylvania, with his parents. In his later years, when his family relocated to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, he became affiliated with the Bethel AME Church in Harrisburg, PA.

Hawk was an avid sports fan. He enjoyed all sports, especially football and basketball. His favorite teams were the Chicago Bears and Detroit Pistons; he also enjoyed shooting pool with his friends and watching black-and-white movies. His favorite pastime was hanging out with his family, eating, listening

to music, and dancing.

Jay was a loving and devoted son, brother, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and uncle to his family. He gave himself unselfishly to others and was always willing to help in any way he could. We will always remember and cherish the beautiful life he shared with us.

On the morning of Monday, April 13, 2026, at the tender age of 75 years and 6 days, our beloved Lester Jay Preston, III, son, brother, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, cousin, and good friend, was called home to be with our Lord, Jesus Christ, at the Harrisburg Hospital in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Along with his parents, Jay was preceded in death by his wife, Gilda Preston; brothers, Larry R. Preston and David A. Preston; sister, Linda Headen; sister-in-law, Brenda Denmark; and brother-in-law, Carl L. Carelock Sr.

Jay leaves to cherish beautiful memories with his loving and devoted daughter Tina (Evans) Lowery III; sons Christopher (Angel) Byrd, Phillip Byrd and Brian Byrd; his five grandchildren, Najee Perry of Augusta, GA, Chentel Hinton, Prestige Lane, Evans Lowery IV, and Michelle Lowery all of Harrisburg, PA, two great grandchildren; Milani Hinton and Kaizen Perry. His brother, Leon Denmark of New York; sisters, Angela Hickerson and Kay Carelock both of Harrisburg, PA; brothers Douglas (Yvette) Smallwood of Dover, PA; Jeffrey Bannister of Harrisburg, PA, Anthony (Sharndel) Orr of York, PA; Phillip Harris of Cleveland, Ohio, sisters Vivian Thompson of Walterboro, SC; and Linda Orr of York, PA and brother in law, John Headen of Harrisburg, PA and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, friends and loved ones.

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, April 27, at WFD.

Cemetery Details

Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens

6701 Jonestown Rd
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Previous Events

Viewing

APR 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Service

APR 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
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Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



Wallace Funeral Directors - April 27 at 09:47 AM

DC

“ Deborah A Claiborne lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



Deborah A Claiborne - April 28 at 05:40 PM

SW

“ Sending my love and condolences to our family. Hawk was a great cousin who Always acknowledged me as family. He will be missed 😞
Ms Stacy Woodyard



Stacy Woodyard - April 27 at 02:45 PM

SP

“ Sharon Perry lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



Sharon Perry - April 26 at 01:22 PM

SP

DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY . ❤️ MY PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS. GOD BLESS YOU ALL STAY STRONG. RIP JAY.

Sharon Perry - April 26 at 01:24 PM

CC

Sympathy and love to the family. May the Lord comfort you and give you strength during this difficult time 💜🙏

Cindy Carelock - April 27 at 12:26 AM

ML

And then my condolences to the family

Mary Lane - April 27 at 08:22 AM

ML

Sending my condolences to the family

Mary Lane - April 27 at 08:23 AM

CM

“ Celeste Middleton-Ward lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



Celeste Middleton-Ward - April 26 at 06:25 AM

LS

“ MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS
♥ MY PRAYERS.
I'M BLESSINGS. GOD BLESS YOU ALL STAY STRONG, MY
FAMILY. LOVE ALWAYS THE 💖 DUBOIS SHOFFNER WARREN
WASHINGTON FAMILY

LEIVADA DUBOIS SHOFFNER - April 26 at 06:01 AM

DB

“ TO THE PRESTON FAMILY MY DEEPEST
CONDOLENCES 🙏 JAY YOU WILL
ALWAYS BE IN MY HEART. DEBORAH
BALLARD.



Deborah Ballard - April 26 at 03:30 AM

TR

“ Toni M Robinson lit a candle in memory of
Lester Jay Preston III



Toni M Robinson - April 25 at 10:53 PM

GH

To the Preston family your in my heart and most of all in my prayers 🙏
🙏

Gwen Hadley - April 27 at 01:39 PM

AB

“ *Rest in peace Hawk*

From Red Black and Family.



Antoinette Black - April 25 at 04:57 PM

DB

“ *Prayers of comfort and strength over the entire family!! S.I.P Jay. Thank you for your words of encouragement the last time I saw you <3*



Dee Barbour - April 25 at 09:35 AM

NB

“ *To the family, may your memories bring you smiles and your faith in God bring you peace.*



Nanette Burney-Mitchell - April 25 at 07:53 AM

MW

Kay and Family, I'm so sorry for your loss and I'm keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers, Michelle C Wise

Michelle Wise - April 25 at 12:05 PM

DL

“ To the family 🙏
My deepest sympathy to you
May God love be with you during
This time of sorrow
Debra Bullock Lee



debra lee - April 24 at 07:18 PM

EG

“ My heartfelt condolences to the family.



Emmett Green - April 24 at 11:14 AM

KC

Thanks ❤️

Kay Carelock - April 24 at 10:04 PM

LU

“ Lucia lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay
Preston III



Lucia - April 24 at 10:59 AM

BM

U are the one we all strived to be like... u where the coolest of the
coolest...uptown will never be the same now that your gone...however
I'm looking forward to meeting you upstairs in Heaven from Bishop
Murphy and family

Bishop Edgar Murphy - April 24 at 09:12 PM

BM

Love love love

Bishop Edgar Murphy - April 24 at 09:13 PM

JD

“ Prayers and **CONDOLENCES** 🙏 to the Families may the Special memories bring you comfort



JERRY DUDLEY - April 24 at 08:55 AM

TL

“ R I P HAWK TINY LIVINGSTON



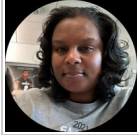
TINY LIVINGSTON - April 23 at 05:24 PM

DF

“ Dantzler Family lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



Dantzler Family - April 23 at 02:22 PM



“ Rest in Heaven Uncle Jay 🕊️ you will be missed 😔❤️



Bryanne Hickerson - April 23 at 02:15 PM

BC

“ Benj Collier lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



benj collier - April 23 at 02:14 PM

MW

“ We are sending our deepest Condolences and Prayers to the Family and Friends of “Lester Preston III”. God’s Most Loving Grace, Mercy and Healing Strength be with Each One Of You Today and The Days Ahead.Love Vertice & Mary (Armstrong) Wright. 🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️



Mary Wright - April 23 at 02:08 PM

CW

“ To Falmm

Carrie Woodyard - April 23 at 01:37 PM

VJ

“ To the family of HAWK, You are in my prayers.

Vonnie Jackson - April 23 at 12:54 PM

GW

“ *Gwen Williams lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III*



Gwen Williams - April 23 at 08:27 AM

PM

“ *Pam Evans Middleton lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III*



Pam Evans Middleton - April 23 at 08:18 AM

RC

“ *Rae Chase lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III*



Rae Chase - April 23 at 06:25 AM

PR

“ *Sending prayers and condolences to the family. RIP my friend*



Pat Roebuck - April 23 at 04:13 AM

KC

“ I Always Loved You Brother,I will miss you.God Knew Best. 💔💔.. So Dear Brother Go Get Your Rest



Kay Carelock - April 23 at 01:02 AM

HE

Kay, Deepest Condolences for your family. May Jay Rest in Power.
Helen Hunter Elliott

Helen Elliott - April 26 at 11:17 AM

LA

“ Lorese Alli lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



Lorese Alli - April 22 at 08:08 PM

WP

“ William J Pillgreen lit a candle in memory of Lester Jay Preston III



william j pillgreen - April 22 at 05:55 PM