



## Maurice Dukes

March 9, 1952 - July 22, 2025

The Man, Father, Grandfather, Brother, Uncle and Son!

Maurice entered this world on Sunday, March 9, 1952, in Union, Mississippi, son of the late Mickey Dukes and Lela B. Hollingsworth. Maurice transitioned into eternal peace on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, in the comfort of his home surrounded by his loving family.

Maurice received his formal education at the Boler High School where he met and now joins in heavenly paradise his long-time sweetheart and beloved wife of over fifty years, Betty Sue “Soja” Dukes. Their union gave life upon one son, Christopher Maurice Welch Sr.; and three daughters, De-Wanna “Dink” Welch (Anthony Miller), Miranda Welch Epps (Shawn Eleby) and Gloria Wallace (Todd).

Maurice was a wise man with a gentle soul. His baritone voice could be heard singing gospel songs and the blues, all while playing his bass guitar. Maurice was a proud provider and devoted family man. When he wasn’t working his city job from where he eventually retired, he enjoyed shooting pool, watching football games, laughing and instilling wisdom in his grandchildren.

In addition to his children, Maurice leaves to cherish loving memories nine grandchildren, Jassmone, Asya and Mya Epps, Christopher Welch Jr. (CJ),

Dareian Young, Dawnyae and Andre Hilliard, Chanel Shaw and Antoine McLamb; one great-granddaughter, JaDari Hilliard; sister, Eula Dukes-Blizzard (Richard); brother, Jeffrey Donald (Dorothy), goddaughter, Angel Fox; and sisters-in-law, Jean Wilson, Betty Fox and Rose Johnson.

Maurice was preceded in death by his brother, Donnie Dukes; sisters, Pauline and Paulette Dukes; and grandson, DeSean Wallace.

Maurice was deeply loved and will be sorely missed by so many loving extended family members, dear friends and former co-workers.

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

JUL 31. 8:30 AM (ET)

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

## Viewing

JUL 31. 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

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JUL 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.  
106 Agnes St  
Harrisburg, PA 17104  
(717) 939-9950  
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com  
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# Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Maurice Dukes



Wallace Funeral Directors - July 31, 2025 at 09:50 AM

CS

“ Cavin Scott lit a candle in memory of Maurice Dukes



Cavin Scott - September 14, 2025 at 09:47 PM

CS

“ Rest Well my fellow welder and good friend

Cavin Scott - September 14, 2025 at 09:46 PM

TB

“ Tony & Sherry Airiana Nicolas Bobbett planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Maurice Dukes.

Tony & Sherry Airiana Nicolas Bobbett - July 30, 2025 at 07:15 PM

TB

“ Tony & Sherry Airiana Nicolas Bobbett purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Maurice Dukes.



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**Tony & Sherry Airiana Nicolas Bobbett** - July 30, 2025 at 07:15 PM

WF

“ Wallace Family lit a candle in memory of Maurice Dukes



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**Wallace Family** - July 30, 2025 at 05:57 PM

CH

“ We extend our sincere condolences to the family of Mr Maurice Dukes, his extended family co-workers and all that knew and loved him dearly. We will keep him alive with the precious memories of him. Absent from the body is to be present with The LORD.



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**CHARLIE HENDERSON** - July 29, 2025 at 10:20 PM

PJ

“ Priscilla Jackson lit a candle in memory of Maurice Dukes



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**Priscilla Jackson** - July 29, 2025 at 11:33 AM

JW

“ Sending my heartfelt sympathy to the family.  
Keeping you all in prayer !! Jestine (Pudden)



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**Jestine Wise-Pierce** - July 29, 2025 at 10:28 AM

VH

“ To Dink,Randa and Chris you all have my deepest condolences and sympathy Morris was a father to me i remember from he 1st day we met he and betty had a heart of gold towards me took me in for awhile and adopted me as their god daughter and loved me like their own, always gave me good advice both of them and tilll this day i take heed to it . to this day. love to hear him sing al green he could sound like him and do his moves smile. And could tear a bass up he also played with my dads group Manigault Specials him and my dad would have you out your seat clapping and a jumping around .i want him to know that I will always love him and never for get him hes with his queen now smile ,no more nothing just rest in his arms, god bless you all I'm here always for you all...Vickie

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**vickie hutchinson** - July 29, 2025 at 08:10 AM

PJ

*Family family family  
Miranda De-wanda Chris  
So sorry for your loss 🙏  
I was the neighbor from across the street that he was always calling  
me scil  
I love to hear him play his guitar especially on Sunday out on his front  
porch  
He was funny and I always had something to say smart to me but it  
was all in fun 😊  
My family is praying for your family to get through this I know that it's  
hard but God knew what was best no more pain no more suffering now  
you can rest peacefully  
Rest in Heavenly Peace Morris  
You will be missed*

Priscilla Jackson - July 29, 2025 at 11:30 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Maurice Dukes.

July 28, 2025 at 06:30 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Maurice Dukes.



July 28, 2025 at 06:30 PM

JE

“ My best memory of pops was exploring every diner in the Harrisburg area starting from the 17th street Diner to the Colonial Diner. From the time I could eat table food and all through my single digit years and beyond pop always made sure we were overly full.

Jae Epps - July 28, 2025 at 06:06 PM