



## Thomas Booker Watford Jr.

October 13, 1935 - February 23, 2023

Thomas Booker Watford Jr. was born Sunday, October 13, 1935, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the late Thomas and Ethel Watford. He was the first of three children. Thomas was educated in Philadelphia. After high school, he attended Temple University and earned a Degree in Business Administration.

Following in his father's footsteps, Thomas worked for RC Remmey's Refractory Company while in college. He had a love of music and DJ'd under the name, "Chic Watford." He worked for several local radio stations in Philadelphia. Thomas was called to serve in the United States Army from 1957 through 1960. He spoke of the good times traveling the world and his time spent in the Criminal Investigation Division, a specialty unit of the military police. He shared several stories about his time in CID.

After serving his country, Thomas met and courted Ruby Etter. The two were later married, and their union produced three boys, Craig, Derrick and Jeffrey. Thomas had ventured into the insurance industry and opened his own insurance agency named, Craig Insurance Agency, which handled all facets of insurance. He continued his love of insurance, sold his agency and moved the family to Hershey, Pennsylvania, where he took a position with the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania as a Risk Manager. He continued sharing his Risk Management knowledge with the National Board of YMCAs in New York

City and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, where he held the same positions. Thomas never really retired up into his later years; he taught continuing education for insurance practitioners.

Thomas was always willing to help friends and family and provided a listening ear to all. He loved a good scotch and a steak cooked medium with onions. He never backed down from a challenge and always ensured his boys knew he had their best interest in any situation; all he demanded was the truth. He had an undying love for his family and imparted wisdom to more people than one could count. Thomas always had a way of making people feel comfortable. He would always say he was as comfortable in a bar room as he was in a boardroom; and if you knew him, you know just how true that statement was.

Thomas was called home by the Lord on Thursday, February 23, 2023. He leaves to cherish his memory and emulate his legacy two sons, Derrick Watford of Abington, Pennsylvania, and Jeffrey Watford of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; a brother, Irven Watford and his wife Diane of Sicklerville, New Jersey; a brother-in-law, Arthur Craig of Pennsauken New Jersey; five grandchildren, one great-grandchild, other relatives and many friends.

PRIVATE SERVICE

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.

# Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Thomas Booker Watford Jr.



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**Wallace Funeral Directors** - March 02, 2023 at 12:23 PM

VW

“ I loved "Uncle Thomas' " upbeat , fun personality . He knew how to work a room and make everyone feel special. I will treasure the fond memories.

Xoxo. VERNELL

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**Vernell L Washington** - March 08, 2023 at 06:11 PM

DE

“ Derrick and Jeff I love you with an enduring loving that our parents made sure long ago would be instilled in our hearts for such times as these if you need any of us.... Please reach out. Love always D

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**Darla Ewing** - March 07, 2023 at 08:15 AM

EJ

“ Prayers and condolences with the Wafford family good memories over 60 years of friendship the Reynolds Family and Jordan family in North Philadelphia Mr Haime store movie theater on Ridge Avenue and the barbershop across from Miller Memorial Baptist Church peace and blessings

Eric Jordan - March 06, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Thomas Booker Watford Jr..



March 05, 2023 at 04:42 PM

BK

“ Jeffrey and Derrick, I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. We are thinking about you & your family.

Love, Michele, Brody and Bruce Koch

Bruce W Koch - March 05, 2023 at 11:07 AM

PB

“ Thank you Cousin/ Big Brother for all your support and Special Memories you shared with me about my Dad Percy Watford. You always made your Memories so Colorful and Real. Thank you for always reminding me I was a Watford. Thank You Tom for your support and protection when I took on a very difficult task, working as one of the Sate of Pa First female field Investigators in my department. Thank you, I will always love you and I Pray you are at Peace.



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**Patricia A Brown-Green** - March 03, 2023 at 11:27 PM

AB

“ Life was a race and he did run it.  
Life was a chance and he did take it.  
But night and day he did pray.  
That the Lord would see him threw.  
He seen him threw his trail and tribulation he seen him threw all  
type of medication but in the end he said to Tom,just come on end.

I will miss you my cousin and the talk we had. And to not see your smile again on this side..But I will on the other side. Love you. Your cousin, Athena Freddie

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**Athena Burkey** - March 03, 2023 at 08:40 PM