

# MARCEL ALBERT GRAHAM



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden passing of our beloved father, Marcel Albert Graham, who left us on March 11, 2025, at the age of 72. A devoted father, grandfather, sibling and friend, Marcel's warmth and wisdom touched the lives of all who knew him.

Born on October 24, 1952, in Pittsburgh, PA, Marcel grew up with a strong sense of determination and a love for life. He attended Peabody

High School, where he was known as an avid basketball player, showcasing the same dedication and passion that would define much of his life. His love for sports carried into his adult years, and the memories of those early days on the court remained close to his heart.

As a teenager, Marcel worked at Kennywood Amusement Park, where he operated the Thunderbolt roller coaster, adding a spark of fun and excitement to his youthful years. In 1983, he began his long and valued career with the Western Pennsylvania Turnpike. He was the first African American amongst 150 other maintenance workers for years while setting his sights higher to become a Foreman. He accomplished his goal while spending many years working with pride and dedication. He retired from the PA Turnpike in 2012 after serving 29 memorable years.

Marcel was a man of many talents, and he lived his life with integrity, kindness, and an unwavering love for his family. Marcel loved to travel. His dream vacation was to Dubai. In 2017 he spent 7 memorable days there with his daughters creating life long memories. As a father, he was a constant source of strength and guidance, always there with wisdom, encouragement, and the occasional humorous story. His love for his family was endless, and he cherished every moment spent with those he held most dear.

Marcel is survived by his daughters, Dr. Cheon Graham and Maria Bottoms; his former wife, Carolyn Graham; his grandchildren, Jason Bottoms Jr., Ryan Bottoms, Briyana Wright, and Taniya Bottoms; his brother, Ronald Graham (Wendy); his sisters, Denise Graham-Shealey (Mitchell) and Laurie Graham; his nieces, Terri Graham, Terri Shealey, and Taylor Shealey; his nephew, Ronald Graham Jr.; and numerous other family members and friends who will forever carry his memory in their hearts. He is preceded in death by his parents Verna Graham and LaVaughn Graham as well as his biological parents, Albert Graham and Dorisea Beatty.

Although he is no longer physically with us, Marcel's spirit will forever remain in the lessons he imparted, the memories he shared, and the love he gave so freely. His legacy will continue to live on in the hearts of his family, and we are grateful for the time we were blessed to have him in our lives.

A Viewing of Marcel will be held at the **HOUSE OF LAW** in Monroeville from 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. A celebration of Marcel's life will be held at the House of Law in Monroeville on March 28th at 11 a.m., a repass will follow promptly at The Epic Hall Event Center at 716 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221 where we will gather to honor his memory and share the stories of the man who made such an impact on our lives.

Rest in peace, Dad. You will be deeply missed, but your love and legacy will live on forever in our hearts.

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