



## Willie J. Lighton

March 19, 1952 - December 16, 2020

Willie James Lighton, Social Worker and life-long resident of Toledo Ohio, passed away unexpectedly December 16, 2020 at Toledo Hospital at the age of 68. Willie was born in Phoenix City, Alabama on March 19, 1952.

Growing up in Toledo's Old West End, he attended Macomber Vocational Technical High School, and graduated from Scott High School in 1970, immediately after he attended the University of Dayton through 1973 at which he voluntarily signed up for the United States Air Force, and then went on to serve in the United States Navy, honorably discharged in 1979.

Willie lived a life dedicated to service. In 1993 he began his community work as a Prevention Specialist at the Toledo UMADAOP where he focused on encouraging, and engaging Toledo's city youth. He went on to graduate from the University of Toledo in 2002 and spent the remainder of his career as a licensed social worker. He enjoyed his work of service and was employed with the Lima UMADAOP until his passing. His legacy continues to live through the hundreds of people that he touched through his life of service.

He was preceded in death by his parents Roy C. & Willie B. Elston; siblings Roy D. "Butchie" Elston Jr. and Bruce Lighten; nephew Derjuan "Pee Wee" Elston-Gambrell.

Left to cherish his memory is his loving wife of 25 years, Myrtle Boykin-Lighton; children Lashawnda Boykin, Jessica Lighton and George Boykin; grandchildren D'Angela Hicks, Eric Willis, Destinee Boykin, Amya Scott,

Alayjah Taylor, George Boykin Jr., Jameer Boykin and Jaylen Boykin; siblings Kathy Jones, Teresa Lucas, Jonathan (Marcia)Lighten, David Elston, Linda Elston, Darryl (Stacy) Elston and Rodney Saine along with a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be Sunday, December 27, 2020 from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. at Dale-Riggs Funeral Home Chapel, interment Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. Donations can be made to the Beacon House in Toledo in honor of Willie Lighton.

# Cemetery Details

**Great Lakes**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

DEC 27. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Dale-Riggs Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
572 Nebraska Avenue  
Toledo, OH 43604  
(419) 248-4254  
info@dalefh.com

# Tribute Wall

KJ

“ Rest in power Willie. We shared a lot of laughs and you shared a lot of knowledge with me as former coworkers. You were definitely one of the funniest people I had ever met. My thoughts and prayers are with your family and friends.

Kevin Rushing Jr - January 25, 2021 at 11:29 AM

CS

“ Beautiful man and friend on this journey. Blessed to have known you. Cathy Shostle

Cathy Shostle - December 27, 2020 at 04:50 PM

MJ

“ Lola Gloria George Mwaniki and Trisha Johnson send our condolences to friend family and loved one when send Peace and Blessings to the family



Mwaniki Johnson - December 27, 2020 at 12:59 PM

GM

“ TO THE FAMILY OF WILLIE LIGHTON. YOU ALL HAVE MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY. PRAYERS FOR YOU ALL. HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED. PRAYERS FOR YOU ALL. GRACE BLACKSHEAR

Grace Blackshear. McCown - December 26, 2020 at 10:29 PM

MS

“ *MELINDA SCOTT lit a candle in memory of Willie J. Lighton*



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**MELINDA SCOTT** - December 24, 2020 at 02:32 PM

GJ

“ *May your heart find comfort knowing that your love one is at home with the Lord*  
*Love Gwendolyn E.March Jones & Family*

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**Gwendolyn E.March Jones** - December 24, 2020 at 10:37 AM