



Larry Barnell Pleasant

December 22, 1953 - December 12, 2021

Larry Barnell Pleasant entered eternal life on December 12, 2021 after a lengthy illness. Larry was a courageous fighter and did not succumb to his illness easily. Many often called him the “energizer bunny” and that he had nine lives.

He was born December 22, 1953 in Newport News Virginia to the late James W and Bernice B. Pleasant and was raised in Smithfield, Virginia. Larry as a child, was an active member of Hill Street Baptist church, now known as Main Street Baptist Church.

Larry was a 1972 honor graduate of Smithfield High School. He was selected into Who’s Who among American High School students which is based on students’ academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities. In addition, he was inducted into the National Honor Society. He was a two sport athlete playing football and basketball, and a member of the high school marching band.

After high school, he went on to attend Hampton Institute now Hampton University in Hampton, Va. While attending Hampton Institute, he was initiated into Gamma Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated in 1974. Larry received his Master Degree in Human Resources from Pace University, in New York, NY.

Larry had a big personality. At home he was always singing and dancing. Singing was his passion. God blessed him with a beautiful tenor voice. The family particularly loved his rendition of "Jesus Loves Me" While in college, he was a member of the Hampton Institute choir and later in life was a member of the prestigious North Jersey Philharmonic Glee Club of Newark, New Jersey. In 1985, his choir performed at the White House.

While living in New Jersey he was a member of Berean Baptist Church and was installed as a Deacon. Larry retired from St Vincent Foster Care, Inc in Brooklyn, NY and returned to his beloved hometown of Smithfield, Virginia He continued his membership with Main Street Baptist Church where he was a deacon and a member of the Adult Choir and Men of Music.

Larry was also preceded in death by his brothers, James Burnell Pleasants and Williams D. Pleasants. He is survived by a sister, Jeanette B Grandison, two brothers Warner Bailey and Nolie Bailey(Gwen). An aunt Margaret P. Rowlett of Baltimore, MD; special cousins, Lorraine Pleasants Hemphill of Philadelphia, Pa and Charmaine V. Keeton, Centennial, CO. A special friend David Pitt and close friends Miles and Shirell Blount

Larry was very fond of his nieces and nephews. They called him their big brother.

Christopher Grandison,Sr., Jeanna G. Addison,(Shurly) Vicki Milan, (Angelo), Michael Bailey, Deidre Brown,(Reginald Brown) Bonita Pelzer, Michael Pleasants, Angela Pleasants, and Delana Pleasants. Grand nieces and nephews Christopher Jr.Corey, Tiffany, Morgan,and Mekayla, and a host of great-grand nieces, nephews and cousins.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **15**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Chapman - J. T. Fisher Funeral Services
658 W. Main Street
Smithfield, VA 23430
(757) 357-2326
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Service

DEC **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Main Street Baptist Church
517 Main Street
Smithfield, VA 23430

Tribute Wall

JG

“ *Alpha Brother Larry 1974 we went through a lot together, but we made it!* 😊

J Green - May 21, 2025 at 10:36 AM

SS

“ *Larry: Just found out about your passing. I'm shocked and saddened. I have missed you as the "night supervisor" at the Library. Enjoy Heaven my friend.*

Steve Serafini - March 29, 2022 at 05:49 PM

JG

“ *Brother Larry I will miss you! Brother J Green*

J Green - December 17, 2021 at 01:21 PM

GG

“ *Larry, my brother & long time friend, look forward to our voices harmonizing in the heavenly choir. Family, may fond memories of Larry comfort you. I will be praying for your peace in the celebration of Larry's life.*



Glenn Gamble - December 15, 2021 at 11:46 AM

GN

“ *Glenn Gamble - NJPGC purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Larry Barnell Pleasant.*



Glenn Gamble - NJPGC - December 15, 2021 at 11:42 AM



“ 32 files added to the album LifeTributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - December 15, 2021 at 08:49 AM



“ Dear Jeanette and family,

I don't know where to start. I met Larry in kindergarten where we became best friends and we continued our friendship through elementary and high school, college and adult life. I will always cherish the times shared with Larry. I know how much you, Chris, Jeanna and Vicky meant to him as well as the rest of his family (and friends). He will be sorely missed.

*Love,
Jimmy Hall*

James H. Hall, Jr. - December 14, 2021 at 04:37 PM



“ From his friend, David purchased the Divine Light for the family of Larry Barnell Pleasant.



From his friend, David - December 14, 2021 at 01:27 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry Barnell Pleasant.*



December 14, 2021 at 11:12 AM