



Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin

July 23, 1956 - August 12, 2021

Jerome -- The Beginning

Jerome Winifred Godwin was the fifth of seven children born to the Rev. Roscoe and Mrs. Jimmie Christell Godwin on July 23, 1956, in Waycross, Georgia. The family moved to Florida and bought a home in Clermont, Florida. He attended the public school system in Clermont until the summer of 1968, when the family moved to Groveland. Jerome and his family joined the Greater Harmony Missionary Baptist Church (GHMBC) where he participated in the Youth Department and was a faithful member. When his father became the pastor at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Stuckey, Florida, Jerome moved his membership there in support of his father. The entire family returned to the Greater Harmony Baptist Church after an extended period of time and he served faithfully.

Jerome -- The Growing Phase

While attending Groveland High School, he participated in sports and various school activities. He served as Senior Class President and graduated in 1974. He attended Mary Holmes College in Westpoint, Mississippi before transferring to Florida Memorial College (now Florida Memorial University) in Miami, Florida in 1975. While there he pledged with the Epsilon Mu Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., in the spring of 1976. He was very involved in the many activities of school. He graduated from Florida Memorial in 1979 with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and returned to Groveland. He

was the biological father of two children, Marty R. Godwin and Tiffany C. Godwin, but was a father figure to countless others.

Jerome -- A New Beginning

Jerome joined the Kissimmee Police Department in December 1980, where he served in various capacities for 30 years. He was a School Resource Officer (SRO) for many years at Cypress Elementary School, where he touched the lives of numerous young people. He retired from fulltime service in 2018. He remained a Reserve Officer and began to work for the Orange Osceola Safety Institute (OOSI) conducting driver and motorcycle training courses. He also served as a faithful and dedicated male attendant for the Marvin C. Zanders Funeral Home in Apopka, Florida for many years.

Jerome was instrumental in the establishment of the Leesburg Florida Alumni Chapter (LFAC) of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., where he was a Chartered Member and served as the Vice Polemarch. He was a charter member (F4) of the Lincoln Park Rams Motorcycle Club. He served as "Road Captain" and former Chaplain for the group. Jerome also served as an officer in the Osceola Visionaries in Kissimmee, Florida.

Jerome -- The Final Chapter

Jerome was an ordained Deacon, member of the Male Chorus and Usher Ministry at the GHMBC. He became the Chairman of the Deacons and Trustee Boards where he served faithfully until the Lord summoned him home on August 12, 2021. He was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Roscoe Godwin; sister, Regina Godwin Eason; brother, Stanley Godwin, and brother-in-law, Robert Oliver.

He leaves to cherish his memory his son, Marty R. Godwin (LaToya) of Jacksonville, Florida; daughter, Tiffany C. Godwin of Clermont, Florida; two sisters, Linda Godwin Oliver of Leesburg, Florida and Vickie Godwin of

Daytona, Florida; four brothers, Deacon Robert R. Godwin (Denia) of Groveland, Florida, Joseph A. Godwin (Patricia) of Leesburg, Florida, Reverend David Godwin of Leesburg, Florida and Darrien Godwin of Daytona Beach, Florida; two grandchildren: Ja'Maya and Genesis, both of Jacksonville, Florida; numerous godchildren, uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kissimmee Civic Center
201 East Dakin Avenue
Kissimmee, FL 34741

Celebration of Life Visitation

AUG 28. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Greater Harmony Missionary Baptist Church
1129 Parkwood Avenue
Groveland, FL 34736

Celebration of Life

AUG 29. 3:00 PM (ET)

Family Christian Center
2500 S. Highway 27
Clermont, FL 34711

Tribute Wall



“ *Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*

October 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Range & Brenda Herring lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Range & Brenda Herring - August 29, 2021 at 06:03 PM



“ *My Condolences and prayers to the family. Jerome, you will be missed.*



Gwen Wells - August 28, 2021 at 09:58 AM



“ *With deepest sympathy. PRAYING for your family STRENGTH, HEALING and PEACE. God will take care of you... THANK YOU Jerome for your service and always being a friend ❤️ 🙏 ❤️ ... Min. Ann Radford*



Min. Ann Radford - August 28, 2021 at 08:27 AM

FF

“ From Keith Hill & Family purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



From Keith Hill & Family - August 27, 2021 at 01:48 PM

RB

“ Russ & Paula Barnes purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



Russ & Paula Barnes - August 27, 2021 at 12:31 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



August 27, 2021 at 09:14 AM

CO

“ "Lift every voice and sing,
Til earth and heaven ring"
RIP my big brother the lion
of FMU has roared.
Wendolyn (Cookie) Conner



Cookie - August 27, 2021 at 04:33 AM

CO

“ *Cookie lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Cookie - August 27, 2021 at 04:10 AM

PH

“ *My sincerest condolences to the family of my FMC classmate, my brother and friend. Jerome was such a kind and full of life guy. Always smiling and helping others. Rest In Peace My Brother.*



Phyllis Braggs Hamilton - August 27, 2021 at 01:23 AM

EB

“ *Rest on my friend and classmate. Your smile and friendship will be with me forever. Until we meet again, the greatest class president of the greatest class of “1974”. Really going to miss you.*



edith Braddy - August 26, 2021 at 06:25 PM

MY

“ *Mary Kirnes And Family Going Tomiss You! lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Mary Kirnes and Family going tomiss you! - August 26, 2021 at 01:17 PM

SP

“ *Sister Metre Lewis-Mt. Pleasant purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



Sister Metre Lewis-Mt. Pleasant - August 25, 2021 at 03:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



August 24, 2021 at 01:43 PM

RT

“ *Heartfelt condolences to the Godwin Family*

Rosa Thomas - August 23, 2021 at 05:53 PM

RT

“ *Rosa Thomas lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Rosa Thomas - August 23, 2021 at 05:49 PM

GC

“ *Gwendolyn Morris Curry lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Gwendolyn Morris Curry - August 23, 2021 at 01:05 PM

TD

“ *My condolences to the Godwin family.*



Tammie Kirnes Dillion - August 23, 2021 at 12:05 PM

MC

“ *Family*



Mary Cheers - August 22, 2021 at 11:40 PM

SW

“ *Syndiretha Warren lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Syndiretha Warren - August 22, 2021 at 02:46 PM

DT

“ Remembering throughout a long-term friendship causes us to thank God for this man's loyal, empathetic, and admirable personality. My son and I will never forget your kindness, Jerome, your good-heartedness, and support, especially during the private viewing at Zanders, of my daughter, Annette. Our condolences go to Tiffany and the Family.

With Deep Affection,

Dr. Ann Y. Tyler and Son, William P. Ellison.

Dr. Ann Y. Tyler - August 21, 2021 at 03:49 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



August 21, 2021 at 10:16 AM

RO

“ Jerome my friend I am sure going to miss our conversations about old cars and our good old athletic days when we were young men. I sure enjoyed our lunch together at Sonny's BBQ last month and I was looking forward to many more. You are a fine gentleman and a good friend, you will be sorely missed. RIP

Ron Drummonds GHS

Ron - August 21, 2021 at 10:07 AM



“ *Rest in Heaven Jerome! Such a wonderful person with a smile that would light up a room! You will be truly missed.*
Carlidernett Davis



Carlidernett Davis - August 20, 2021 at 11:26 PM

RB

“ *My heartfelt condolences and prayers to the Godwin family.*

*"Let your light so shine that men may see your good works."
Jerome, this is exactly what you exemplified for the time spent here on earth. You sir are a good and faithful servant and your service to God, church, family, friends and your smile shined all around us. Thank you for your service my friend and the examples you set for others. Rest in peace Jerome, job well done, gone too soon but never forgotten.
Your friend, Regina*

Regina Brown - August 20, 2021 at 07:44 PM

JH

“ *Don't think I ever would've met you if Greg didn't invite me to play softball with you guys. Very glad I knew you and look forward to seeing you again :-)*

Jim Hemphill - August 20, 2021 at 05:39 PM

TM

“ *The Alumni Brothers of Epsilon Mu purchased the Majestic Heart for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



The Alumni Brothers of Epsilon Mu - August 20, 2021 at 09:26 AM

PR

“ *My condolences to the Godwin family. My brother & friend will be deeply missed. May these words bring you comfort that he is resting in the arms of the Lord. Amen.*



Parie Register - August 19, 2021 at 06:26 PM

DB

“ *Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time.*

*Dennis and Valerie Bronson
Clermont, FL*



Dennis Wayne Bronson - August 19, 2021 at 06:12 PM

CV

“ *My heartfelt condolences go out to Jerome's family. When I worked at KPD with Jerome I would always know it was Jerome in the corridor, because of his infectious roar of laughter. His love of life was contagious and he was always there in a time of need. Jerome I will miss you very much and I'll never forget you.*

Carmen Vargas-Daniels

Carmen Vargas-Daniels - August 19, 2021 at 06:11 PM

OF

“ *Orange Osceola Safety Institute Family purchased the Divine Light for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



Orange Osceola Safety Institute Family - August 19, 2021 at 02:41 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



August 19, 2021 at 08:56 AM

MC

“ *Jerome you are very unique person. I will never place you in a past tense. You will always be present in my heart although I will miss walking behind you on purpose to watch your bowlegs. Lol
My condolences to your family. They will be in my prayers.*



Mary Cheers - August 18, 2021 at 11:30 PM

KD

“ We loved the work Jerome did at Cypress Elementary. I remember him best when he officiated over the renewal of our vows for our 35th Anniversary. What a beautiful person who now watches all of us as a new angel in heaven.



Kathy Donato - August 18, 2021 at 11:16 PM

LH

“ Good Afternoon,
We are praying for family. I always remember him as cool man.



From: Dr, Lawana Henry

Lawana Henry - August 18, 2021 at 03:49 PM

SH

My condolences to the Family and Friends of Deacon Jerome. I remember when we visited Greater Harmony where my departed cousin was pastor, he was always cheerful, helpful and thoughtful which made us visitors feel as if we were home. May God continue to bless you and keep you all through this yet temporary storm.

Shelia Hamm-Reid - August 20, 2021 at 12:38 PM

TM

“ Dr. G..... my friend.... I will miss our conversation, our laughs, our prayers, your scriptures you posts, your text messages and most of all your smile. God needed your smile for his garden. Good night my friend, I will see you in the morning. My Kappa man..... Your Delta girl!



Teresa M Morgan - August 18, 2021 at 02:46 PM

JR

“ I had the privilege of working with Jerome on the Motors Squad at KPD. He came to work every day with a big smile on his face and a positive attitude. I feel like I'm a better person for having known Jerome. My deepest sympathies to Jerome's family and friends. He will be greatly missed!
Godspeed from your old partner, Jim Richter.

Jim Richter - August 18, 2021 at 01:18 PM

MC

“ Mary M. Cheers purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



Mary M. Cheers - August 18, 2021 at 12:33 PM

HJ

“ Helen Thompson Johnson lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin



Helen Thompson Johnson - August 18, 2021 at 10:36 AM

HJ

“ Helen Thompson Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin



Helen Thompson Johnson - August 18, 2021 at 10:35 AM

HJ

“ *My Sincere Condolences To The Godwin Family*

I'm still at disbelief My Great Friend. We just had a conversation. My Heart truly aches. I have some many memories of you and us. I will cherish them For life. I will see you again. Thank J For The Love.



Helen Thompson Johnson - August 18, 2021 at 10:23 AM

TC

“ *My heart is broken, I met Mr Godwin about 3 months ago and we hit it off immediately. It was like we had been knowing each other for 30 years. His daughter Tiffany is a jewel. Rest well Deacon*

Timothy L Cole - August 17, 2021 at 11:40 PM

DC

“ *Diane Coleman sent a virtual gift in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Diane Coleman - August 17, 2021 at 10:06 PM

DC

“ *Praying for the entire Godwin family during this devastating time. May God give each of you strength to endure. Deacon Charlie & Diane Coleman*

Diane Coleman - August 17, 2021 at 10:06 PM

TG

“ My prayers and condolences to the Godwin Family and Greater Harmony Church Family. I will always remember your big smile, sense of humor and our friendship throughout the years at Florida Memorial College/ University and Church Fellowships we shared. I will always remember every time we met you called me Rev #1. Rest In Peace my friend and brother. One day we'll meet on the other shore!!!



Thedora Gainous - August 17, 2021 at 09:58 PM

MB

“ May you R.I.P. Jerome 🙏🙏 Prayers for the family 🙏 May God give them strength thru these trying days 🙏❤️



Melida Barboza - August 17, 2021 at 09:57 PM



“ In the nearly 40 years I'd known Jerome, His attitude and kindness were constantly on display - I can't recall a single instance where he allowed anger to cloud his mind or prevent him from seeing the goodness in others. The World would be a better place with more people like Jerome Godwin.

Although your time on Earth is done, we will miss your smiling face which could bring light into a room as you entered. We have peace in the fact that your faith and love for God are with you now and you are sharing the Glory of Heaven.

Be sure to say "Hello" to all those from the KPD who arrived before you - we'll all meet again one day. Rest in Peace, my friend.

Pete Simonson - August 17, 2021 at 09:33 PM

MC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Michael Carter - August 17, 2021 at 09:15 PM

MC

“ Michael Carter purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



Michael Carter - August 17, 2021 at 09:13 PM

MI

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Michael - August 17, 2021 at 08:42 PM

R(

“ Rozlyn Rodgers (purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.



Rozlyn Rodgers (- August 17, 2021 at 08:14 PM

PF

“ Our deepest condolences go out to the family of Jerome Godwin who now has a pair of wings next to Jesus. He was such an upbeat kind of person who loved everyone and I will remember his kind spirit and personal relationship that I had with him throughout his life.

Patrick Fisher

Patrick Fisher - August 17, 2021 at 08:02 PM

CR

“ My dear friend/brother, working with you was one of the best experience I had, you were not only my coworker you became part of our family, we are going to miss you, you will always be in our hearts, RIP



Carmen L Rosario - August 17, 2021 at 08:00 PM

DT

“ I am so blessed to have known Deacon Jerome Godwin. His smile lit up any room he was in. He was a caring Christian brother when my dear husband transitioned. We shall all miss him. We will see in Heaven...smiling.

Dr. Sandra Tynes - August 17, 2021 at 07:22 PM

DT

“ Dr. Sandra Nixon Tynes lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin



Dr. Sandra Nixon Tynes - August 17, 2021 at 07:17 PM

TC

“ You would say our hearts are so perfectly and uniquely connected...they always will be, my love. Our love was a gift, a blessing unmatched. I will miss you deeply. You have been our angel here on this side and I know your crown must be heavy with the jewels you earned. You are our favorite person and we choose you first and always. Your love is unconditional, your faith is undeniable, and the children and I are so very blessed to be loved by you. We will share that love and faith, your love and faith, with the world. As painful as it is to lose you here, my heart is at peace knowing that you are with Jesus and that you left knowing, beyond any doubt, how fervently we love you. Thank you for sharing your amazing light and love with us, thank you for all the friends that turned family. They will be my earth angels now. I love you Jerome W. Godwin, always and forever. ~Your pretty Suggarrine, Mala, Mom Ghose, Iliana, Ilyssa, Hector, Jonathan, Alanna



Tanuja Cruz - August 17, 2021 at 07:16 PM

LS

“ Linda Smith lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin



Linda Smith - August 17, 2021 at 06:54 PM

TF

“ *The Woodard Family lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



The Woodard Family - August 17, 2021 at 06:44 PM

JT

“ *Jerome, you will forever Rest In Peace. It was an honor to have known such a wonderful man.*

Jeff Tambasco - August 17, 2021 at 04:59 PM

AC

Jerome, your kindness and smile is forever in our hearts and memories. We are blessed to have know you as a friend and brother in Christ. Orlando and Alice Colon

Alice Colon - August 17, 2021 at 08:47 PM

PJ

“ *From our days at Florida Memorial, regardless of any situations there might have been, we remained friends. That crazy sense of humor that would lighten anyone’s heart, and his kind nature will be missed. Take your rest my friend. Love you!*



Pamela Clark Johnson

Pamela Clark Johnson - August 17, 2021 at 04:30 PM

SS

You will truly be miss never forgotten . Thank you for your true friendship to Wayne ,Andy and myself . You were one of the good guys through and through. Sandy Sorrell

Sandy Sorrell - August 17, 2021 at 08:07 PM

AN

“ *Audrey Newsome lit a candle in memory of Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Audrey Newsome - August 17, 2021 at 02:01 PM

PN

“ *Pam Newsome lit a candle in memory of Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Pam Newsome - August 17, 2021 at 01:59 PM

DN

“ *The Newsome Family lit a candle in memory of Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Dot Newsome - August 17, 2021 at 01:56 PM

TD

“ Terric (Tee) and Candace Durden sent a virtual gift in memory Jerome Winifred Godwin



Tee Durden - August 17, 2021 at 01:54 PM

TD

“ Terric (Tee) and Candace Durden lit a candle in memory of Jerome Winifred Godwin



Tee Durden - August 17, 2021 at 01:48 PM

MW

“ Rest easy our friend, We let you know how much we loved you and appreciated you for who you were and what you stood for. We will never forget you until we meet again. Pastor Isaac D. Wilkes Sr. & Margie Wilkes .



MARGIE WILKES - August 17, 2021 at 12:45 PM

MW

“ MARGIE WILKES lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin



MARGIE WILKES - August 17, 2021 at 12:41 PM

DH

“ *Dr.LaWana Henry lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



Dr.LaWana Henry - August 17, 2021 at 12:34 PM

TF

“ *The Cooper Family lit a candle in memory of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin*



The Cooper Family - August 17, 2021 at 11:44 AM

TF

“ *The Ponder Family Miami Gardens Florida purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



The Ponder Family Miami Gardens Florida - August 17, 2021 at 08:56 AM

PG

“ *Pamela Ponder Godwin purchased the Love Ever lasting Bouquet for the family of Deacon Jerome Winifred Godwin.*



Pamela Ponder Godwin - August 17, 2021 at 08:48 AM

JS

“ CANT BELIEVE YOU GONE UNK I MISS YOU SO MUCH
CONTINUE TO REST IN HEAVEN

jonathan shaw - August 17, 2021 at 06:30 AM

TG

“ *Daddy my Daddy! So many memories to share. You have always been my rock, my comforter, my best friend, and my first love! 33 years we have created some great memories! Your infectious laugh, your continuous words of wisdom, and your infamous amount of compassion. Every graduation you were there with a smile and a full charged battery to take plenty pictures! Watch over me Daddy! Your "Prettygirl" needs it! You will never be forgotten!*

Love,

Your "BabyGirl"

MS. Tiffany C. Godwin

Tiffany C Godwin - August 17, 2021 at 12:03 AM