

PALLBEARERS

DJ Markeith DJ D2D
DJ Thr33J Fat Boy Rhymer
DJ Ty Brown TJ

FLORAL ATTENDANTS

Nieces and Grandchildren

To my family and friends

When I come to the end of the road, and the sun has set for me, I want no rites in a gloom filled room, why cry for a soul set free. Miss me a little but not too long, and not with your head bowed low. Remember the love we once shared, Miss me --- but let me go. For the journey we all must take, and each must go alone; it's all a part of the Master's plan, a step on the road to home. When you are lonely and sick at heart, go to friends we knew, and bury your sorrows in doing good deeds. Miss me— but let me go.

Acknowledgements

The family of the late Arthur “Candyman” “Otis” Gibson would like to express our deepest gratitude for the outpouring of love, support, and kindness shown to us during our time of loss. Your comforting messages, calls, visits, flowers, and acts of compassion have provided us with great strength and solace. While it is impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this as a heartfelt acknowledgement of our sincere appreciation. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

With heartfelt thanks,

The Family of Arthur Gibson

Services Entrusted to



Edwards Small Mortuary
“Committed to Excellence”

1011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Fort Valley, GA 31030

<https://www.edwardssmallmortuary.com>

478-825-8700

Celebrating the Life of *Arthur “Candyman” Gibson*

December 18, 1950 – July 28, 2025

Saturday, August 9, 2025
10:00 AM

Trinity Baptist Church
507 State University Drive
Fort Valley, GA 31030

Reverend Gregory Moore
Officiant & Eulogist



A Glimpse into His Life

Arthur "Candyman" "Otis" Gibson, a beloved pioneer of the DJ community and proud Vietnam veteran, passed away in a hospice facility on Monday, July 28, 2025, at the age of 74.

Born on December 18, 1950, in Fort Valley, Georgia, Arthur grew up surrounded by family, music, rhythm, and resilience. At 18, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served honorably in the Vietnam War. Though he rarely spoke of his time overseas, those closest to him knew the depth of his courage and the quiet strength he carried home. He received his formal education at Henry Alexander Hunt High School in Fort Valley, Georgia and entered the military afterwards. He was a member of Trinity Baptist Church where he was baptized on August 24, 2003. He retired as a Civil Servant from Robins Air Force Base.

After returning from war and throughout his career, he found healing and purpose in music and family. Immersing himself in the rising disc jockey scene of the 1970s, he became affectionately known as "Candyman". He electrified dance floors from Three Flags to the Brown Derby to Sugar Hill and Vineville Day Celebrations. He also left his legacy as a DJ in his son - DJ Tremayne, grandson - DJ WHO, and nephew, DJ Roy Smooth.

Candyman's greatest joys came from giving—whether through music, a home-cooked meal, or quiet, heartfelt advice. He deeply loved his family and showed it in everyday ways and would not let a day go by without making someone feel special. He also shared that love with his community and encouraged others to carry themselves with pride and purpose. Whether behind the turntables, in his kitchen, or out in the community, Candyman brought warmth, wisdom, and soul to every space he touched.

Candyman was the ninth child of Dolphus "Buddy" Gibson and Ida Wilder Gibson. He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers and three sisters: Johnny L Gibson, Robert L. Gibson, Clifford "Bo Peep" Gibson, Roy Gibson, Lillie Mae (James) Howard, Arlean "Sister Girl" (Ernest "Jit") Woodson, and Herline Gibson; one son, Bobby Martin; nephews: Daniel Woodson, Robert Howard, and John Lee Howard; niece, Latrina Howard.

He is survived by his two sons: Darius (Andrea) Gibson and Tremayne (Corinne) Gibson; three daughters: Tonya (Terry) Ages, Jazman (Alan) Reviere, Lashonda Hiley; brother, Loyd Gibson; sister, Ida Mae (Abraham) Warren; a devoted cousin, Johnny Wilder; eleven grandchildren: Darion Gibson, Tremiya Gibson, Tremayne "TJ" Gibson, Jr., Terell Ages, Taron Ages, Autumn Ages, Tyler Martin, Endia Martin, Mikaylah Dodd, Mariah Ervin, Cameron Dodd, Desmond Latimore, Andrew Mathis, Payton Mathis; step grandchildren: Arianna (Shamar) Murray, Khaia Gibson, Shianne Gibson and Legacy Gibson; great granddaughter, Nereid Gibson and step great grandson, Judah Williams; nieces and nephews: Victoria "Dianne" Neal, Felicia Gibson, Wilbur Searcy, Kimberly Searcy, Teresa Gibson, Darlene Woodson, Roy Lee Woodson, Earnest Woodson, James Howard, Jr., Loraine (Henry) Preston, Carl (Lisa) Perry, Flavia Ann Perry; great nieces and nephews: Te-Anna Gibson, Tory Preston, Shevon Preston, Carmen Neal, Victor Neal, Kion Robinson, Kapus Ezell, Jasmine Ragin, Roy M. Woodson, Ashley Woodson, Kenya Woodson, Octavia Woodson, William Howard, Jerell Howard, Sophia Smith, Nicole Jenkins, Caitlin Perimeter, Onesha Howard, Regina Howard, Barbara Gibson, Tracy Howard, Cortez Howard, Alicia Ezell, Alexis Perry, Joshua Perry, Brittany Perry and a host of many, loving family members.

Candyman was more than a beloved hometown hero of Fort Valley, Georgia—he was a pillar of his community and family. From the DJ booth where he ignited dance floors, to his service in Vietnam, and then his enduring dedication as a proud father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He lived a life marked by love, loyalty, and legacy. His stories, his music, and his unwavering spirit will continue to echo in every life he touched. Though he has departed this life, his memory remains alive—in the music he played, the values he passed down, and the lives he shaped. May his soul rest in peace, and may his life serve as a shining example to those who follow.



Arthur Gibson
We are the sons of Ida and Dolphus Gibson — Feeling thankful.



**For Candyman aka “Our Papa”
From your Grandkids, with Love**

Papa, you were more than music,
You were movement.
A heartbeat behind the turntables,
A legend with the sound,
And the soul behind our smiles.

They called you Candyman,
And yeah, you brought the sweet.
Sweet sounds, sweet memories,
And the kind of love
That showed up loud and clear.

To the world, you were the DJ,
The man who made the party live.
But to us?
You were comfort.
You were laughter.
You were strength wrapped in rhythm,
Always steady, always true.

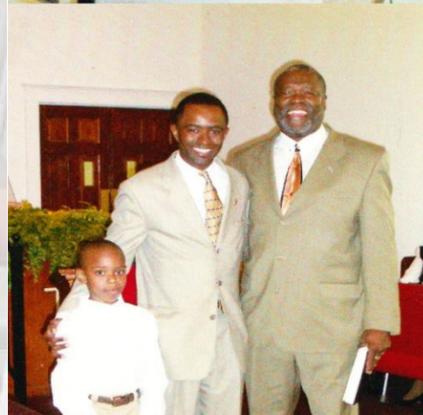
You taught us rhythm isn’t just in the music—
It’s in the way you love your people,
The way you show up,
The way you live.

And every time we hear that song,
“Ain’t No Stopping Us Now”,
We’ll remember you standing tall,
Smiling, vibing,
Knowing exactly how to lift a room
And carry us higher.

Even now, as the music fades,
We hear you,
In every old-school jam,
In every deep belly laugh,
In every family gathering
That still carries your sound.

You left your mark on more than records—
You left it on our hearts.
So we’ll carry your legacy, Papa,
With pride, with joy, and with love.
Your beat goes on
In us.

Rest easy, Papa.
Ain’t no stopping us now—
Because you showed us how to keep going.



Reverend Gregory Moore, Officiating

Musical Prelude

Processional

Prayer.....Minister Danny McCrary

Scriptures

Old Testament.....Pastor Al Sanders

New Testament.....Pastor Andrew Brown

Selection.....Minister Dexter Davis

Silent Reading of the Obituary
“Soft Music”

Proclamation.....City of Fort Valley, Georgia
The Honorable Jeffrey Lundy, Mayor

Reflections
(Two minutes limit please)

Selection.....Minister Dexter Davis

Eulogy.....Reverend Gregory Moore

Selection.....Minister Dexter Davis

Acknowledgements.....Edwards Small Mortuary Staff

Postlude

Recessional

Interment

Willow Lake Memorial Gardens
1854 Willow Lake Road
Fort Valley, GA 31030

I Thought of you With Love Today

(Author Unknown)

I thought of you with love today
But that is nothing new
I thought about you yesterday
And days before that too.

I think of you in silence
I often speak your name
All I have are memories
And your picture in a frame.

Your memory is my keepsake
With which I'll never part
God has you in His keeping
I have you in my heart.



Weeping may endure for a night, but joy
comes in the morning.

Psalm 30:5
NKJV



FAMILY OVER EVERYTHING