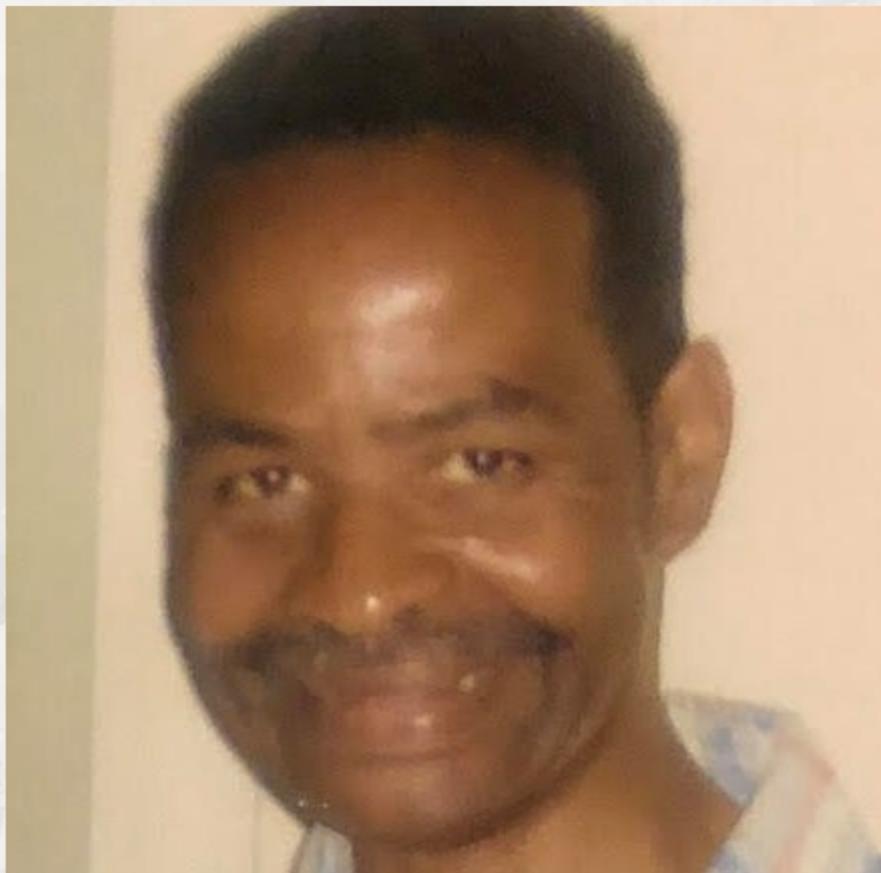




In loving memory of



Gary Stewart Thornton

First Breath: September 15, 1954

Last Smile: September 21, 2023

Service

Saturday, September 30, 2023 @ 1:00pm

G. Choice Funeral Chapel

2530 N. Broad Street

Philadelphia, PA 19132



GARY STEWART THORNTON

Gary Stewart Thornton was born on September 15, 1954 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Leona Riley (Hurst) and Floyd Thornton, who have both pre-deceased him. His arrival into the world was a miracle. He was born prematurely and developed a serious infection which caused him to be totally deaf for his entire life.

He never learned the language, but had his own unique way of communicating and expressing himself with family and friends and was able to successfully navigate through life.

He was baptized in the Roman Catholic faith. He briefly attended the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and several other primary schools for special needs children.

As an adult, Gary was employed with SpArc Services, a non-profit for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Through SpArc, he learned job skills and many creative and academic pursuits which helped him grow and mature. He even worked at the Tastykake Factory for a period.

Gary was an avid Philadelphia sports fan. The Philadelphia Eagles was his favorite team (with a special affinity for the cheerleaders). He enjoyed following the 76ers and Phillies as well. You may see Gary window shopping around the city and rubbing elbows with local politicians. He was friendly with several retail vendors and an avid shopper. Gary knew the SEPTA transportation system very well being spotted by family all around Philly. He had a great sense of direction.

If you talked to anyone who knew Gary, they would tell you he had a thing about calendars. If by chance you forgot to flip yours as the new month/year rolled in, he would gladly do it for you.

Gary's earthly world ended when he succumbed to cancer on September 21, 2023. He leaves to mourn his beloved sisters, Donna and Cheryl; his brother, Parris (Dawn) who pre-deceased him; former brother-in-law, Gregory (Sonja); nephews, Christopher (Crystal) & Joseph; nieces, Angela (Kisasi), Tiffany,

Dominica, Deborah & Faith who pre-deceased him; great nephews, Jaymeer and Jeture; great great nieces, Ariya, Aria & Nyasia; sister-in-law to be, Desiree and a host of family & friends.

People who knew Gary would tell you he was a generous guy, who would do anything for anybody. He was a sincere, unique personality and a joy to be around. He was the best roommate a sister could ever have.

Rest in Power Gary also known affectionately as Uncle Geez. We miss you!





Celebration of Life

Officiate

Rev. Dr. Marilyn Carr

Processional

“On Eagles Wings”

Invocation Prayer

Rev. Dr. Marilyn Carr

Scripture Readings

Mrs. Sonja E. Pinkney

Old Testament Scripture: Isaiah 40:28-31

New Testament Scripture: 8:35-39

Tributes & Remarks (2 min. limit)

Family/Friends

Resolutions & Acknowledgements

Mrs. Tonya Caldwell

Celebration of Life Reading

Mrs. Tonya Caldwell

“You Never Said Goodbye” Poem

Desiree Greer

“Silence is Golden” Original Poem

Tiffany Pinkney

Eulogy

Rev. Dr. Marilyn Carr

Recessional

“Optimistic”

The family wishes to express our sincere and deepest thanks
and appreciation to all those who gave their time & effort
during this period of mourning.

Acknowledgements:

Rev. Dr. Marilyn Carr

Flowers Etcetera by Denise

G. Choice Funeral Chapel, Inc.

