

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Cortier Armstead
Richard Perry
Kenneth Reed
Dwight Williams
Charles Warner, Jr.
Charles "Tre" Warner, III

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Barry Reed
Rev. Kevin Jackson
Bernard Reed
James Fails
Teddy Reed
Keaton Fails
Derrick Reed
Joseph "JJ" Williams, Jr.
Courtney Reed
Joseph Williams, III
Jeffery Wells
Second Missionary Baptist Church Deacons & Senior Ushers

INTERMENT

Waco, Memorial Park
Waco, Texas
Monday, June 15, 2026

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

The family of Dr. Willie F. Williams, Sr. wishes to express gratitude for every expression of love and concern extended to us during this time.

Special thanks to his devoted nieces, Deborah, Ingrid and Anita; his daughters-in-love, Yolanda and Sharon. The family would like to extend a special thank you to his Second Baptist Church Family, the Baylor Scott & White-Hillcrest Hospital, Providence Hospital and the Caring for Seniors Home Health Care staff.

To his earthly angelic supporters, Cortier Armstead, Reverend Michael Lewis, Reverend Thomas Dickey, Kenneth Jones, Chris King, Steve Nickerson and Reverend Shaun L. Moton, we thank you tremendously.



1725 Gholson Road
Waco, Texas 76705
118 East 4th Street
Hillsboro, Texas 76645
1104 Chestnut Street
Waco, Texas 76704

"Changing the Paradigm of Funeral Services"
254-754-3151
www.mcdowellfuneralhome.com

PROGRAM DESIGNED BY CLIFTON D. RODGERS
Email: cdrdgers@aol.com | Phone: 832-525-3151

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY

of

Dr. Willie Frank
WILLIAMS, SR.

Sunrise: March 19, 1937 Sunset: June 6, 2026

Saturday, June 13, 2026
1:00 P.M.

Second Missionary Baptist Church
2001 Dallas Street
Waco, Texas 76704

Pastor Nika Davis, Officiating
Reverend Willie F. Williams, Jr. Eulogist

“The man is a success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who leaves the world better than he found it...who looked for the best in others and gave the best he had,”

-Robert Louis Stevenson

REFLECTIONS OF LIFE

A FOUNDATION OF EXCELLENCE

Dr. Willie Frank Williams, Sr., a native Central Texan, was born on March 19, 1937, and raised in McGregor, Texas, where he attended public schools. As a McGregor Bulldog, Dr. Williams embodied the spirit of a true scholar-athlete, excelling in both football and basketball while maintaining a fierce commitment to his academics. His hard work and sharp mind earned him the distinct honor of graduating as the Salutatorian of the McGregor High School Class of 1956.

Dr. Williams continued his educational journey at Paul Quinn College in Waco, Texas, where he continued to excel in the classroom and on the playing fields. Choosing to study Kinesiology and History, he discovered a lifelong calling for mentorship and education. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Paul Quinn College in 1960. Driven to advance his impact, he later earned a Master's Degree in Administration from Prairie View A&M University in 1965 and capped his academic journey by earning his Doctorate of Philosophy Degree from Sherwood University in 2003. The true reward for Dr. Williams' hard work did not come in titles or accolades, but in the people he influenced along the way.

A DEDICATION TO EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Dr. Williams began his illustrious forty plus-year career in education in 1961 at the Gatesville State School for Boys, where his natural leadership quickly led to a promotion to Principal—a role he held with distinction for fourteen years. In 1965, Dr. Williams moved to Waco and joined the ranks of educators in the Waco Independent School District. He took the helm as the Principal of G. L. Wiley Middle School for four years before transitioning to the high school level to proudly serve as the Principal of Waco High School for the next eight years. Following the closure of the Waco High campus, he returned to G.L. Wiley and dedicated another seven years to students and staff on this campus until his first retirement in 1993.

Unable to stay away from the mission of helping youth, Dr. Williams returned to the educational arena with the Texas Youth Commission and served as the Principal of the Marlin and Mart Orientation and Assessment Unit for twelve years before his final retirement. As a former principal and mentor, he believed academics mattered, but character mattered more as he poured that belief into his family and generations of students who learned from him.

COMMITMENT OF FAITH, COMMUNITY, AND SERVICE

Dr. Williams lived with quiet strength, deep faith, and a heart that gave endlessly. His life was a gift to those who knew him, and his love will live on forever in his family, in his friends, and in the lives he touched through his unwavering commitment to his community. He was a lifetime member of the Texas Association of Secondary Principals and a lifetime member of the NAACP. Dr. Williams was a pillar of the Second Missionary Baptist Church. He walked out his faith daily and served his church community faithfully as a Deacon, a Senior Usher, and a member of the Brotherhood Ministry and the D.B. Black Sunday School



*Willie & Robbie
Love Everlasting*





class. After retirement, Dr. Williams dedicated his life to serving the elderly by volunteering at Meals On Wheels for many years and using his personal gifts to provide meals and service to a few senior citizens in the community.

A DEVOTION TO FAMILY LEGACY

While Dr. Williams received numerous awards, honors and public acknowledgements throughout his life, his greatest and most beloved titles were those of *SON* to the late Norah E. and Annie B. Williams, *BROTHER* to the late G. B. Williams, the late Zelma Reed (G. T.), the late Maggie Perry (John), the late Nora “Johnny” Williams, *BROTHER-IN-LOVE* to the late Rose Williams, the late Charles “Shack” Warner, Sr. and Ulysses “Joe” Wells (Harriett) and *UNCLE* to the late Michael Perry; *HUSBAND* to the beloved Robbie Lee Wells Williams, better known to Willie as “Honey” with whom he shared seventy beautiful, inspiring, and enduring years of courtship and marriage; Together, they raised three accomplished children who were the pride of his life as he was *FATHER* to Willie, Jr. (Sharon), the Late Cassandra Joy Purnell (Antonio, Sr.), and Gregory, Sr. (Yolanda); He cherished the role of *GRANDFATHER* to five granddaughters, Alexandria Williams, Laronda Lias, Jasmine Purnell, Wynden Williams, and Jessica Purnell; one grandson, Gregory “Boo” Williams, Jr., two step-grandsons, Antonio Purnell, Jr., and Cameron Purnell, and one great-granddaughter, Kamryn Cook. To them all, he was affectionately and adorably known as “POPPE’.” Willie is also survived by his *BROTHER*, Joseph Williams, Sr., and his *SISTER-IN-LOVE*, Cordelia “CD” Warner; *UNCLE* to his numerous nieces and nephews as their beloved “Uncle Willie and Uncle F”—a constant source of wisdom, love, and support. He also had two bonus children Betty Austin (Austin, TX) and Steve Bouyè (Atlanta, GA). Willie loved his family immensely, and everything he did—every decision, every sacrifice—was to give them the best life he could. He never wanted them to doubt, even for a moment, how deeply they were loved.

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

As we say goodbye to this gentle giant, we recognize that his impact will endure, his dreams will inspire, and his memory will be cherished forevermore. He leaves behind a legacy as big as his heart—and a family who will forever honor their favorite Dallas Cowboys fan and barbecue king. A man who loved and lived according to Scripture now lives in the truth of 2 Corinthians 5:8, “Yes, We are of good courage, and we would rather be absent from the body and at home with the Lord.”

“THE MEASURE OF A MAN”

The measure of a man is not determined
By his show of outward strength
Or the volume of his voice
Or the thunder of his actions
Or of his intellect or academic abilities
It is seen rather in terms of the love that he has
For his family and for everyone
The strength of his commitments
The genuineness of his friendships
The sincerity of his purpose
The quiet courage of his convictions
The fun, laughter, joy and happiness he gives to his
family and to others
His love of life
His patience and his honesty
And his contentment with what he has.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional.....	Clergy and Family
Viewing of Dr. Willie F. Williams Sr.....	McDowell Funeral Home Directors
Musical Selection.....	Bro. Barry Reed
Scripture Reading:	
Old Testament : (Psalm 23)	Reverend Thomas Dickey Second Missionary Baptist Church, Associate Minister
New Testament : (John 14:1-6)	Reverend Michael Lewis Second Missionary Baptist Church, Associate Minister
Prayer.....	Reverend Shaun Moton Marlboro Heights Missionary Baptist Church
Musical Selection.....	Sis. Cheryl Nichols
Resolution	Second Missionary Baptist Church (Submit Others)
Expressions from the Heart of the Pastor.....	Pastor Nika Davis
Expressions of Love from Grandchildren.....	Sis. Alexandria Williams
Expressions of Love from Son.....	Bro. Gregory Williams, Sr.
Memories from Co-Workers	Bro. Tarl Lloyd
Tribute from Students	Sis. Paula Cross and Bro. Steve Bouyè
Expressions on Behalf of the Ministers.....	Dr. Jimmy Hunter Toliver Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
Musical Selection.....	Bro. Barry Reed
Words of Comfort.....	Reverend Willie F. Williams, Jr. Subject: “We Got Next” · Scripture: -Joshua 1:1-9
Recessional	Clergy and Family

“I am the resurrection, and the life:
he that believeth in me, though he were dead,
yet shall he live: and whosoever
liveth and believeth in me shall never die.
Believest thou this?”
-John 11:25-26



STATEMENTS OF LOVE

Poppe, thank you for grounding us in what matters most — God, family, and love. You showed us how to let God lead, and how to let that show in the way we live alongside one another. Thank you for keeping us close, and for leading by example in all the ways that counted.

Love,
Alexandria

Poppe, things will never be the same without you. Laughs will be quieter, stories a little less rich, but the lessons will carry a deeper meaning. Thank you for EVERYTHING!

Love,
Rudy and Kamryn

Poppe, thank you for making me your big girl and always reminding me to keep my head on a swivel even though I know you got my back. I love you and will miss you infinity forever more.

Love,
Jaz

Thank you for being the best Grandfather a Grandson could have. Love you.

Love,
Boo

I have your name. Well...maybe not your full name. But I have your initials and I carry your last name. The weight is heavy. The responsibility is daunting. The pressure is overwhelming. But it is also a privilege. To walk in the path you laid. To do things you weren’t afforded the opportunity to. To carry your name. So thank you. Thank you for your faith in God and community. Thank you for your barbecue sauce. But most importantly, thank you for your legacy. I will always strive to make you proud and carry the precious, privileged, pressure of your name with grace.

Love you bunches,
Wynden Fallon Williams

I’ll miss you every day, Poppe, and I’ll always carry your love and lessons with me. Thank you for the guidance, strength, and protection you gave me throughout my life. I love you, and I’ll always watch my back.

Love,
Jessica

