

## PALLBEARERS

Nicholas Brown      Christian Jones  
Kelvin Felton      Marcayll Jones  
Sharrod Hudson      Brandon Williams

## FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Family & Friends

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the Williams Family, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for your prayers, words of encouragement, cards, flowers, food, calls and other expressions of sympathy shown during our hour of bereavement.

THE FAMILY

**ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED  
TO  
EDWARDS SMALL MORTUARY**



*"Committed to Excellence"*

1011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Fort Valley, GA 31030  
(478) 825-8700

<https://www.edwardssmallmortuary.com/>

## *Gone Too Soon*

There are many things we don't understand  
And right now this world is missing a man

The man known as Derek or "Gucci" to some  
The one who always brought the fun

A gift to all because of his love  
The kind that could only come from above

He gave of himself and whatever he had,  
And had the ability to make you laugh

He was so sincere and pure in what he did  
With inner strength that was off the grid

A nurturer, caregiver and encourager too,  
His excellence is where we took our queue

He made you feel like you could do anything  
Just a beautiful inside and out human being

We will miss you down here on earth  
And there's not enough words to tell of your worth

Rest In Peace  
"Derekston "Gucci" Williams



# FAREWELL TO A CHAMPION DEREKSTON WILLIAMS

SUNRISE

July 18, 1997

SUNSET

June 30, 2024

Monday, July 22, 2024

11:00 A.M.

Edwards Small Chapel

1011 Martin Luther King Jr Drive  
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

Rev. Kenny Gouch

Eulogist





## REMEMBERING DEREKSTON

**Derekston Deshawn Shamark Williams** was born on July 18, 1997. He was welcomed into this world by his parents Derek Williams and Terra Jones-Williams. He was affectionately known to his family as “Big Man”.

Derekston was a member of New Hope Baptist Church. He was a 2015 graduate of Perry High School where he played football and was an outstanding wrestler. He received numerous awards and state recognition in wrestling competitions; most notably he earned the All American title in Greco-Roman.

He never met a stranger; he had a heart full of love, laughter and jokes.

In 2015, Derekston attended college at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa all while continuing his wrestling dream. He competed in several competitions making a name for himself.

Later in 2016, Derekston decided that he wanted to join the military, deciding to serve in the Navy. He proudly served his country and continued doing what he enjoyed doing; wrestling. Derekston was Honorable Discharged in 2021.

He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Samuel Williams.

During this difficult time, we find solace in remembering the joy he brought to our lives and the lasting impact.

Derekston leaves many wonderful memories to his loving family; parents: Derek & Terra Williams of Perry, GA; the joy of his life, Aaliyah Williams of Perry, GA; Delilah Williams, Maleeyah Williams and Mansa Williams all of San Antonio, TX; the world’s best brother, Derious Williams, stationed in Yokosuka, Japan; a companion who was his shining star: Mariah Cecil of San Antonio, TX; grandparents who loved him dearly: Annie R. Grant, Perry, GA; and Sharonett Jones, Oglethorpe, GA; his aunts and uncles whom he cherished: Tracie (Charles) Drew of Oglethorpe, GA; and Marcus (Mistie) Jones of Kathleen, GA; loving great aunts: along with a host of other relatives Lillie Ruth Mallard, Sandra Green, Angla Jones, Carolyn Jones, Helen(Otis) Sales, Sharon (John) Oglesby, Vickie Felton, Cynthia Williams, Brenda Dean, Debra Cromer, Rachel Williams and Patricia (Curtis) Roberts along with a host of other relatives and sorrowing friends.

**OFFICIATING**  
*Rev. Dr. John Davis*

**PROCESSIONAL**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**  
Old & New Testament  
Rev. Dr. John Davis

**PRAYER OF COMFORT**  
Brother Brandon Williams

**REFLECTIONS**  
(Three Minutes Please)

**SELECTION**  
Pastor Corey Stubbs

**EULOGY**  
Reverend Kenny Gouch

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**  
Edwards-Small Funeral Home Staff

**RECESSIONAL**



**INTERMENT**  
Andersonville National Cemetery  
496 Cemetery Road  
Andersonville, GA 31711

ORDER OF SERVICE