23rd Psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul.

He leadeth me in the paths of

righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the

valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;

Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me

in the presence of mine enemies;

Thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall

follow me all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house

of the LORD forever.

Pallbearers

Keith Kemp
Drezaughn Kemp
Lorenzo Massey Jr.
Kevin Benford
David Kemp
Mezaughn Heard
Tim Austin Jr.
Devonte Kemp
Michael Stafford Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers

Mark Miller
Alfred Ingram
Joe Harrell
Lee Hooks
Tommy Ayers
Tim Austin Sr.
Eric Hicks

Flower Bearers

Amaryah Washington
Asada Austin
Khamicole Kemp
Zerrionna Sorrells

Acknowledgements

We are sincerely grateful to the many friends who have given us support and comfort during this time of loss. Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all and just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much for whatever part you played.

-The Family of Mezaughn Kemp

WALKER FUNERAL HOME

Known for Excellence. Trusted for Value.

Celebrating THE LIFE OF

Mezaughn Kemp

April 18, 1952 - March 5, 2026

March 19, 2026

Visitation: 10:00 am - Funeral Service: 12:00 pm

Corinthian Baptist Church

1920 Tennessee Avenue | Cincinnati, Ohio 45237

Pastor Peterson Mingo, Officiating

Obituary

Mezaughn Kemp, born April 18, 1952 (73), of Cincinnati, Ohio, passed away peacefully at home on March 5, 2026, after a long battle with kidney disease and vascular dementia. He was surrounded by family and loved ones who supported him as his soul began its journey onward. Mezaughn attended Cincinnati Public Schools and later served in the United States Air Force, a role in which he took immense pride. His service was cut short when he received an honorable discharge due to unforeseen medical issues that required immediate attention and prevented him from continuing his military duties.

During his later years, Mezaughn often reminisced about his childhood memories in Greensboro, North Carolina. He cherished visiting his father and grandfather there and later shared those meaningful experiences with his children, teaching them about their family roots, land, and culture.

As a young man, Mezaughn loved sports and spent time playing football, proudly recalling his days on the field with his favorite team, P&O. He would often say he was one of the best players on the field. He later earned an associate degree in electronic technology, a field that showcased his remarkable ability to resolve and restore almost anything–from electronics to machinery.
Mezaughn also developed a passion for cutting hair. After graduating from the Cincinnati College of Barbering, he became a master barber and quickly opened his first barbershop in Walnut Hills, followed by a second location in Atlanta, Georgia. Among all of his accomplishments, Mezaughn's greatest passion was boxing. Beginning in the 1970s, he became one of the most respected boxing coaches in the city, helping train and mentor countless fighters who went on to become champions.

Over the years, he coached at several locations, including the YMCA, Emmanuel Community Center, Findlay Street Neighborhood House, Millvale Recreation Center, Northside Boxing Club, and various gyms in the Atlanta area. He spent his final years of coaching at his nephew's gym, Real Deal Boxing of Cincinnati. Mezaughn led teams to victory in numerous tournaments across the country and around the world.

Continued Obituary

One of his proudest experiences was spending time in Colorado Springs, Colorado, at the Olympic Training Center, where he trained fighters preparing for national-level competitions. Boxing remained his true love until the day he left this earth. Outside the gym, Mezaughn enjoyed cutting grass, restoring houses, and rebuilding cars. He had incredible knowledge of vehicles and spent time drag racing in his younger days. His favorite racing car was proudly known as "The Mack Machine." Mezaughn was always known for his stylish dressing and flashy cars. A man of many talents and interests,

Mezaughn also enjoyed baseball, marathon running, bowling, ping pong, swimming, photography, and landscaping. In his adulthood, he played on various baseball teams and shared many of those memories with friends who cared deeply for him in the Winton Terrace community. Mezaughn also spent 10 years living in Atlanta, Georgia, where he formed many lasting friendships that became like family. During that time, he attended New Missionary Baptist Church and was a member of the church bowling team. He gained notoriety for initiating female boxing matches in Atlanta nightclubs, a concept that quickly spread throughout the United States. In his final days, Mezaughn remained in the comfort of his home surrounded by loved ones. He shared a special bond with Lela, a devoted companion who stood by his side throughout his illness and remained with him until his final day. Mezaughn will be remembered for his strength, skill, dedication to boxing, and the countless lives he touched through mentorship, friendship, and love. His legacy will live on through the fighters he trained, the family he cherished, and the many people who were fortunate enough to know him. Mezaughn was a tremendous asset to the Cumminsville community and did what it took to help beautify the neighborhood, including advocating for local parks and recreational spaces.

Mezaughn was preceded in death by his mother, Rosie Hairston Madden; his father, Edgar Kemp; one sister, Lee Etta Madden; and three brothers: Charles Madden, Edward Kemp, and Lee Earl Madden. He leaves two sisters behind to cherish his memory: Evelyn Houston out of Daytona, Florida, and Kay Lumpkins out of Roxbury, Massachusetts. He leaves behind his children to cherish his memory: Mezaughn Harris (Iris), Derwin Harris, Carla Pickens, Djenaba Williams, Kimberly Kemp (Glenn), Nicholas Reeves, Marlo Herring (Seneca), Laquanda Kincaid, Keith Kemp, Zapata Kemp (Eboni), Jovan Thompson, Kenyah Spaulding, Devonte Kemp, and Daneisha Richardson. 37 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and fighters.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude	
Parting View	Immediate Family
Prayer	Pastor Peterson Mingo
Scripture	Pastor Peterson Mingo
Selection	Pam Crumbley
Acknowledgements	Te'Airea Powell
Remarks	Te'Airea Powell, with Family and Friends
Obituary	Read Silently
Selection	Pam Crumbley
Eulogy	Pastor Peterson Mingo
Benediction	Pastor Peterson Mingo
Recessional	Clergy, Family & Friends

Repast

Cheviot Gardens
3621 Glenmore Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211