



—» *Celebrating the Life of* «—

Willie Lloyd

December 22, 1944 – August 29, 2026

Husband. Father. Grandfather. Coach. Educator. Mentor.

Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremonies

Brenda Johnson

SERVICE INFORMATION

September 5, 2026

Viewing

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Funeral Service

11:00 AM

Location

Mount Olive Baptist Church
3007 Enterprise Blvd
Lake Charles, LA 70601

Officiant

Rev. Jeffrey Johnson
Pastor of Bakers A.M.E Zion Church
Independence, Louisiana

Gathered in gratitude.
Remembered in love.

01 **Opening Selection**

Barry Self

02 **Scripture Reading**

Old and New Testament

03 **Prayer**

04 **Prayer Chant**

05 **Reflections from Children**

06 **Expressions**

5 individuals - 2 minutes each

07 **Recognition of Clergy**

08 **Musical Selection**

Barry Self

09 **Resolution**

Bakers A.M.E Zion Church

10 **Acknowledgements & Obituary**

11 **Eulogy**

Rev. Jeffrey Johnson

12 **Viewing of Remains**

13 **Recessional**

Willie Lloyd

December 22, 1944 - August 29, 2026

Willie Lloyd of San Antonio, Texas, passed away peacefully on August 29, 2026, at the age of 81. He was born on December 22, 1944, to the late Anthony Lloyd and Luella (Lucy) Lloyd in Bunkie, Louisiana. Willie was the youngest of nine children and was raised in Baton Rouge Louisiana.

After graduating from Capitol High School, Willie attended Southern University, where he earned a degree in Mathematics. While at Southern, he was also an accomplished football player, earning a starting position, football scholarship, and an All-American recognition after initially joining the program as a walk-on. He later continued his education at McNeese State University, where he earned his master's degree in Mathematics.

Willie began his career as an educator in 1968 and dedicated decades of his life to teaching, coaching, and mentoring young people. Throughout his career, he served as a mathematics teacher and coach at several schools, including LaGrange Senior High School (1970-1977), Washington High School (1977-1983), and Lake Charles-Boston High School (1983-2000). His commitment to education and young people allowed him to positively influence generations of students and athletes throughout his career.

On August 4th, 1968, Willie married Gloria (Johnson) Lloyd and to this union three beautiful children were born. Together they built a life centered on family, love, commitment, and being present for those they loved.

Willie enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family and was widely known for his strength, discipline, leadership, and dedication to young people. Throughout his life, many knew him as Coach Lloyd, but the titles he cherished most were Dad, Daddy Will, and Pawpaw.

Willie was an active member of Bakers A.M.E Zion Church and was faithful until his death.

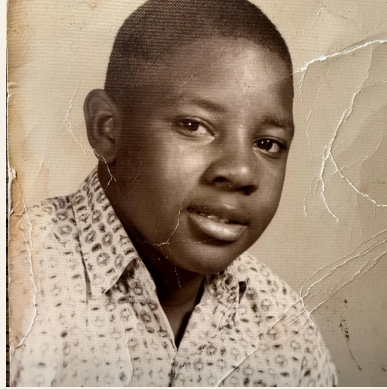
Willie was preceded in death by his parents, Anthony Lloyd and Luella (Lucy) Lloyd; his sisters, Mary Lee Wimley, Vivian DeMesme, Rebecca Dyson, and Bernetta Lloyd; and his brothers, Willie Lloyd, Allen Lloyd, Joseph Harris, and Robert Harris.

He is survived by his loving wife, Gloria Lloyd; his children, Rodney Lloyd, Dr. Robin Lloyd Bailey (Patrick), and Brian Lloyd; his grandchildren, Bryce, Jon-Brayden, and Brelynn Lloyd; a host of nieces and nephews; numerous brothers- and sisters-in-law; and former students, athletes, friends, and loved ones whose lives were touched by his presence.

***His life was one of service, family, education, and leadership.
His legacy will live on through the generations he taught, guided, and loved.***

From Bunkie to Southern

The making of "Blimp"



He was born in Bunkie, Louisiana, the youngest of nine children. Though his life began in Bunkie, he grew up in Baton Rouge, where the foundation for the man he would become began to take shape. Growing up in Baton Rouge, he attended Capitol High School. It was during these formative years that his athletic ability continued to develop, preparing him for an opportunity he would ultimately have to create for himself.

When he arrived at Southern University, there was no football scholarship waiting for him. He wasn't even on the team. Through determination, strength, and ability, he went from a walk-on to earning a starting position and a football scholarship. He achieved this distinction during a remarkable era of HBCU football, when historically Black colleges and universities were home to many of the nation's most gifted African American athletes.

He wasn't the tallest or the biggest player on the field. But he was strong as an ox and quick off the line. His combination of strength, explosiveness, and determination made him a force in the trenches and earned him the nickname "Blimp."

But earning a scholarship wasn't the end of his rise. His performance at Southern ultimately earned him All-American honors, and by the end of his collegiate career, he had attracted the attention of professional football, becoming a sought-after NFL Draft prospect.

For someone who arrived at Southern without a scholarship and without a place on the team, his journey had taken him all the way to the doorstep of professional football.

So he tried out. And he earned his way onto the field.

Making History at LaGrange

Leadership during a changing America

LAGRANGE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | 1970-1977



Breaking Barriers

He began his coaching career during one of the most consequential periods in American history. The Civil Rights Movement had challenged generations of legalized segregation, and communities across the South were navigating the transition away from the Jim Crow system that had shaped nearly every aspect of public life. Schools were changing. Communities were changing. And opportunities historically denied to African American educators and coaches were slowly beginning to open. It was against this backdrop that he arrived at LaGrange High School.

Making History at LaGrange

At LaGrange, he became the school's first African American football coach. It was more than a coaching assignment. Walking onto that sideline meant entering a space where, only a short time earlier, an African American coach may never have been given the opportunity to lead. But he didn't simply occupy the position. He proved he belonged there.

Breaking Another Barrier

His impact at LaGrange soon extended beyond football when he became the school's first African American head baseball coach. Under his leadership, the baseball program reached a state-title appearance, adding another milestone to a career defined by leadership, program building, and opening doors.

Breaking barriers. Building programs. Opening doors.

The Man Beyond the Field

Husband. Father. Family man.



A Life Shared

Beyond the fields, sidelines, and accomplishments was the center of his life which was his family. With Gloria Lloyd, he built a life rooted in love, partnership, and family. As a husband and father to Rodney, Robin, and Brian, the legacy he created at home would become every bit as meaningful as the one he built through athletics.

This part of his story belongs not to trophies or records, but to the moments, traditions, lessons, and love shared by the people who knew him best.



The public knew Coach. His family knew the man behind the whistle.

A Career of Leadership

Excellence measured in more than wins



Washington - 1977-1983

During his six years at Washington High, Willie developed the hard-nosed coaching style that would later define his years at Lake Charles-Boston. Known for his strong defensive mind, he built teams that played with discipline, toughness, and preparation. Just as important to him was the character of the young men he coached. He held his players to high standards in the classroom, in the community, and on the field, becoming not only their coach, but also a mentor and father figure to many. In 1980, he led Washington High to the state championship game, where the team finished as state runner-up, marking one of the defining accomplishments of his coaching career.

Lake Charles-Boston - 1983 to 2000

From 1983 through 2000, Willie continued his coaching career at Lake Charles-Boston, where he became the school's first head football coach after integration and led the Cougars to five consecutive playoff appearances from 1989 through 1993, highlighted by a memorable 46-40 regional victory over Ferriday.

Across the years, his influence reached far beyond wins and losses. He demanded discipline, preparation, accountability, and effort - lessons that remained with the young men he coached long after the final whistle.

Leadership that lasted beyond the final whistle.

In the Words of His Children

Three children. Three sets of memories. One Dad.



RODNEY

Being your firstborn was one of the greatest gifts of my life. Some of my best memories are the simple ones; like you taking me to T-ball, playing catch with me, and simply being there.

You were a provider, a caretaker, and a father who led by example. You taught me how to work hard, how to keep going when things got difficult, and how important it is to plant seeds in the lives of others. Your impact reached far beyond me. You touched so many people, often in quiet ways, simply by being who you were.

You may not have always said a lot, but you showed your love through your presence, your sacrifice, and your consistency. I always knew you were there.

Losing you leaves an emptiness that words cannot fully describe, but knowing you, learning from you, and being your son was a gift I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

- Rodney



ROBIN

I will always be my daddy's girl, affectionately known as his "bae." My dad taught me so much about life, especially to never quit. He taught me how to ride my bike and how to drive, took me fishing, tucked me in at night, and read me bedtime stories. He let me sit on his lap for as long as I wanted and played the same games with me over and over, simply because I loved them.

As I grew, he never stopped showing up. He came to every basketball game, believed in my dreams, and supported me in every way he could; personally, emotionally, and financially. No matter what I wanted to accomplish, I always knew my daddy was in my corner.

More than anything, my dad made sure I knew I was loved. That love shaped who I am, and I will carry it with me for the rest of my life. I was his bae, but he will forever be my Daddy. I love you, Daddy!

- Robin



BRIAN

Some of my greatest memories of Dad are also some of the simplest.

I followed him everywhere. When he coached, I was there as his ball boy. We took countless fishing trips together. He taught me how to fish, taught me how to drive a stick shift, and with my dad being a math teacher he made absolutely sure I understood my math homework; whether I wanted to or not.

But the greatest thing Dad taught me was the importance of being present.

He took care of his family, and he never missed one of my sporting events. As a child, I didn't fully understand how special that was.

As a father today, I do.

My Dad was there. And that is something I will carry with me forever.

- Brian

The public knew Coach. His children knew Dad.

A Grandfather Remembered

In the words of Bryce, Jon-Brayden & Brelynn



BRYCE

Some of my favorite memories of Daddy Will are from when I was little. We would play games on his iPad, and he taught me how to play solitaire. Right after that, he would give me a math worksheet so I could show off my skills. He always acted surprised when I got every answer right, which made me want to keep going just so he could tell me how smart I was.

When I was done with math, we would watch Sanford and Son together and laugh. He would watch me and my brother ride our bikes, and he even started buying extra ice cream because he knew I would eat his.

As I got older, we started calling each other "old man." That was just our way of showing love.

I always knew how much Daddy Will loved us, and that's what I'll miss most. No amount of words can fully describe what he meant to me. Simply put, he was the best.

- Bryce



JON-BRAYDEN

Daddy Will meant so much to me. Ever since I was little, he was the perfect grandfather and always went above and beyond for me and my brother.

I'll always remember playing cards on his iPad and being loud and crazy in his room while he watched TV. Even when he was tired from work, he always loved having us around.

I'll also never forget him taking us to the basketball court and teaching me how to shoot and dribble. Those simple moments meant more to me than I probably realized at the time.

There will never be a better grandfather than Daddy Will, and I'll always be grateful for the time we had together.

- Jon-Brayden



BRELYNN

I loved my Pawpaw.

When I saw him, I would run to him and say, "Hi, Pawpaw!" And Pawpaw would say, "Hey, Booga! Pawpaw's baby!"

I loved when Pawpaw called me his baby. I was always happy to see him, and Pawpaw was always happy to see me too.

I love you, Pawpaw.

I'll always be Pawpaw's baby.

- Brelynn

A grandfather's love becomes part of who we are.

FAMILY MEMORIES

A Life Shared

Moments of love, family, and cherished memories.



*Though we grieve, we cherish.
Though you are gone, you live on in us.*

Pallbearers & Final Arrangements

Pallbearers

Rodney Lloyd

Brian Lloyd

Bryce Lloyd

Jon-Brayden Lloyd

Melvin Johnson

Patrick Bailey

Interment

Consolata Cemetery
2300 Country Club Rd
Lake Charles, LA 70605

Repass

Will occur immediately after Interment

LaGrange Senior High School
3420 Louisiana Ave
Lake Charles, LA 70607

Acknowledgments & Special Thanks

With heartfelt appreciation

Semien-Lewis Mortuary LLC and Arthur Lewis

Our sincere thanks to Semien-Lewis Mortuary, LLC, and especially Arthur Lewis, for his kindness, support, and guidance. Thank you for always answering our calls and making a difficult process easier for our family.

Harold Scott

Our heartfelt thanks to Harold Scott for his encouraging words, compassionate guidance, and support during this difficult time. Thank you for making our family feel comfortable and for personally transporting our dad with such dignity and care. Your kindness meant more than words can express.

Brenda Johnson

Thank you to Brenda Johnson for your tireless commitment to caring for our mom. Because of you, we were able to spend precious extra time with our dad during his final days. That time was a gift we will always treasure.

Melvin Johnson

Thank you to Melvin Johnson for the countless hours you spent with Dad in the hospital, making sure he was never alone and always cared for. We can never thank you enough. Your love and support mean more to us than words can express.

Adonus Gatewood

Thank you to Adonus Gatewood for generously giving your time to cook and cater for our family. Your kindness and willingness to serve meant more to us than words can express.

Dr. Lisa Morgan and LaGrange Senior High School

Thank you to Dr. Lisa Morgan and LaGrange Senior High School for graciously allowing us to use the cafeteria. Your kindness and generosity during this time mean more to our family than you know.

Mount Olive Baptist Church

Our heartfelt thanks to Mount Olive Baptist Church for opening your doors to our family, making us feel at home, and allowing us to hold our services here. Thank you for surrounding us with kindness and showing us the love of Christ during this difficult time.

Acknowledgments

The family wishes to express our sincere gratitude for the many acts of kindness, prayers, calls, visits, flowers, messages of encouragement, and expressions of love shown to us during this difficult time. Your thoughtfulness has provided comfort and strength, and we are deeply grateful for your presence as we celebrate and remember a life so dearly loved. May God bless each of you for the compassion you have shown our family.



A Life Well Lived. A Legacy That Lives On.

Husband. Father. Grandfather. Coach. Educator. Mentor.

The lessons he taught, the lives he shaped, and the family he built will continue long after the final whistle.

His legacy lives through us.