

ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude: Garden of Prayer World Prayer Center Music Ministry

Processional

Prayer of Comfort:

Dr. Robert J Fontell Jr.

Scripture Reading:

Bishop Samuel S Gaskin

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:19-22

Musical Selection:

Walk around Heaven Taylor Samuels

Reflections/ Remarks (2min limit):

Senator Sharif Street

State Representative Keith S Harris

City Councilman Jeffrey Young Jr.,

William Blocker

Romesz Venzell Coleman

William Thompson

Franklin Hart

MSG Harvey Kelvin US Army Retired(recorded)

Acknowledgements, Condolences & Reading of the Obituary:

Stephanie DeV Vaughn

Musical Selection:

"I'm Going Up Yonder" Taylor Samuels

Eulogy: Bryan Jackson, Pastor

Funeral Director's Brief and Final Viewing

Recessional: Clergy and Family

CASKET BEARERS

Amir Blocker

Allanté Blocker

Jonathan Chiles

Joe Meredith

Kevin Upshur

Charles Pope

Honorary Casketbearer

MSG Harvey Kelvin US Army Retired

FLORAL BEARERS

Jasmine Blocker

Takilla Porter

AshleyRenee Blocker

AddisonRose Blocker

Enajae Blocker

Najah Blocker

MILITARY HONORS & INTERMENT

Mount Peace Cemetery

33rd & Lehigh Avenues
Philadelphia, PA 19132

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our family would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere appreciation for the many kind expressions of sympathy, words of comfort, contributions, and prayers extended during our time of bereavement.
May you forever be blessed.

Professional Services Entrusted to:

G. CHOICE FUNERAL CHAPEL, INC
2530 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19132
Britni' Choice, Supervisor

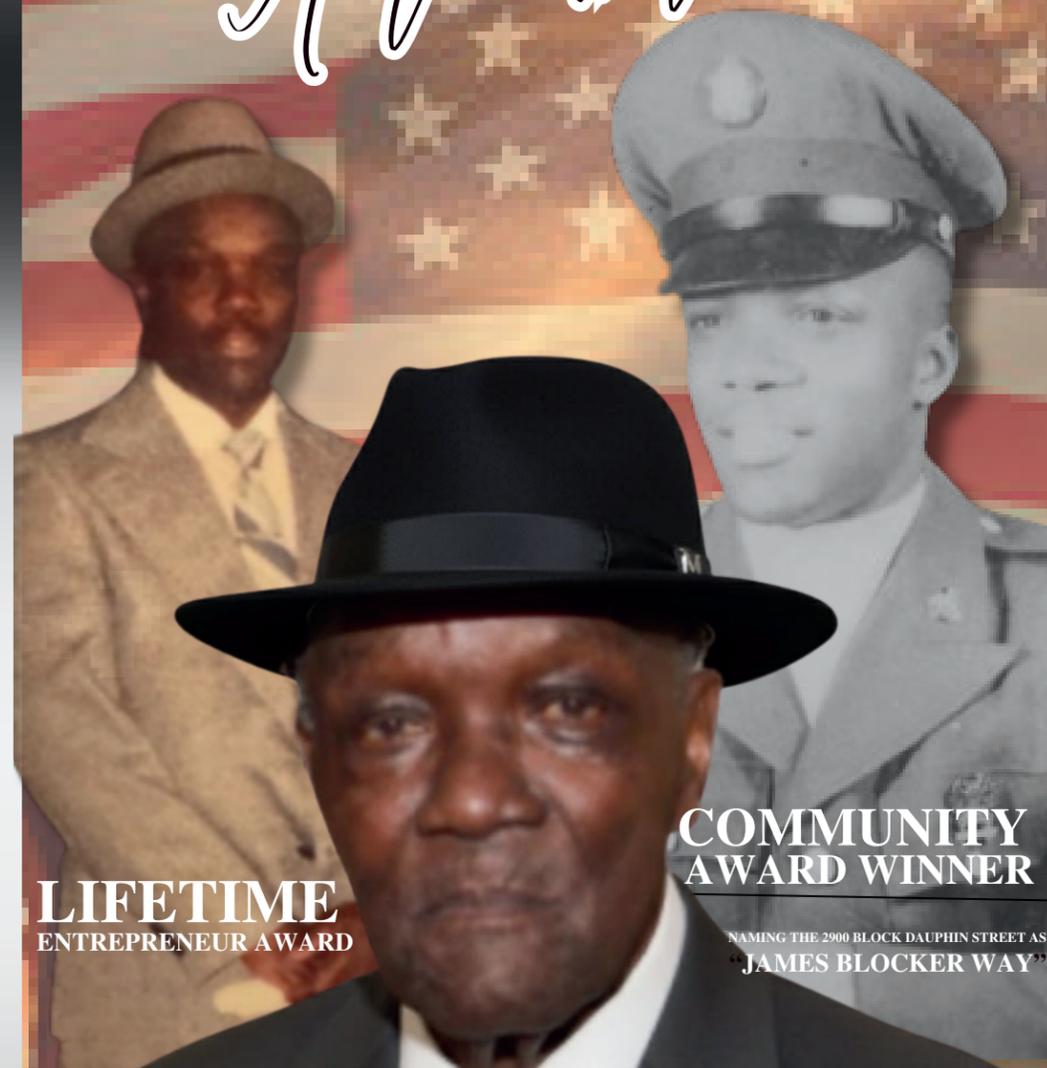
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EDITION 1936-2025



LIFETIME
ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

COMMUNITY
AWARD WINNER

NAMING THE 2900 BLOCK DAUPHIN STREET AS
"JAMES BLOCKER WAY"

James L.
BLOCKER

November 26, 1936 — October 4, 2025

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025, 10AM

Garden of Prayer World Prayer
2217 N 29th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19132
Pastor Bryant Jackson, Officiant & Eulogist

James L. Blocker transitioned on October 4th just shy of his 89th birthday surrounded by his wife, children, daughter-in-laws, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, to be reunited with his mother Tina, his Beloved Cousin Seannie, his father James, his son Darryl and the many other family members that preceded him in death.

James L. Blocker was born on November 26, 1936 in Greenwood, South Carolina to the late James Blocker and Tina Sullivan. **James L. Blocker** moved to Philadelphia from Greenwood South Carolina in 1961. Prior to moving to Philadelphia, James was enlisted in the United States Army where he was honorably discharged in 1961. Upon his relocation to Philadelphia he resided at 2440 n 32nd St with Aunt Katherine and Uncle Boy.

James L. Blocker's first main job upon his entry into Philadelphia was construction. He was amongst the laborers to help build Strawberry Mansion High School and at least four other high schools in the region. After 6.5 years of construction work, he realized it was time for a new venture. He tapped into a new set of skills as a Navy Yard electrician which he continued to do for 7 years.

James married the love of his life Eula Mae Gaskin in 1966. Out of this union came three sons: James Darryl Blocker, Kevin Blocker, and Gregory Blocker. Prior to meeting and marrying Eula, James fathered 2 children Anthony Leverage and Derrick Milton. In an effort to make a better life for his wife and children, James opened up Mansion Auto Repair in 1974 on the corner of 2301 N 30th St. Mansion Auto through **James L. Blocker's** vision has become a Multi-Generational Black Owned Establishment owned and operated by us for us. Albeit, a pillar in the community it is also a Safe Haven Corridor for the children of our community. **James L. Blocker's** vision extended to include EKG auto located at 2223 N 31st St. establishing yet another business in his beloved Strawberry Mansion Community that continues to grow through his sons and grandchildren with over 51 years in the same community in which he continued to reside until his passing.

James L. Blocker was a beacon in the community. He was proud to call Strawberry Mansion area his home. Being the successful business man that he was, he had plenty of opportunities to relocate from the area. But not only did he make the choice to stay, he made the choice to invest in his community. His investments included but were not limited to purchasing properties from the Jewish people as they were doing a mass exodus out of the area. Where the Jewish people he purchased from saw blight, **James L. Blocker** being the visionary he was, saw potential. He saw and believed in the value of the Strawberry Mansion area so much that after working the garage during the day, he would rehabilitate the burned-out houses he purchased from the Jewish people himself at night and on the weekends. Being a skilled electrician already, he taught himself roofing and applied his prior construction skills to rehab a multitude of houses in his community. And, even now when outside investors want to come in to gentrify Strawberry Mansion, **James L. Blocker** chose not to sell his properties, but rather continue his vision thru his sons and grandchildren.



James L. Blocker wasn't just a beacon in the community because of his business acumen. He was a beacon in the community because he knew how to treat people. His motto **kind and fair** led him to be able to have conversations with any and everybody. And his ability to impart wisdom and listen at the same time gave people comfort in talking with him. While **James L. Blocker** had 5 biological sons, he was **POP** to a whole community of sons. As an elderly man he could walk about the neighborhood freely knowing one of his community sons would look out for "old pop" as he would say.

James L. Blocker lived by a few sayings, "You can't catch gone." Meaning don't spend energy worrying about yesterday exalt that energy on fixing today. "Do it right the first time." Meaning if the task at hand is done correctly it only needs to be done once. "If you gonna sweep, sweep it clean." Meaning don't waste time looking busy, if life calls you to be a janitor, be the best janitor you can be. "One day at a time." Meaning take life as it comes. "Treat people kind and fair". And finally, the words he mumbled before he passed, "It's hard, but it's fair." Meaning we all get our turn to go through hard things.

James L. Blocker lost his mother very early in life. He moved from the South up North. He had no blueprint to follow, so he **BECAME** the blueprint. And, although we may not be able to do as you have, we will all strive to make you as proud as you have made us. For generations to come the blueprint of "The Blocker Way", will be the indelible memories of your accomplishments to live by. **YOU, James L. Blocker** have set the standard. Rest well knowing you can rest with a job well done! We love you and we miss you. Until we meet again.

He was preceded in death by his sisters Gladys Witts and Georgia Mae Blocker and his son James Darryl Blocker (Wendy). He leaves to mourn and cherish his memory his devoted wife of 59 years Eula Mae Blocker, his sons Anthony, Derrick (Tanya), Kevin (Lori), Gregory (Kelly). His Grandchildren: Takilla, Shaquita, Najah, Ashley, Jasmine, Kianna (Mitch), Kaylia (Tiana), Amir, Allante' and Austin. Great-Grandchildren: Shakima, Shakiya, Enajae, Sadina, Aniya, AddisonRose, Chase, Jordan, Ari, Dylan, and Raelynn. And one Great Great Granddaughter Suraya. He also leaves to mourn two special nephews, William Blocker, Jonathan Chiles, and one special niece, Sharon Blocker, as well as a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. And all the community sons that lovingly called him POP!

The Family

"YOU CAN'T CATCH GONE." "DO IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME."

"ONE DAY AT A TIME"

"IF YOU GONNA SWEEP, SWEEP IT CLEAN."