

Honoring The Life And Legacy of



Larry
DOUGLAS DEPTE, SR.
JUNE 8, 1950 - JULY 13, 2026

A Celebration of a Beautifully Lived Life

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH | 712 PENLLYN PIKE | SPRING HOUSE

REV. DR. CHARLES W. QUANN, SENIOR PASTOR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Beautifully Lived Life

Larry Douglas Depte Sr. was born on June 8, 1950, in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, to Ortan and James Depte, Sr. He was the third of four sons. Long before the titles, executive offices and national recognition, there was a young man from Coatesville with a powerful combination of intelligence, faith, determination and an unwavering belief that greatness was possible.

Growing up on Merchant Street in Coatesville, Larry learned early that success was not something given—it was something earned. His foundation was built through his family, his faith at Second Baptist Church, his love of learning and the discipline he developed as a student-athlete. He was an honor student at Coatesville Area Senior High School and a proud member of the Coatesville Red Raiders track program, competing in Cross Country, Indoor Track and Outdoor Track. As a long-distance runner, he had the honor of competing at the prestigious Penn Relays, where he demonstrated the endurance and perseverance that would define his life.

Larry was a natural leader from a young age. He possessed a remarkable memory, an incredible curiosity and a passion for knowledge. He was known for reciting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech word for word—reflecting not only his intelligence but his deep belief in equality, opportunity and the responsibility to create a better future.

After graduating from Coatesville Area Senior High School, Larry attended Temple University, becoming the first person in his family to graduate from college. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in just three and a half years. While still in high school, Larry worked at Lukens Steel Mill and saved money to help fund his education, demonstrating the work ethic and determination that would carry him throughout his life.

While at Temple, Larry recognized the importance of creating opportunities for others. Seeing the limited representation of Black students, he became an advocate for change through peaceful protest and helped contribute to efforts that expanded access, support and pathways to graduation for future generations.

After college, Larry began his professional career as a Certified Public Accountant with Coopers & Lybrand, one of the nation's leading accounting firms. As one of the first Black accountants to help integrate the firm, he entered spaces where few looked like him and excelled through his intelligence, professionalism, and leadership. His expertise quickly earned him the respect of colleagues and clients and he rose to lead teams of auditors while mastering the complexities of corporate finance.

In 1973, Larry helped establish the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA), recognizing the need for Black accounting professionals to unite, support one another and create greater opportunities within the profession. His commitment to opening doors for others became a lifelong mission.

Larry's journey would eventually lead him from the world of accounting into the heart of American music history.

At only 29 years old, Larry became President of Philadelphia International Records (PIR) and TSOP Records, helping lead one of the most influential Black-owned record companies in history. Working alongside legendary owner/producers Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff, Larry brought his financial expertise, business vision and leadership to an organization that would define an era of music.

Under his leadership, Philadelphia International Records became home to some of the greatest artists and voices of all time, including Teddy Pendergrass, The O'Jays, Lou Rawls, Patti LaBelle, Billy Paul, Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes, The Three Degrees, The Jones Girls, Jean Carn, Phyllis Hyman, The Stylistics, Archie Bell & The Drells, The Intruders, MFSB (Mother Father Sister Brother), McFadden & Whitehead, People's Choice, Dee Dee Sharp, The Dells, and many others.

During the height of PIR's success, the label produced more than 170 Gold and Platinum records and helped define the Philadelphia Soul sound that continues to influence music generations later. Larry was not simply an executive behind the scenes—he was a visionary leader who helped protect, strengthen, and expand a cultural movement.

His influence extended beyond music. Larry was instrumental in the formation of the Black Music Association and helped bring together leaders and artists in celebration of Black music and achievement. The organization's first anniversary was honored at the White House with President Jimmy Carter hosting members of the R&B music community for a historic celebration.

Never one to stop pursuing opportunities to uplift others, Larry later became Co-Founder and CEO of Correction Connection, Inc., a Philadelphia-based company that experienced extraordinary growth, building a nationwide network of more than 7,000 distributors in its first year. This achievement was recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce at an awards ceremony at the U.S. Capitol. President Bush presented Larry with the award.

Larry continued his passion for helping people improve their lives through entrepreneurship and wellness. Alongside his beloved wife, LaVerne, he joined Herbalife, where they built a successful organization focused on health, personal development, and financial empowerment. Through their dedication and leadership, Larry and LaVerne became one of the first Black couples in the United States to achieve Herbalife's prestigious Millionaire Team status.

Despite all of his professional accomplishments, Larry's greatest pride was his family. He was a devoted husband to his wife of 42 years, LaVerne, and a loving father who cherished his children and family. Those closest to him knew him not only as a successful businessman, but as a man who loved deeply, laughed often, shared wisdom freely, and encouraged others to become the best versions of themselves.

Larry believed in dreaming boldly, working diligently, treating people with kindness and respect, never losing the importance of laughter. He challenged himself and those around him to pursue excellence while remaining grounded in faith and compassion.

After courageously living with an incurable illness for more than ten years, Larry Douglas Depte, Sr. peacefully transitioned on July 13, 2026. Larry lived a fulfilling life, especially hosting his family and friends' annual July cook-outs and Christmas parties in Blue Bell, PA. He enjoyed family staycations as well as the many vacations all over the world.

He leaves to cherish his memory his devoted wife, LaVerne Depte; his children, Douglas Depte and Alyssa Depte Taylor; Ronald Pemberton, Jr. and Na'Imah Depte Beasley; his brother, Deacon Corinthian Depte; sisters-in-law, Crystal Depte, Pamela Depte, Marvine Depte, Deborah Reid, and Martha Reid; brother-in-law, Deacon George Reid Jr.; daughter-in-law, Lorisa Depte, sons-in-law, Richard M. Taylor III; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, grandchildren, extended family members, and lifelong friends. In addition to his parents, Larry was preceded in death by two brothers, James Depte, Jr. and Timothy Depte, Sr.

Larry Douglas Depte Sr.'s legacy cannot be measured only by the companies he helped build, the barriers he broke, or the history he helped create. His legacy lives in every person he encouraged, every opportunity he created, every life he touched, and every generation inspired by his example. Coatesville gave him his roots: — Education gave him the tools — Faith gave him his wings. His life was a testament to what is possible when talent, perseverance, purpose, and love come together. Larry Depte Sr. did not simply witness history. He helped make it.

My Soulmate



If it's meant to be, it will be. I got a late verbal invitation to a friend of friend wedding (Jimmy Bishop, radio personality). I was attending St. Joseph University in their Masters' Program in the evenings, raising my son Ronald on my own, while working at Blue Cross of Philadelphia. I was financially challenged so I wasn't able to purchase a new dress and accessories for the occasion.

Needless to say, with my grey tea length dress, I was totally inappropriately dressed for a formal event. The church wedding was gorgeous and even had Teddy Pendergrass as soloist. I struggled with the idea of not attending the reception. At the reception, I set at a table in the corner where I hoped no one would notice me. After the meal, I had decided to leave early. As I was leaving, Larry stopped me. He smiled and said "don't I know you. For the next 15 minutes, he was determined to remember where he knew me from. When I told him I was graduating from St. Joseph University, he then remembered.

While visiting his friend Irvin Washington (from Coatesville) at his photography studio at Stenton Avenue and Washington Lane, my picture was on display. Irvin quotes Larry, "I am going to find that girl".

I was curious why Larry chose me to talk to when there were so many beautiful women in the room, so I asked him. He said it was because of my pretty smile and my dress. I was the only woman in the room that legs were showing. That was the first time, Larry and I laughed together.

We had our fairytale wedding 42 years ago. When God was making husbands as far as I can see, he made a special soulmate especially for me. There were so many wonderful memories created over the years with Larry, our family and friends.

I am thankful that I was blessed to be his wife and the mother of his children. Although I have to say goodbye for now, I know that my love is ever lasting. Rest in the Lord, my beloved husband. You fought your fight, you carried your burden, and now you can rest in His eternal peace.

Next time we meet it will be at heaven's door, when I see you standing there, I'll put my arms around you and kiss your smiling face, then the pieces of my broken heart will be back in place.



Cherished Memories



ORDER *Of* SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Charles Quann, Officiant
Bethlehem Baptist Church

Rev. Robert R. Jones, Eulogist
Sharon Baptist Church

PRELUDE

Robert Brickhouse

PROCESSIONAL

Clergy & Family

FINAL VIEWING

Family

OPENING MUSIC SELECTION

"I Can Only Imagine"
Cortina Faust/Maureen Pearce

SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 23:1-6
Psalm 24:1-5

Reverend Keith Quick
Taylor Memorial Baptist Church, Phila.

New Testament Reading

John 14:1-6

Reverend Keith Quick

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Rev. Dr. Charles Quann, Sr. Pastor

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Never Would Have Made It"
Cortina Faust/Maureen Pearce

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS,
CONDOLENCES & OBITUARY

Pamela Depte

REFLECTIONS
two & a half minutes

Phillip Asbury
Connie Heigler
Stanley Wilson
Mary Ann Troy
Kenneth Salaam
Chevelle Roman

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Walk Around Heaven"
Cortina Faust/Maureen Pearce

REFLECTIONS
two & a half minutes

Alyssa Depte
Douglas Depte, Jr.
Ronald. Pemberton, Jr.
Timothy Depte, Jr.
Justin Reid
Crystal Depte

MUSICAL SELECTION

"The Battle Is Not Yours"
Cortina Faust/Maureen Pearce

EULOGY

Rev. Robert R. Jones
Sharon Baptist Church, Cumberland, VA

COMMITTAL & BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Charles Quann, Sr. Pastor

RECESSION DIRECTIVES

Ventnor T. Wright
Wright Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc.

RECESSIONAL

"Grateful, Grateful"
Clergy, Family & Congregation

PALLBEARERS

Corinthian Depte, Jr.
Timothy Depte, Jr.
Avant Gardner
Stefon James, Jr.

Frank Johnson
Arthur Morton
Ronald Pemberton, Jr.
LaMont Reid

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Corinthian Depte, Jr.
George Jordan Reid, Sr.
Irwin Washington

FLOWER BEARERS

Family and Friends

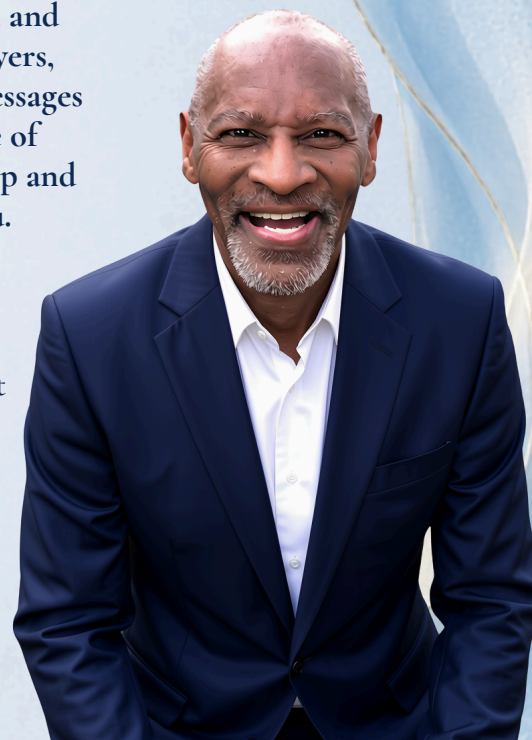
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The family of Larry Douglas Depte, Sr. are grateful and express our deepest appreciation for the many prayers, telephone calls, flowers, comforting condolences, messages and all the other acts of kindness during our time of bereavement. We thank you for your love, friendship and support. May God continue to bless each of you.

REPAST

The family invites you to join them for a repast immediately following the funeral service at

Normandy Farm Hotel & Conference Center
1401 Morris Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422





July 20, 2026

Dear Laverne and the extended Larry Depte Family:

The Temple University Alumni Association extends its heartfelt condolences on the passing of Temple University alumnus, Larry D. Depte, Fox School of Business, accounting, 1972. The TUAA joins the family, friends and wider community in mourning this profound loss.

Larry Depte will be remembered for his work ethic, business acumen, advocacy for underrepresented college students, through leadership and meaningful contributions to the community. His legacy as an entrepreneur will continue to inspire those whose lives he touched.

Larry's numerous professional achievements in the fields of marketing, accounting, record production and supply chain management bring honor to Temple University and serve as an inspiration to others in the pursuit of their Temple degrees.

On behalf of the Temple University Alumni Association, I offer deepest sympathy to the bereaved family of Larry Depte during this difficult time. May they find comfort, strength and peace in the cherished memories they share.

May Larry Depte, esteemed Temple University alumnus and friend, rest in eternal peace.

Cordially,

Christine M. Brady, CLA '88, FOX '96

Director, School and College Programs

Temple University Alumni Association

cbrady02@temple.edu

Dear Dad

It is impossible to put into words what you have meant to us. You were our teacher, our protector, our greatest supporter, and our biggest believer. The greatest gift we were ever given was the privilege of calling you our dad.

You were always there for us. Whether you were picking us up from school, cheering from the sidelines at our track meets and basketball games, taking us on ski trips and family vacations, or spending hours swimming with us, you made us feel safe, loved, and important. Looking back, we realize those weren't just moments. They were the foundation of our childhood.

You prepared us for life in every way you knew how. You even taught us how to defend ourselves through your famous shadow boxing and Taekwondo lessons. We can still hear you saying, "Step on their toe, hit them in the throat, then the solar plexus." Not because you wanted us to fight, but because you wanted us to be strong, confident, and able to protect ourselves.

More than anything, you taught us how to think. You challenged us to be strategic, to work hard, to save for the future, and to never settle for yesterday's version of ourselves. You reminded us that there was always room for improvement and encouraged us to keep trying, to become a little better every single day.

You taught us not to worry about what other people thought and showed us that being underestimated could become our greatest advantage. You loved proving people wrong through quiet determination, and you instilled that same confidence and resilience in us.

Some of our happiest memories are the simple ones, listening to the O'Jays, piling into the car for another adventure, and heading to theme parks to ride the biggest roller coasters we could find. Whenever we were nervous or afraid, you never taught us to run from our fears. You taught us to face them. You showed us that courage isn't about never being afraid; it's about getting on the ride anyway. That lesson has carried us through far more than roller coasters.

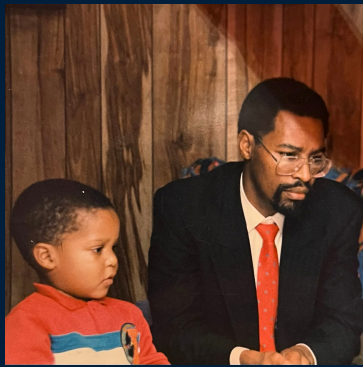
We will always remember watching you light up on the dance floor at weddings, smiling as your favorite songs played, and laughing together as a family. You showed us that while hard work, discipline, and success mattered, so did joy.

The love you shared with Mom was one of the greatest examples you gave us. You were a devoted husband who loved her wholeheartedly, and together you built a family rooted in loyalty, laughter, and unwavering love.

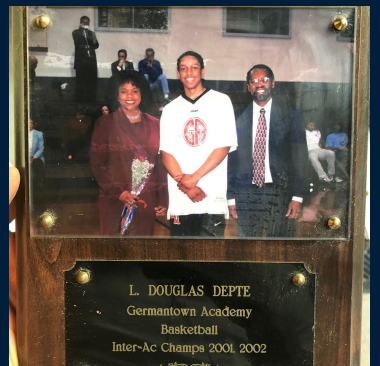
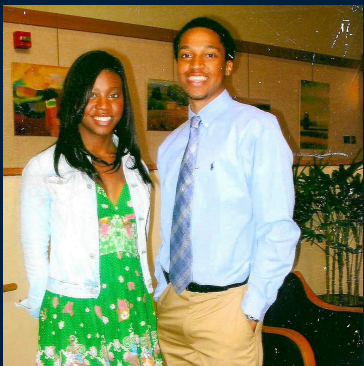
Dad, your legacy isn't found only in your accomplishments. It lives on in the values you instilled in us, the courage you gave us, the wisdom you shared, and the unconditional love you showed every day. Because of you, we are stronger, wiser, more resilient, and more compassionate. We promise to carry your lessons with us, to keep striving to be better than yesterday, to stand up for what is right, to love our families deeply, and to live lives that would make you proud.

We miss you more than words can express, but we know that every time we hear the O'Jays, encourage one another, conquer a fear, or dance with the people we love, a piece of you is still with us. Thank you for being our dad. We will love you, honor you, and carry you in our hearts for the rest of our lives.

With all our love,
Your Children



Larry will forever be remembered for the love, laughter and special moments he shared with those around him. Though deeply missed, the cherished memories he gave us will remain in our hearts forever.





As I Sit In Heaven

As I sit in heaven
and watch you everyday,
I try and let you know with
signs, I never went away.
I hear you when you're
laughing, and I watch
you as you sleep,
I even place my
arms around
you, to calm you as
you weep. I see you
wish the days
away, begging to
have me
home.

So I try and send
you signs, so you know
you're not alone. Don't feel
guilty that you have life.
Life that was denied to me,
Heaven is truly beautiful,
just you wait and see!
So live your life,
laugh again,
enjoy yourself, be free.
Then I'll know with
each breath you
take, you'll be
taking one
for me.

