

A Celebration of Life
LEONARD "L.C." CHARLES
BATES, SR.



SUNRISE
DECEMBER 31, 1946

SUNSET
JUNE 12, 2026

SERVICES HELD
WEDNESDAY JUNE 24, 2026 10:00 A.M.
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
1821 EDMONDS ST
NLR, AR 72117
REV. DR. GEORGE SHEARS III OFFICIATING

HIS LIFE

L.C. (Leonard Charles) Bates Sr. was born in Grady, Arkansas, on December 31, 1946, to the late George and Ledora Bates.

L.C. accepted Christ at an early age and later became a Deacon at New Cavalry Temple COGIC. His faith was not confined to a building: it was the quiet guiding force of his life. Even as his Sunday routines changed, the love of Christ remained deeply rooted in his heart overflowing into consistent, effortless generosity to and for others. He was a graduate of Grady High School Grady, AR. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Philander Smith College Little Rock, AR. Leonard is an Army Veteran serving during the Vietnam Era. After being honorably discharged from the military he worked for Comcast Cable, Reynolds Mining working in several key departments, he ended his work history with the United States Postal Service where he retired with 19yrs of service. Leonard loved working with children, he was known to many of them as Coach Bates. He coached boys and girls AAU Teams named New Tyler Bee's, Glenview Bee's, NLR Stars and Arkansas Sirens (girls). L.C. coached his players to win numerous AAU State Championships he also won National AAU Tournaments with his boys' and girls' teams.

Leonard was preceded in death by his parents George Bates Sr. and Ledora Nelson Bates, one brother George Bates Jr., five sisters Dorothy Green Weekly, Eliose Howard, Earnistine Eason, Betty Jean Bates and Rosie Lee Addison, one daughter LaTanisha Bates, one son Albert Sabb Jr. and one grandson Isaiah Bohanan. He leaves to cherish his memories his wife Caberta L. Brown Bates; four children, Lawanna Bates, Tanita Bell (Dietrich), Leonard Bates Jr. (Kelsi), Nikilah Bates; four grandchildren, Kadence Bates, Kobi Bates, Lessi Bates and Laityn Bates; one sister-in law, Shaunta Belmont-Brown (Timothy Sr.) one brother in-law, William Belmont III; siblings, Mary Young, Josephine Bates, Sally Smith, Thomas Bates and Patsy Bates; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends

L.C. was a devoted husband and father, a loving brother, caring grandfather and a gracious uncle and friend who will always be loved and dearly missed.

ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL

SCRIPTURE READING – REV. BRUCE CALDWELL

PRAYER – PASTOR JOHN DELAWARE

SELECTION – VALERIE KEENER

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT –

MINISTER VALERIE SETTLERS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS –

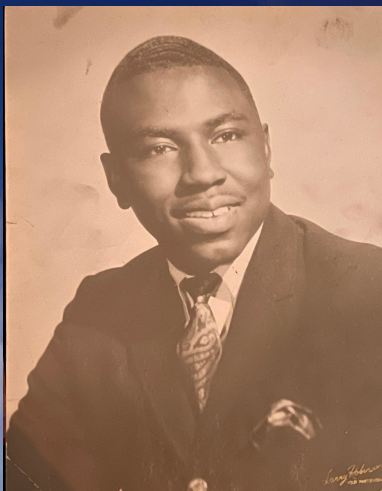
SHAUNTA N. BELMONT -BROWN

SELECTIONS – NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

OBITUARY – SOFT MUSIC – READ IN SILENCE

EULOGY – REV. DR. GEORGE SHEARS III

RECESSIONAL – FUNERAL DIRECTOR IN CHARGE



ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

BRODERICK PARKER

ANWAR HARDIN

KEVIN WATKINS

CLIFTON JACKSON

EDWARD HOUSTON

TERRY KEYKENDALL

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

LEONARD BATES JR.

TIMOTHY E BROWN JR.

WILLIAM A. BELMONT IV

M. RANDY RICE

THOMAS BATES

MARCUS SIMS

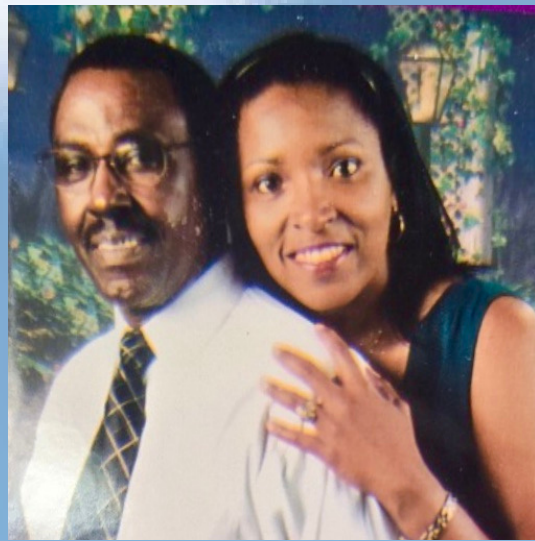
BYRON BRENT

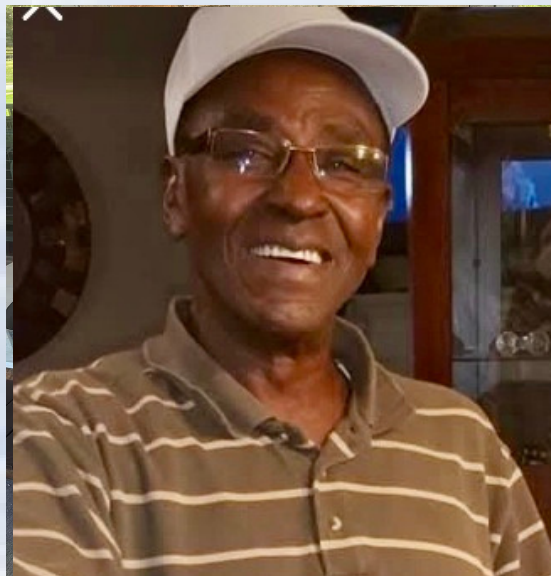
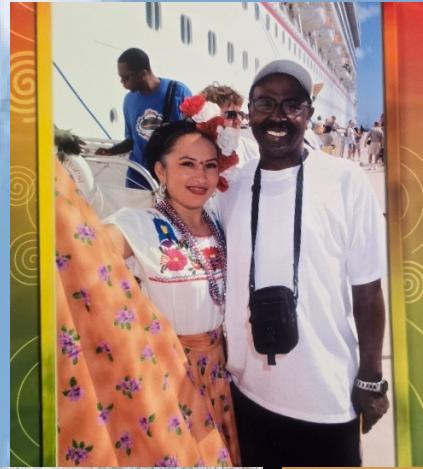
ALL PLAYERS OF THE AAU TEAMS HE COACHED:
NEW TYLER BEE'S, GLENVIEW BEE'S, NLR STARS AND
ARKANSAS SIRENS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE FAMILY OF L.C. BATES SR. WOULD LIKE TO TAKE
THIS TIME TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR LOVE AND
SUPPORT DURING OUR TIME OF BEREAVEMENT. WE
SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR FRIENDLY SMILES,
CASUAL TOUCH, PRAYERS, CALLS, VISITS, MONETARY
GIFTS, AND PLANTS. GOD GIVES US COMFORT IN THE
FORM OF FAMILY AND CLOSE FRIENDS.

REMEMBER: L. C. BATES LOVED AND CARED
EFFORTLESSLY, LET'S FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS.





Thoughts of Love

For twenty-six years, we walked hand in hand, building a life filled with love, faith, and family. You were my strength in difficult times, and my constant companion through every season. You gave your heart freely, LOVED deeply, and lived with supreme purpose effortlessly. The memories we created together are treasures that time can never erase and death can never take away. Though my heart aches in your absence, I am grateful for every moment we shared, every lesson we learned, and every dream we pursued together. I am forever grateful for the years we shared and the love that will remain with me always.

Until we meet again, my love,
Your wife Tanya

Dad, I was your first born and you were my first love. Even though it hurts that I won't hear your voice or see that smile again on your face my memories of you will forever live in my heart. You were the BEST DAD any kid could ask for and one that many kids wished they had. Take your rest my HERO you will truly be missed but never forgotten.

Your 1st born, Lawanna Love you

Daddy, please continue to cover us, your children, in death as you did in life! No blessing we receive henceforth will be greater than your presence. You have left a hole in ALL our hearts that will never be filled. That only means that you did your big one when it came to loving your children!! You were so good at loving us that WE all feel we were your favorite when actuality it was always ME!! Leonard Charles Bates Sr., you may be gone but you will NEVER be forgotten. You are truly The Man, The Myth, The Legend of Fatherhood! I will continue to LOVE YOU beyond my lifetime.

Tanita Bell your Favorite

Thank you for the early mornings, "a man who don't work don't eat". Whether it was to get up to cut some grass, chop some wood, or ride with you to Home Depot. Just to walk up & down the same aisles for no reason. Thank you for the mornings when you'd say "put some sleeves on let's go get em", whether hunting or fishing I was excited.

Thank you for showing me discipline, chivalry, forgiveness, and how to be giving. I'm so grateful of the time and memories you were able to make with the girls. It was only a glimpse of what you could offer but they enjoyed every moment. They all love pawpawG!

Rest easy Daddy, you earned it!
Love Leonard Jr., Kelsi & the Gbabies

Daddy, it feels impossible to write this. It's only been a few days since you left us, but somehow it feels like a lifetime. The world keeps moving, yet mine stopped the moment you took your last breath. As your baby girl, I never imagined a day without you. You were my world, my safe place, and the one person whose was always in my corner. Your love was constant, and I will spend the rest of my life being grateful for that. Not only am I heartbroken daddy, but I'm lost. I don't know how to do life without you, so please continue to guide me through the days ahead. I hope you're proud of me and I hope I've made you smile more than I've made you worry. I promise to carry your strength, wisdom, and love with me always. Thank you for being the best daddy I could have ever asked for and thank you for loving me unconditionally. Though you left us on June 12, 2026, at 12:54 p.m., your love will stay with me forever. I miss you more than words can say, and I will love you for the rest of my life.

Forever your Baby Girl, Kilah ❤️



INTERMENT



LITTLE ROCK NATIONAL CEMETERY

2523 SPRINGER BLVD

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72206

**THE FAMILY WILL RETURN TO NEW HOPE
CHURCH FOR REPASS**

1821 EDMONDS ST

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72117

SERVICE ENTRUSTED TO:

SMITH NORTH LITTLE ROCK FUNERAL HOME

1921 MAIN STREET

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR 72114



SMITH

FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES

CELEBRATING LIFE