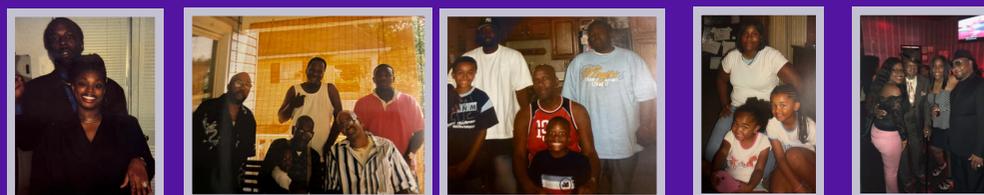


CELEBRATING A LIFE OF SILVER-LINED MEMORIES

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS



PALLBEARERS

Shannon Draine | KT Draine, Jr. | Julian Draine
Samuel Draine | Mariah Draine | DeVante Draine

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Damarko Young | Davante' Draine | Lavon Draine, Jr.
Carl Thomas | Rogelio Hackett, Sr. | William Draine, Jr.
Davario Edwards

FLOWER BEARERS

Friends of the Family

INTERMENT

Forest Lawn Cemetery
3210 South Washington Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family wishes to thank our relatives and friends for their kind expressions of concern and heartfelt sympathy during our bereavement. May God richly bless each of you. Thank you.

“THE FAMILY”



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
MR. LAVON DRAINE
SUNRISE: JULY 14, 1952 - SUNSET: JUNE 5, 2025

12:00 PM TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025

PARADISE FUNERAL CHAPEL
3100 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVENUE
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48601

PASTOR WILLIE R. HILL, JR. OFFICIATING



Paradise Funeral Chapel
3100 South Washington Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48601
Phone (989) 754-4826 / Fax (989) 754-3740
pfsaginaw@paradisefuneralchapel.com
Sharise Steele-Phillips, Manager
Ivan E. Phillips, President & Owner



O B I T U A R Y

Mr. Lavon Draine, 72, of Lilburn, GA, passed away peacefully at his home on June 5th, 2025. Though his passing was unexpected, the warmth of his spirit and the joy he shared with others continue to shine in the hearts of all who knew him.

He was born on July 14, 1952, in Eupora, Mississippi, to Samuel T. and Catherine Draine and was raised in Saginaw, Michigan, where he grew into the vibrant, unforgettable man so many knew and loved. From a young age, Lavon carried with him the values of hard work, family, and faith—principles that shaped the way he lived and the way he loved.

Lavon was known for his magnetic personality, unshakable sense of humor, and sharp sense of style. He had a gift for saying exactly what was on his mind—and usually making everyone laugh while doing it. A man with a big heart and an even bigger presence, Lavon never met a stranger. He made people feel seen, special, and he always left a lasting impression.

Lavon was a devoted member of Salem Missionary Baptist Church, where he worshipped faithfully for many years. Even as his health began to decline, his heart remained in the sanctuary—he longed to be there, surrounded by the church family he loved. His faith never wavered, and he continued to trust in God through every season of life.

He attended Saginaw High School, graduating in 1970, where he was proud to play football and enjoyed being part of the team.

Over the years, Lavon built a strong and steady career at General Motors, where he worked with pride, dedication, and a true sense of purpose until his retirement. He was respected for his work ethic and natural leadership, but it was his charisma and humor that truly set him apart. Whether he was offering a few wise words, cracking a perfectly timed joke, or dropping one of his unforgettable one-liners, Lavon had a way of lifting spirits and making the workplace feel like family. His presence brought not only skill to the job—but heart, laughter, and lasting memories.

He was the proud father of four children, each from different chapters of his life. Lavon Draine Jr., Carl Thomas, and Ashley Hackett. Lavon and Karen Gainer joined in marriage, and from their union came Samuel D. Draine. He loved his children and grandchildren like no other and was always there when they needed him. No matter the time or situation, he showed up, stood by them, and made sure they knew he had their backs every step of the way.

Lavon loved life and lived it fully. Someone who truly lit up every room he entered. He enjoyed bringing joy to those around him with his infectious energy. He had a passion for music and could often be found singing and dancing. He also had an impeccable sense of style and took great pride in always being sharply dressed. Whether it was a family gathering or just a regular day, Lavon showed up looking his

best, with a smile, a song, and a story to tell. His style was second only to his charisma. Lavon had a knack for trying his luck with the lottery and scratch-offs, often surprising friends and family with his frequent wins. It wasn't just a game to him -it was a playful way he embraced life's little surprises, always hopeful and never short on optimism.

What truly set Lavon apart was his ability to connect with others. With his quick wit, a saying for every situation, and a heart full of love, he brought joy wherever he went. His spirit lives on in the laughter he gave, the lessons he taught, and the warmth he shared with everyone he met. Lavon was unforgettable—once you met him, you never forgot him. One of his favorite sayings was, “Life is good” - a simple phrase that spoke volumes about how he saw the world. Lavon lived with joy, gratitude, and a deep appreciation for the people and moments that made life meaningful. His spirit lives on in every laugh he shared and every heart he touched.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Draine (GA); children: Lavon Jr. (Tina) Draine (OH), Carl Thomas (IN), Ashley (Rogelio Sr.) Hackett, and Samuel D. Draine; grandchildren: Devante, Tiana, and Mariah of Ohio; Laila, Ava, Rogelio Jr., and True of Georgia, Riley, Kaelyn, and Carl Jr. of Indiana; siblings, Pastor K.T. Draine (MI), Margaret Carter (NV), and Linda Washington (MS); special friends, Eddie Bandy, cousin Scotty Floyd, and aunt Decee Bingham (MS); a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel T. and Catherine Draine; brothers Clyde Draine, Napoleon Draine, and Curtis Johnson; sister Glenda Mae Draine; and nephew Leonard Evans.

The family would like to express special thanks to Divine Mortuary and staff of Lithonia, Georgia; Paradise Funeral Chapel and staff of Saginaw, Michigan; and Forest Lawn Cemetery and staff of Saginaw, Michigan.



“LIFE IS GOOD” -
MR. LAVON DRAINE

O R D E R O F S E R V I C E

Prelude Demona Draine, Musician
Processional Family
Scripture Reading Old & New Testament Minister
Prayer Minister
SelectionDaVante Drain
Acknowledgements & Obituary Nataki McKinnon
Expressions (Please Limit to 2 Minutes) Family & Friends
Selection Demona Reed
EulogyPastor Willie R. Hill, Jr.
Mt. Nebo Baptist Church

Committal | Benediction | Recessional

Safely Home

*I am home in heaven, dear ones;
Oh so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.*

*All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in heaven at last.*

*Did you wonder how I so calmly
Trode the valley of the shade?
Oh, but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.*

*And he came himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread.
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?*

*Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still.
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's will.*

*There is work still waiting for you,
So, you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remains,
You shall rest in Jesus' land.*

*When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home.
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!*