



Derek Teel

September 18, 1962 - September 3, 2025

Derek Gerard Teel was born September 18, 1962, in New Haven CT to the late Arthur Earl Teel and the late Minister Doris Jean Hardy-Teel. Derek unexpectedly entered eternal rest on Wednesday September 3, 2025, at the age of 62.

Derek graduated from Richard C. Lee High School Class of 1982. He went on to work at North Haven Tile and Congress Market in New Haven among other jobs. Derek was Hill-Born and Raised...and Proud of it!!

Derek was an avid – IN YOUR FACE – Dallas Cowboy Fan! He loved his team...win or lose. He enjoyed watching and playing football with his brothers growing up. Playing basketball with his brothers and friends in Davenport Park was a regular pastime growing up. It was common to see Derek manning the grill at family cookouts. He was such a significant presence in our everyday lives.

Derek was known to help others by doing all kinds of handy man jobs. He's been tagged the Neighborhood Superman: if it's broke, he would fix it. If something needed doing, he did it, from the smallest to the biggest, no task was too small or too big. He was the one everybody depended on.

His remarkable spirit touched the hearts of everyone he met, leaving an indelible impression on the lives of those he touched. His compassion to help

others never went unnoticed, his loving heart allowed him to be everyone's favorite, his playful spirit made anyone in his presence laugh – even when he was trying to be serious. Friends and family always knew they could count on him to not only come through, but to take his time and perfect his craft!

Although this loss is difficult, we find solace in the memories of his extraordinary life that we have been blessed to be a part of. He was not just a son, a father, a grandfather, an uncle and a brother but he was also a friend.

He approached every endeavor with dedication, pride and humility. His legacy will live on thru the love and loyalty he showed to those around him, and he will be forever remembered for his kindness and devotion.

He leaves to cherish his memory son Maurice Weston, granddaughter Zianah Powell; 3 sisters Carol and Vicky Teel; Krista Teel Yates Levant (Bernard); 5 brothers Gregory, Michael, Tracy, Anthony, & Brian Teel, 1 Aunt- Shirley Rae Smith 17 nieces & nephews, 26 great-nieces & nephews, 1 great-great niece, 1 great-great nephew, his mother figure Shirley Stevens aka Nana and his special friend Diane James.

He was predeceased by his father, Arthur Earl Teel, his mother Minister Doris Jean Hardy Teel and brother Kevin D. Teel.

Rest easy, Derek. You will forever be a part of our story. Your presence will forever be the cornerstone of our community, and you will always and forever live in our hearts.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Calling Hour

SEP 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Tabernacle Baptist Church
425 Newhall Street.
Hamden, CT 06517

Funeral Service

SEP 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Tabernacle Baptist Church
425 Newhall Street.
Hamden, CT 06517

Tribute Wall

BJ

“ *Beatrice Jackson lit a candle in memory of Derek Teel*



Beatrice Jackson - September 25, 2025 at 09:20 PM

IA

“ *Peace and loving memories to the family. From your cousins In Atlanta Georgia.*

Isoke Ambidwile - September 17, 2025 at 05:29 PM

DM

“ *Derek, growing up in the Hill and having mad fun and playing ball at Davenport Park back in the day. Now my Brother you can Rest Easy..*

Doug Mills - September 17, 2025 at 11:51 AM

GJ

“ *My Nevsta. Friends for life. Love ya always. You are a great memory for the community. Wonderful man. Great friend. The children of all age Loved you and you definitely made a difference. Rest Now... see you one day. Much Love From Greta Nate Nigel and Quinton. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️*

Greta Johnson - September 17, 2025 at 09:36 AM

RM

He Was My Classmate and A Friend And A Cool Dude, God bless him and his family RIP 🙏

Russell McNair - September 18, 2025 at 02:37 AM

MC

“ *Mildred Cannon lit a candle in memory of Derek Teel*



Mildred Cannon - September 16, 2025 at 06:59 PM

MC

“ *To the Teel Family,
We are thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers. May God strengthen and comfort you as only He can.
With deepest condolence,
Mildred, Milton, Stacey, Tarja and Tyrell (the Cannon Family)*

Mildred Cannon - September 16, 2025 at 06:58 PM

BH

“ *My Condolences to the Teel Family,
The obituary was perfect, Derek was a great guy and a great friend playing basketball ball at Davenport Park, the fun, the laughter, and the friendship was very special. Rest with God bro in total peace*

Billy Horne - September 16, 2025 at 09:57 AM

BB

“ *Carol, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I'm so sorry for your loss. May the memories and love you shared with "Derek" bring you all comfort and strength during this difficult time. God promised, "He will never leave us nor forsake us." Sending love and hugs* ❤️❤️🙏🙏

Beth Bynum - September 16, 2025 at 07:46 AM

DK

“ Derek, You will be missed. Take your rest cousin. Praying for my family. Love you guys.
Love Wani



Dawn Kesselbach - September 15, 2025 at 08:51 PM

MC

“ Derek has been a good friend since childhood. We shared countless memories together that I will always cherish. He was my “go to guy” from team sports in the park to a helping hand around the house. I will truly miss the great conversations we often had. Rest well my good friend 🙏

Melvin Counsel - September 15, 2025 at 08:05 PM

DJ

“ Some of my favorite moments with Uncle Derek were baking Halloween cookies or watching our favorite Christmas shows whenever we could! He was the best babysitter and one of the biggest supporters in my life. I’m so lucky my son got to meet the amazing man I was blessed to have in my life <3 I love you Uncle Derek ALWAYS AND FOREVER!

dj - September 15, 2025 at 07:45 PM

JM

“ Derek has been like a brother from another mother to me for over 50 years. He was funny, kindhearted and had such a great sense of humor. He could be overprotective at times, but that made me love ❤️ him even more during my teenage years. Derek was also my landscaper for years and he had the weirdest thing about ripping off the corner of his money 🪙 for good luck 🍀. My heart is broken 💔 to know that he's no longer with us, but my soul is rejoicing that he's no longer suffering 🙏. Welcome to heaven big brother. Heaven is a much better place because they have you now .



Jeannette Mills - September 15, 2025 at 06:52 PM

WD

“ My condolences to our family. God watch over us all as we go through this difficult time of grieving.



Wanda D. Dawson - September 15, 2025 at 04:10 PM

SM

“ To the Teel Family: You are lifted up in prayer at this most difficult time. Carol you have a loving spirit to hold the family together like Derek. Strength like no other.
Love The Moody Family



Sylvia Davis moody - September 15, 2025 at 03:48 PM

D-

“ My sincere Condolences to the family, truly sorry for your loss 🙏🌺🌻



Denetrice White -Hall - September 15, 2025 at 01:34 PM

MK

Krista, Carol and family, you have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your brother. May all those beautiful memories continue to be with you.

Mildred Kenny - September 16, 2025 at 08:36 PM