



James Strong Sr.

September 17, 1946 - January 10, 2025

Obituary

Minister James Douglas Strong Sr.

September 17, 1946 – January 10, 2025

Minister James Douglas Strong Sr., affectionately known as Nicky, Jim, Jimmy, Uncle Jimby, Uncle Jim, Dad, Daddy, Grandpa, Pop Pop, and Hon peacefully departed this life, leaving behind a legacy of love, service, and faith. Born on September 17, 1946, in Greensboro, North Carolina, to the late Ethel Strong (Harper) and Aaron Strong, James was a beloved son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many.

James grew up alongside his siblings Theodore (Annie Reeves), Edward Earl (Eula), Freddie, Aaron Jr., James Kenneth (Virginia), Eileen Rouse (Clarence), and Mary Ethel Moye (Roger).

He attended elementary school in Lenoir County, North Carolina, before relocating to Connecticut, where he furthered his education at Lincoln Bassett School, Wilbur Cross High School, and South-Central Community College.

A life of service defined James, beginning with his enlistment in the U.S. Army in 1967. As a Specialist Fourth Class (SP4), he served his country honorably as an Ammunition Storage Specialist (MOS: 55B20). His dedication was recognized with several commendations, including the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal.

James worked for Rockbestos Surprenant Company for over Fifty years where he specialized in welding and met his wife Carol Parker Strong. When

the company moved, James made the journey to East Granby from New Haven. He made long commutes until his retirement in 2012.

James lived a life deeply rooted in love and devotion to his family. He was the proud father of 15 children and fostered countless others. Alongside his loving wife, Carol Parker Strong, James offered a safe and nurturing home. Their extraordinary commitment to children was honored in 2004 with the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institutes Angels in Adoption award. A man of unwavering faith, James accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior at a young age. He was most recently a devoted member of Ark of Refuge Reaching Out Ministries in New Haven, under the tutelage of Pastor James T. Harris. He was a faithful member and served as the Men's President until his health declined.

James found joy in simple pleasures, including bowling, fishing, whittling sling shots, and watching tennis and basketball.

James' quiet and cool demeanor was complimented by his wisdom, humor, and steadfast support for others. He never missed an opportunity to show up for those in need, leaving an indelible mark on everyone he encountered. His life's work was defined by his love for family, his investment in his children and grandchildren, and his commitment to friends and the community.

James is survived by his devoted wife, Carol Parker Strong, his children James Jr., Doreen, Johnathan, Icess, Aesha Cartier, Aaron, Jennifer, Sharee Parker Jones (Travis), Johnae, Achaunti, Isaiah, Donashja, Gianni, Gianna, and a special bonus daughter, Ashley James; his grandchildren Adrian Strong, Tomah, Henrietta, Reggie, Trevor Hicks, Arthur Nelson, Tyler, Roosevelt, Octavia, Joel, Aaron, Aariana, Drayce, Davyon, Amare, Za'riyah, Kaseem, Mi 'amor, and Za'rayah; great grandchildren his godchildren, his sister Mary Ethel, nieces, nephews, and a host of extended family and friends who will cherish his memory. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ethel and Aaron Strong, and his siblings Theodore, Edward Earl, Freddie, Aaron Jr., James Kenneth, and Eileen Rouse.

A celebration of James's life will be held on January 22, 2025, at Life

Changing Outreach Ministries located at 30 Montowese Ave North Haven, CT 06473. The family kindly requests that flowers be sent to McClam Funeral Home, located at 95 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511.

Minister James Douglas Strong Sr. will be forever remembered for his selfless service, boundless love, and enduring faith. He fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith (2Timothy 4:7).

Cemetery Details

Connecticut State Veterans Cemetery

317 Bow Lane
Middletown, CT 06457

Previous Events

Calling Hour

JAN 22. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Life Changing Outreach Ministries
30 Montowese Ave.
North Haven , CT 06473

Funeral Service

JAN 22. 10:00 AM (ET)

Life Changing Outreach Ministries
30 Montowese Ave.
North Haven , CT 06473

Tribute Wall

AJ

“ When I think of Jim all I can say is, "A True Gentleman". Jim was a phenomenal father, husband, mentor and friend to many. My sincerest condolences to Carol and the family. My prayers are with you now and forever. There will never be another Jim Strong Sr.. Sincerely, Antoinette, Tre', Rashard and Michelle.

Antoinette Jones-Perry - January 31, 2025 at 08:25 AM

JO

“ He was a protector & a provider.

Johnae - January 22, 2025 at 11:05 PM

MO

“ Jim was such a nice man . He was a great father and husband. My sincerest condolences to Carol and the family. My prayers to you and your all. 🙏🙏🙏. - Sincerely Monica and Family

Monica Osborn - January 22, 2025 at 06:40 PM

GS

“ Remember Nicky from the projects. Always respectful and serious as a young boy. If someone was bothering us we would yell “Nicky “ and run toward him lol. I remember his Moms beautiful smile. Heartfelt condolences to the family. He was definitely a gentle giant to us younger kids.

Gloria Saulsbury - January 22, 2025 at 11:25 AM

BD

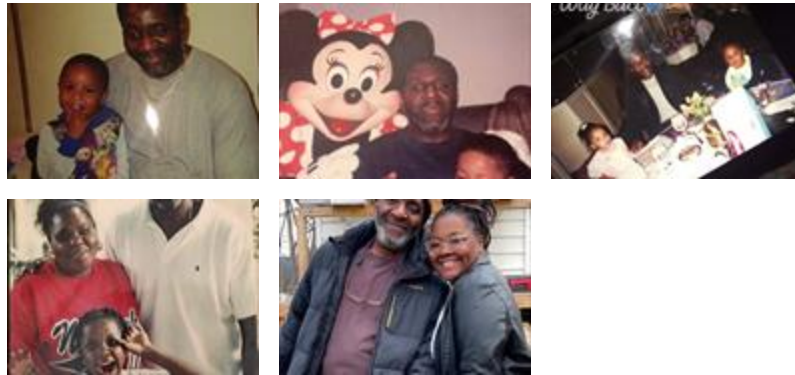
“ Me and the family send our dearest condolences to you and the family..I love you guys



Brittany Dasher - January 22, 2025 at 10:33 AM

AS

“ Lov u forever



achaunti strong - January 21, 2025 at 04:00 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of James Strong Sr..



January 21, 2025 at 03:22 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Strong Sr..

January 21, 2025 at 03:22 PM

JS

“ *Julie R, Maribel S. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James Strong Sr..*



Julie R, Maribel S. - January 21, 2025 at 02:51 PM

VS

“ *Virginia, Geraldine and Tyrone Strong purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of James Strong Sr..*



Virginia, Geraldine and Tyrone Strong - January 21, 2025 at 02:23 PM