



Pastor Loyel Downer

January 1, 1940 - June 17, 2025

Pastor Loyel Winston Downer was called home to be with the Lord on June 16, 2025, in Hamden, Connecticut, at the age of 85.

Born on January 1, 1940, in Albert Town Trelawny, Jamaica, and later become Citizen of the United States of America. Pastor Downer, as he was affectionately called, life was a beautiful testament to faith, family, friends and service. He was a wonderful son, a devoted husband, a loving father, friend and a faithful shepherd of the Gospel.

Throughout his life, “Winston” (Pastor Loyel Downer) exemplified hard work and perseverance. He was employed at Pratt & Whitney, Grabel and C&V Trucking, among other companies all while establishing his own successful business, Downer Shipping Company. Through his dedication and warm spirit, he became fondly known as “Barrell Man Winston,” a trusted name in Connecticut and New York, for over 40 years.

While he had a zeal for life unlike any other, Winston’s (Pastor Downer) greatest passion was his love for the Lord. He lived his life boldly for Christ, always sharing the Gospel with humility and conviction. His deepest wish was for all his children and loved ones to come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Loyel Winston Downer served faithfully in ministry for most of his life, most notably as Pastor of Our Lord Cometh Ministries, where he led alongside his wife, Lady Sophia Downer, with love and

unwavering faith for several decades.

In the journey of his life, he touched many people through his strength of faith, wealth of character, humble graciousness, and bubbly personality. Activities surrounding baseball, packing barrels, singing, playing the drums and good food brought him great joy. He never met a stranger wherever he went. He was extremely proud of his family and cherished each moment shared, never parting without a heartfelt, God bless you, oftentimes tearful goodbye. His kindness, strength, and deep devotion to God and family leave a lasting imprint on all who had the honor of knowing him.

He was preceded in death by his beloved son Dave Downer, his parents Mabel (Lisa) Johnson and Cecil Downer, his sister (Cassidy) Eugenny Anderson, and his brother Jimmy Walcott.

Priceless memories will forever be etched in the hearts of so many such as his loving and devoted wife Sophia Downer, his children Nadine Downer, Alvin Downer (Demeris), Raymond Downer, Dwight Downer, Karena Downer, Norman Downer (Kia), and Desmond Downer, and his brother, Wycliffe Brown. He was also a cherished father figure to his bonus children: Calisa Kennedy, Nicole Moodie, and Shane Allan. His legacy continues through his 24 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Cemetery Details

Beaverdale Memorial Park

90 Pine Rock Avenue
New Haven, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hour

JUL 5. 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM (ET)

Christian Fellowship Church of God
600 Jones Hill Road
West Haven, CT 06516

Funeral Service

JUL 5. 9:00 AM (ET)

Christian Fellowship Church of God
600 Jones Hill Road
West Haven, CT 06516

Tribute Wall

FL

“ Blessings and Love Always to Lady Sophia, The Downer Family and Our Lord Cometh Church Family! My pastor, my Friend and my Buddy: Pastor Loyel Winston Downer is truly missed! I give God Praises for blessing my life with such a great leader/pastor who was sold out for the Lord! A true Soldier/Warrior in God's Kingdom! A praying, singing and definitely praising true Man of God! No matter where, when and who's around, pastor Downer will always give God Praise! I will miss his infectious laugh and great spirit! I will miss teasing with him about 95 going North and South and we both needed to visit each other more often. Lol. I will always be grateful of Pastor and Lady Downer and several members of the church who drove to NJ to support me graduating from nursing school. Their support and love put a smile on my heart as well as my face! He loved serving and supporting God's people with more than lip service. I believe he intentionally looked for people to help and serve in and outside the church. Pastor Downer was a great example of what "Saved to Serve" really means. He practiced what he preached! I thank the Lord for great hallelujah memories made with Our Lord church family under his leadership. Pastor Downer will always be cherished and never forgotten! Lady Downer I love you and we will surely continue our friendship and sisterhood! Remember, I am only a phone call or text away! ❤️❤️❤️



Faith Lamb - July 05, 2025 at 09:29 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pastor Loyel Downer.*



June 30, 2025 at 01:05 PM



“ *Hello to lady downer & family was looking forward to come visit with pastor downer & lady downer this year 2025 I will never forget many times pastor & lady downer would always tell me you need to come Church & let lord bless you with a wife & Brother Delroy also member of pastor downer church would always ask pastor downer about when would see pastor at work he let me know Brother delroy ask about me but now both sevent of the lord 🙏 are r.i p. Donald. Cleveland.tn.*



Donald whitted - June 25, 2025 at 09:20 PM

DW

“ Hello to Pastor Winton Downer family just happened to be looking at the Connecticut obituary was very heart broken to see the passing of Pastor Downer. I Just tried calling Pastor Downer a few days before Father's Day but. I didn't receive a respond. Wow we both worked at C&V trucking drive in tractor trailer. I can still remember the day when Pastor Downer first started driving. at C & V Trucking North Haven/ Milford, CT. Wow sometimes on weekends Pastor Downer myself & Greg West. would take his box truck full of barrels full of shoes to Brooklyn NY. to be shipped out many weekends Pastor Downer and I would run empty containers from yard to NJ Security Yard and bring full containers loads back to for local deliveries last time I visited Connecticut in 2022 I stop by Pastor Downer home in Hamden CT Pastor Downer love to speak about the bible I remember seeing. Pastor Downer playing the drums at his Church on Beers Street New Haven, CT late Happy Father's Day Pastor Downer continue R.I.P.. 🙏 Downer Family stay blessed 🙏 Donald. Cleveland, TN

Donald whitted - June 24, 2025 at 06:58 PM

AW

“ My fondest memory of my brother-in-law is when he baptized his now deceased brother Hector and I in our pool that was such a special day for us and I could see how happy he was in doing so....God bless his soul! 🙏❤️
Alda Walcott and family,



Alda Walcott - June 24, 2025 at 01:18 AM

CG

“ Condolence Message:

I am deeply saddened by the passing of my dear friend, Pastor Downer. He was a truly remarkable person, kind, generous, and full of life. His presence brought warmth and joy to everyone around him, and his memory will forever live on in our hearts.

To his beloved wife, Lady Downer, children, and grandchildren, please accept my heartfelt condolences. I hope you find comfort in the love that surrounds you and strength in the legacy he leaves behind.

May his soul rest in eternal peace, and may you be uplifted by the cherished memories you shared together.

*With deepest sympathy,
The Greaves' Family*

Constance Greaves - June 23, 2025 at 03:38 PM