



Riley Lewis Jr.

March 12, 1931 - June 16, 2025

Riley Lewis was called home and was granted everlasting peace on June 16, 2025 at Yale New Haven Hospital. He was born on March 12, 1931 to the late Riley Lewis Sr. and Rosa and stepfather, Danridge Fairchild.

Riley was born and lived in Orange County Virginia. He attended Diggs, one room school in Orange County Va. and later attended John J Wright School Spotsylvania, Va. He worked various jobs until moving to New Haven, Ct. at the age of 18. He worked at Cohen Powell for many years until meeting the love of his life Margaret Garner and married her May 5, 1979. He worked for Cohen Powell for over 40 years and then worked for Global trucking until he and Margaret started their own moving business. They leased a truck from Mayflower Van Line and started Lewis and Lewis Enterprise. They were known as the dynamic duo for over 15 years working traveling around the world together. After retiring from his own trucking business, he started working part time for Jimmy Cottrell trucking company for several years doing what he loved until his health decline. Riley was a great man of God, he joined and attended Union Temple church in 2008 and did whatever was needed of him in the ministry like driving the church van, ushering and working in the food pantry.

Riley leaves a legacy of love, two sons Vincent Garner of New Haven, CT., Brian Colburn of New Haven, CT. one daughter Shelia Staples of

Fredericksburg, VA., six sisters Betty Pierce of Spotsylvania, VA., Evelyn Brown of Fredericksburg, VA., Laura Green Fredericksburg, VA., Carrie Tallie (Jimmy) of Spotsylvania, VA., Bernice Fairchild Lawson (William) of Locust Grove, VA., Rosa Fairchild of Fredericksburg, VA., two sister-in-law, Lucille Carter Lewis and Joanne Lewis, brother-in-law Melvin Smith of Spotsylvania, VA., fourteen grandchildren, and eighteen great grandchildren.

A host of nieces and nephews. A loving niece, Alice Perry-Jordan and nephew, Daniel Perry who loved him like a father and care for him the way their Aunt Margaret would have been well pleased in the care they provided for him. Longtime friends Charley Brown James Reynolds, Jeff Sprow. He would always visit his family in Virginia riding around checking on his sister-in-law Lucille Carter Lewis and other family members.

He was predeceased by his parents; Riley Sr and Rosa. His wife; Margaret Lewis, daughter; Rosalind Lewis, sons; Franklin Lewis and Kevin Lewis, brothers; Russell, Sam, Joe, Paul Lewis. Sister; Perlene Smith and brothers-in-law; Ralph Pierce and Milton Brown. Sisters-in-law, Martha Lewis and Pat Lewis

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

769 Ella T Grasso Blvd
New Haven, CT 06519
(203) 624-5505

Previous Events

Calling Hour

JUN 28. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Union Temple Baptist Church
54 Platt Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Funeral Service

JUN 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

Union Temple Baptist Church
54 Platt Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Tribute Wall

P(

“ Patricia A DeWitt (UTC) lit a candle in memory of Riley Lewis



Patricia A DeWitt (UTC) - June 28, 2025 at 08:38 PM

DS

“ Our sincerest condolences to the Perry and Garner family. Our thoughts and prayers with you all. Much love from The Stanley Family❤️

Denise Stanley - June 28, 2025 at 09:27 AM

CM

“ Charlene Melton lit a candle in memory of Riley Lewis



Charlene Melton - June 27, 2025 at 07:45 PM

SC

“ Shonda Newman & Precious Cole lit a candle in memory of Riley Lewis



Shonda Newman & Precious Cole - June 27, 2025 at 09:38 AM

BN

“ Praying For the Entire Family!



Barbara Newman(Peanut - June 27, 2025 at 09:36 AM

PE

“ Prayer of Comfort and Strength to the Entire Family and Many Friends. May God Grant Each One of You the Strength and Comfort that You Need to Make It Through This Difficult Time and Alllll The Days Forward!



PebblesNewman-Cole - June 27, 2025 at 09:34 AM

SJ

“ Rest well my dear friend. Your by Sis. Lewis side again!!!

Shirley Joyner - June 27, 2025 at 09:10 AM

BG

“ It saddens me to no longer share the closeness and support you have always given since I've known you. Always willing to guide and give your heart to help others have a better life. My deepest condolences to the family. You are missed. Betty Garner

Betty Garner - June 26, 2025 at 04:21 PM

BG

“ *Betty Garner lit a candle in memory of Riley Lewis*



Betty Garner - June 26, 2025 at 02:08 PM

HS

“ *I sure will miss you with that signature tooth pick in your mouth or sitting in the back yard in your car love you and rip fly high with the angels 🙏praying for or the family*



hazel strain - June 25, 2025 at 11:37 AM

LG

“ *Laura Green lit a candle in memory of Riley Lewis*



Laura Green - June 24, 2025 at 02:00 PM

TP

“ *Rest In Paradise. Prayers to the family. My condolences.*

Travis Perry - June 24, 2025 at 01:14 PM

PL

My condolences to the family

Patrice lewis - June 27, 2025 at 06:25 AM