



Willie C. Mewborn Sr.

August 8, 1939 - December 25, 2022

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.” Psalm 23

Willie Carey Mewborn, Sr. of Hamden, Connecticut peacefully entered eternal rest on our precious Lord’s birthday Sunday, December 25, 2022.

Willie C. was the first-born child to the late Lossie Bell (Mewborn) Williams and Horace Pugh on August 8th, 1939, in Ayden, North Carolina, better also known as Pitt County.

Willie C. was a graduate of South Ayden High School in Ayden, North Carolina. In 1960; he moved to New Haven, Connecticut to make a better life for his family.

After working various jobs, Willie C. decided to pursue a career in Cosmetology and attended Vaughn Barber College in Hartford, Connecticut.

He eventually continued his education at Kaynor Technical School in Waterbury, Connecticut where he studied Business, with the intention of owning his own business. In 1980, he achieved his dream by opening Willie C's Unisex Barbershop on Dixwell Avenue, a staple of New Haven known far and wide.

Willie C. was blessed to work alongside his son Billy, where they both have been stellar representatives of and servants to their community.

On August 1st, 1981, Willie C. married Dorothy V. Gary. Throughout the years, Willie C. and Dorothy went on numerous trips. Canada, Atlanta, The Carolinas, you name it.

They hosted many family cookouts, where he also took part in the Pond Street Block Watch Association and the Freddie Fixer Parade every year.

Affectionately known as Mr. C to most and recognized as an unquestioned leader in his community, Willie C's list of acknowledgments and recognition in service to his community is likely unparalleled and has been a continuum throughout his life.

In 2004, he was honored by King Solomon's Lodge #23 PHA and the Hamden Notables as Man of The Year.

Throughout the year Willie C. was also recognized for many other achievements such as The James Thorpe Humanitarian Award, The John Jasper Award, AIDS Interfaith Community Service Award of New Haven and the Cosmetologist & Barbers Award of New England. Elected as District Councilman, Willie C. faithfully and honorably served the people of the 5th District of Hamden, Connecticut for 2 years beginning in 2005.

He simply had a calling for helping and serving his community.

Over the years, Willie C. served as a member on the Community Advisory Board for The New Alliance Bank, the Advisory Board for Gateway Community College, the West River SHIP Investment Group, the Hamden Black History Committee, and Widow's Son Lodge #1 Eureka Chapter. Willie C. and Billy C. hosted many health fairs such as blood pressure screenings and mental health checks for those in the African American community.

Most recently, Willie C. was honored by the Ethnic Diversity Task Force, a group of world-renowned, licensed Psychologists from Connecticut who promote greater mental health access and advocacy for culturally competent psychological services in communities of color throughout the state. Willie C. loved to help everyone, and his reach far exceeded his local community. He was a giver.

He had a heart for those in need, especially the Youth.

Willie C. loved the Lord with all his might and was a beloved member of The Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church in New Haven, Connecticut where he served as a Deacon.

In 2002, Willie C. became the President of The Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church Male Chorus. In 2004, Willie C. and Johnathan Q. Berryman formed an all-male chorus alongside Dr. Willis Barnett of Richmond, Virginia. Each year, over 200 men from various churches gathered around to sing the Lord's praises. With the heart of gold Willie C. carried, he became the managing director of the Immanuel Missionary Baptist Church's Soup Kitchen where he served the homeless every Sunday after service.

In his free time, Willie C. loved to tinker with old cars and was a collector of antiques.

His love for stylish suits and shoes was evident in the way he dressed.

He was an avid spades player and enjoyed reading the bible and watching the news. He was a diehard New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox fan. Willie C. always had a word of wisdom or advice to give to anyone he came across.

“Always do the right thing and make sure it’s out of love”.

Willie C. leaves to cherish his legacy his loving wife Dorothy of 41 beautiful years, four children, Cynthia Best of Greenville, North Carolina, Willie C. Mewborn, Jr. (Lillie) of Hamden, Connecticut, Debra L. Young (Reginald) of Cibolo, Texas, and Nikia Carey Mewborn of Hamden, Connecticut; five grandsons who he was lovingly known as “Pop or Pop Pop”, Brandon M. Young of Cibolo, Texas, Jordan A. Young of Austin, Texas, Willie C. Mewborn, III. (Brandi) of Atlanta, Georgia, Le’Andre C. Mewborn of Providence, Rhode Island, Jeremiah Best of Greenville, North Carolina and one granddaughter; Jaiden E. Singleton of Hamden, Connecticut who for the past 4 years was the light of his life and in his eyes did no wrong; six siblings; Harvey Williams of New Haven, Connecticut, Marian Williams of Hamden, Connecticut, Ronald Williams of New Haven, Connecticut, Vicki Green of New Haven, Connecticut, Delanna P. Hardy of New Haven, Connecticut, and Elizabeth P. Jones, of New Haven, Connecticut, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren, and special friends.

Willie C. is predeceased by his parents, Lossie Bell (Mewborn) Williams and Horace Pugh; his brother, Curtis (Ray) Williams; his brother-in-law, Bobby Barnes; sister-in-law, Viola Williams and grandson Derrick T. Young.

“If I can help somebody, then my living will not be in vain”

Cemetery Details

Beaverdale Memorial Park

90 Pine Rock Avenue
New Haven, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hour

JAN 5. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Immanuel Baptist Church
1324 Chapel Street
New Haven, CT

Masonic Service

JAN 5. 10:30 AM (ET)

Immanuel Baptist Church
1324 Chapel Street
New Haven, CT

Funeral Service

JAN 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Immanuel Baptist Church
1324 Chapel Street
New Haven, CT

Tribute Wall



“ *Willie C. Mewborn Sr.*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *I am just learning that Willie C passed . He was my fathers barber (Rev Curtis Cofield) My parents LOVED Willie C. I loved him too. He was a great man!He will be sincerely missed. My sympathies to his family. There will never be another man who can fill his shoes!*

Curtissa Cofielf - March 10, 2023 at 12:59 PM



“ *To: Billy, Lillie and Family - Mr. C was adored and admired by ALL who knew him. My heart goes out to everyone at this time. You have my deepest, heartfelt sympathy. May Almighty God comfort all of you during this time. Peace and abundant blessings!*



Lisa Hopkins - January 27, 2023 at 09:52 PM



“ *To Mrs. Dorothy (Dot) Mewborn and Family - I was extremely saddened to hear about Mr. C's passing. Praying 🙏 that Almighty God will continue to strengthen you as each day unfolds. Stay blessed and know that you and the family are in my thoughts. Love, Lisa Hopkins*



Lisa Hopkins - January 27, 2023 at 09:46 PM

DE

“ Sending prayers & condolences to the family.
May God give you strength & peace.



Deidre - January 17, 2023 at 12:58 PM

CQ

“ To the Willie Mewborn family he was all the men in my family barber from my Dad to my nephews and grandson, always humble made you felt welcome, Gone but never forgotten. The Quicksey family

Colette and Amy Quicksey - January 14, 2023 at 03:35 AM

ME

“ My sincere condolences to the family. Willie C was not only a barber but a true gentleman. Took all my sons to him not just for the haircut but for them to be in a place where the very best behaviors were to be seen and learned.

Marge Eichler - January 11, 2023 at 06:45 PM

CT

“ Sincere condolences to the family. Willie C was such a kind humble person. Keeping the family in prayer. Love, Carol Teel and family



Carol Teel - January 05, 2023 at 11:50 PM

CB

“ Our condolences and prayers to the Mewborn family. Mr. Willie C was always a kind, friendly and especially caring person to us. He was the only business I trusted for my son and was a role model for young boys and young men. He will be very much missed in the community. God Bless the family. Charlene & Charles Blackwell Jr.



Charlene Blackwell - January 05, 2023 at 12:22 PM

MT

“ Our Deepest, Sincere Condolences to the Family, Sorry for your loss, we offer the family our heartfelt support in this difficult time. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers!

Mr, Mrs Kelvin Thomas - January 05, 2023 at 12:02 PM

IT

“ So sorry for your loss. 🙏 Ivan Thompson

Ivan Thompson - January 05, 2023 at 11:43 AM

LC

“ So sorry for your loss

Linda culbreth - January 05, 2023 at 10:57 AM

SC

“ Shirlee Williams - Cousin sent a virtual gift in memory of Willie Mewborn



Shirlee Rose Williams - Cousin - January 05, 2023 at 10:45 AM

EE

“ Willie C, our buddy, as he called me " best friend", we met 28 years ago when he gave my son Aaron his first haircut before we slid over to Billy's chair, Willie C's was a place where you always felt safe, and of course Willie always spoiled Morgan with the lollipops and chips... take your rest dear sir, you're truly missed and much appreciated.

Love, Eileen, Aaron, Morgan Esdaile, and Gloria Williams

Eileen Esdaile - January 05, 2023 at 09:44 AM

LC

“ Offer My Prayers to the Family. Willie will truly be missed. However, through his family his Legacy will continue to the next generation. Billy do remain strong, positive, and continue with your Faith.

Love Lillian Brown Cowan

Lillian Cowan - January 05, 2023 at 08:55 AM

JS

“ To Dot and Niki,



John & Shelia - January 05, 2023 at 08:47 AM

DM

“ To the Mewborn Family, we pray for you, Willie Mae, Madison Jr., and David McAdoo.

David McAdoo - January 05, 2023 at 01:56 AM

WM

“ Dot, Cynthia, Billy, Debra and Nikki,
May all the sincere and heartfelt condolences give you great comfort as you gently rest upon the Lord.
Your husband, your Dad Willie C. exhibited great entrepreneurship, a positive mentor, counselor and a good friend. I have great memories of Willie C. giving my 5 boys haircuts in the 80's .
Thank God for the great memories reflect on all the good times.
God bless you spectacularly and completely always.
🙏❤️ Wanda (Walter) Morton

WANDA (WALTER) MORTON - January 04, 2023 at 10:59 PM

AR

“ Willie C was one of my father's closest friends. I believe they were even roommates at one time. My condolences to the family. He will be missed. From the Rhodes Family. Angela Rhodes

Angela Rhodes - January 04, 2023 at 08:51 PM

DD

“ To Dorothy, Billy and Family,
I would like to extend my sincere condolences and my deepest sympathy in your loss. May God Bless You and Keep You in your time of sorrow. May He wrap His everlasting arm around you and give you peace.
Chief Dennis W. Daniels, Ret. NHFD

Dennis W. Daniels - January 04, 2023 at 03:23 PM

JM

“ Condolences from the entire McAlpine family

joe Duke McAlpine - January 04, 2023 at 12:12 PM

DE

“ Willie C cut my 3 kids hair from when they were little and even as adults. Some of them moved away and when they came into town ALWAYS went strait to Willie to get their hair cut RIGHT. Willie was a good friend, a caring person and like family. So sad to hear of his passing. My sympathy to his wife and children. May he Rest In Peace in Love and Prayer. Dede Guarino

Dede - January 04, 2023 at 10:14 AM

CA

“ Dear Dorothy and Children, My sincerest condolences to you on the passing of your husband and father. Willie was a truly great man, a friend and mentor to so many people. He served his community and his church with devotion and love. He was a source of inspiration to me. I will always treasure his friendship and do my best to follow his example. Sincerely, Carl Amento

Carl Amento - January 04, 2023 at 12:38 AM

DE

“ My Deepest Condolences to the entire family so sorry for the loss of your love one. Mr. C was such a sweet and kindhearted person that touched so many. May all his great memories live on RIP Mr. C



Debra Mcnair-Outlaw & Family

Debra - January 03, 2023 at 06:34 PM

SH

“ My condolences to the Mewborn family. He will be missed.
Best,
Sabra Hughes

Sabra Hughes - January 03, 2023 at 02:47 PM

EE

“ Sending our heartfelt love and condolences to the family of our buddy Willie C...friends for over 28 years, since he started cutting Aaron's hair (then Billy), your shop was always considered a safe place, and Morgan loved being spoiled by Willie with the lollipops and chips...rest well my friend.. Love, Eileen, Aaron, Morgan Esdaile, and Gloria Williams

Eileen Esdaile - January 03, 2023 at 09:28 AM

CA

“ My condolences to the family, Willie C. RIP

Craig A.Morton - January 02, 2023 at 09:17 PM

SJ

“ Dorothy I've know Willie C for over thirty years and I always had the up most respect for him. He always carried himself in a respectful way. He is going to be missed dearly. Condolences to you and the family from Sam and Georgia Jackson from Montgomery Al

Samuel I Jackson Jr - January 01, 2023 at 11:44 PM

CL

Rip my good friend 😭

Carl Lambert - January 03, 2023 at 03:05 PM

LH

“ To Dottie, Billy and Nikki, Frank Goodson and I send our sincerest condolences and prayers of comfort and strength. 🥰🙏

Leonora Henderson - January 01, 2023 at 08:58 PM

FM

“ Dorothy, Billy and Nikki. Please accept our heartfelt condolences on the passing of your husband and dad.
Joshua and Fabienne Moore 🌹

Fabienne Moore - January 01, 2023 at 09:30 AM

CH

“ A staple in my community. Condolences to the family he Mr. C is one of a kind and will be greatly missed. As a kid getting my hair cut, my mother would send me around the corner and he knew what Debbie wanted her son's hair to look like coming home lol Billy I love you and the fam prayers to you all from the Handy family...
Chris Handy with love

Christopher Handy - December 31, 2022 at 10:24 PM

DJ

Met Will when I was 12 years old. He cut my afro off so I could fit in with my new friends from Hamden. While getting that haircut his conversation amazed me, never had a grown person have a serious conversation with me. From that day on If I wasn't playing basketball I was in the barbershop.
My mentor My Friend & My Brother.
I'll never forget your lessons.

Dexter Jones - January 03, 2023 at 06:52 PM



“ Pasquale Heyward lit a candle in memory of Willie Mewborn



Pasquale Heyward - December 31, 2022 at 06:16 PM

WD

“ *My condolences to the family.*



Wanda Dawson - December 31, 2022 at 05:14 PM

JF

“ *Family, keep the candle 🕯️ burning... My friend Willie "C" will always be remembered by those whom he came in contact with... Much Love 💕
Your friends,*



*Joseph and Marcia Frasier
South Carolina*

Joseph and Marcia Frasier - December 31, 2022 at 02:11 PM

CL

“ I must take this moment out today and pay very special recognition to a friend and family that I have known and love for many years. Today I pay homage to the man of Deacon Willie C. Mewborn. Willie C. and I begin our friendship in the Stop & Shop grocery store it being one of my first jobs as a teen.

When he saw me he knew that I looked familiar and he asked me if I went to church and if so what church was I attending. When I told him that it was Immanuel thats when the connection between him and I was made.

Willie and I had a very unique friendship in which he was somewhat of a mentor to me. He was a person of which I gained much wisdom from and who's trends I watched as a pristine businessman and how he maneuvered through the community.

I will never forget all the times I spent down at the barbershop just talking with him and him telling me to “Be Nice” as he knew how I could get. The barbershop became one of my safe havens and a place I would stop by for a visit with Willie C. in my travels.


He was an example of a kind gentleman in which he always encouraged others to be and loved to laugh.

I will forever honor him in the vain of being an admirable businessman as he was, knowing that he was honored by the man of God that I'm today! My Prayers are with the family at this time!



Chef Dixon, Clever Chef Catering, LLC. - December 31, 2022 at 05:19 AM

LB

“ *Dot,
We are so sorry for your loss.
Our condolences to you and your family.
Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs.*

Linda Barnes and Curtis McBride



Linda Barnes - December 31, 2022 at 12:38 AM

JF

Dot & family, We are expressing our sincere sympathy for the loss of your loved one. May he rest in eternal peace.

Julia Nelson-Ficklin and Deacon Willie Nelson

Julia Ficklin - January 03, 2023 at 08:09 PM

NO

“ *Such an admirable, kind, and pillar man. He gave each of our sons their first haircut and he was such a pleasure to be around. For many, the father & mentor missing in so many young lives. While we moved away long ago, we could not visit Connecticut without planning to stop by Willies. His legacy, impact & fond memories will live on forever. Our deepest condolences to Dorothy, Billy, Nikki and the entire family.*
Love,
Dan & Nayda Odigie.

Nayda Odigie - December 30, 2022 at 06:43 PM

PS

“ *Peggy Shuford lit a candle in memory of Willie Mewborn*



Peggy Shuford - December 30, 2022 at 06:43 PM

RE

“ *Dot, Billy, Nikki, I send my sincere condolences to you all.*
Russell Edwards

Russell Edwards - December 30, 2022 at 09:44 AM

CH

“ *Willie C, Dot, Billy, Nikki and their family all became part of my extended family my family in Christ over the years and still are because of Mr Willie C Mewborn. Always a kind word of love, wisdom advice all in Jesus name. Heaven has gained an awesome Angel. We feel the loss so I pray for his family his protégés his friends, church and community. God has ended his suffering. Dance and fly around Heaven all day sir where you can hear God say Well done! Rest in Power. Your family is well loved. Cheryl Huckabey and Family*



Cheryl D Huckabey - December 29, 2022 at 11:05 PM

LB

I met Willie C in 1985 when I was working at High Meadows. Willie C was the barber for the facility until we closed in 2010. He went beyond his work as a barber for those young boys and young men. He gave them words of wisdom to become good citizens. He also gave them products from his shop and taught them how to keep their cuts groomed.

During the time I attended Immanuel Baptist Church, he always had a kind, inspirational word when he greeted us. He will be missed and will forever remain in our hearts. We Luther the family up in prayer. You have always been family to us 🙏

Linda B Blackmon - December 30, 2022 at 11:48 AM

LF

Cynthia, from the description of your dad, Mr. C, he sounds a lot like you. We love you. Our prayers and condolences to you and the family. May God's love continue to cover and protect you all. ❤️

Lillian D. Fleming - December 31, 2022 at 03:12 AM

SG

“ There are no words to express the sadness felt in my heart. He was a giant, a true man of grace and honor. As a young single mom moving to New Haven he cut my sons hair and always had pearls of wisdom to drop in my spirit...in later years he and I attend the same church and I grew to love him and his family ...like my family. He was always ready to help someone and for this and so many other deeds...he became a staple in our city. Life for many changed for the better because of Willie C. Now as God has called him home we must allow his light to shine forever in our community as well as in our hearts. My sincerest condolences to Dorothy, Nikki and the rest of the family and May God comfort all of you. 🙏🙏



Sharyn L. Grant - December 29, 2022 at 06:11 PM

EB

“ Mr. Willie was a mentor to me and always encouraged me to do the right thing. As a young man I swept the floors for him he knew I needed a stern hand and guidance. I purchased my first house on pond st and was there to watch his business grow. He was an inspiration to us. I remember him being so kind to a older man who hung around the shop. Willie would give him work and even arranged his funeral when he passed away. Mr. C was the only man I would let put the razor to my face, he was an Artist and a pillar of our community. Keep up the good work Billy you have been left a great legacy from a great man!

Edward Butts Elizabeth St and Pond st resident.

EDWARD L BUTTS - December 29, 2022 at 02:06 PM

SM

*I'm sure I am among a tribe of single woman that brought their sons to Willie C's Barber Shop. A shop where I knew there would be no nonsense and a place where my sons would find men of integrity. Currently my grandsons get their cuts from Billy. Such a great loss but what a legacy for his family.
Billy, praying for you and your family.*

Stephanie Morriar - December 29, 2022 at 09:30 PM

CU

Dot, Billie, Nikki and family, Sending prayers of strength to each of you. We will truly miss our friend Mr. "C" and pray he will rest in peace, and may he be rewarded with many "Wings" for he gave so much of himself to so many. We are so blessed to have known him. Curtis & Karen, Rincon, GA

Curtis - January 02, 2023 at 05:46 PM