



Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell

April 22, 1965 - July 8, 2021

Rufus Lamar Purnell, 56, died July 8, 2021 at 1:55 pm with his family by his side at University Medical Center.

Mr. Purnell was born April 22, 1965 to the late Elliott Bardwell and Patricia Ann Purnell in Oktibbeha County. He attended Starkville High School. He continued his education at Tougaloo College.

Mr. Purnell worked for the City of Clinton for numerous years until his health started to decline.

Rufus was known for his witty and humorous personality. He met no stranger and he was willing to help anyone. Never a dull moment in his presence.

Rufus was preceded in death by his parents; one Sister, Stephanie; two Brothers Daryl and Stacey.

His memory and legacy will live through his loving Wife Veronica Fisher-Purnell; Joshua Fisher, Son; Victoria Purnell, Daughter; Callie Ross (his favorite Doodle Wop), Granddaughter. A Sister, Suzzietta Purnell Dear-Swan and a Brother, Tyrone Dunson; Leroy Fisher, Father-in-Law; three Nieces and a Nephew; and host of Aunts, Uncle, and Cousins.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 16. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home
745 Highway 468
Brandon, MS 39042
(601) 825-3884
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Service

JUL 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

"Lovie" Dean Memorial Chapel
745 Hwy 468
Brandon, MS 39042

Tribute Wall

SW

“ *Shabrina Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell*



Shabrina Williams - July 17, 2021 at 02:49 PM

MB

“ *To my Classmate, Brother, Friend. There's so much that I can say about the one and only Mr. Rufus Parnell, and our Close Relationship which we had in school. But time do not permit me to do so. All I can say is that I am so Happy that I meet you in school at the Loo. Which we called the Bulldog Country. Keep that Wonderful smile and a Prayer in your Heart. And we will put a song together when we see each other. 🤝😊😊🙏🙏 Love Always. Michael Bigg-Daddy Brown 😊.*



Michael Brown - July 17, 2021 at 01:25 AM

EJ

“ *Eric And Jahjie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell*



Eric and Jahjie Johnson - July 16, 2021 at 05:04 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memorial Video*



Dean Memorial Funeral Home - July 16, 2021 at 01:33 PM

MB

BEAUTIFUL pictures of him and his wife and their wedding and Sue his Sister and His very best Roommate in school Mike Wolfe.

Michael Brown - July 17, 2021 at 02:10 PM

CS

BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES OF RUFUS. MAY HE REST IN PEACE. AMEN

CHRISTINE LEE SHELTON - July 21, 2021 at 06:42 PM

ES

BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES! GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN.

EMMITT L. JOHNSON SR. - July 23, 2021 at 10:40 PM

EL

Beautiful memories for such a beautiful person. Gone way to soon!! Rest in Paradise Rufus 🙏🙏

Eddie Mae Love - July 26, 2021 at 09:32 AM

TP

Bigger and louder than life... this brother left an impression on everyone he came into contact with.

Troy Price - March 08, 2025 at 01:04 AM

DW

“ *Debbie Johnson Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell*



Debbie Johnson Williams - July 16, 2021 at 01:08 AM

UW

“ *Uncle Cliff and Aunt May Dunson, Milwaukee, WI purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell.*



Uncle Cliff and Aunt May Dunson, Milwaukee, WI - July 14, 2021 at 06:39 PM

AS

“ *Anne Skinner sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell*



Anne Skinner - July 14, 2021 at 11:09 AM

CH

“ *Rufus was a close friend like a brother growing up in our neighborhood who was loved by many. The Class of 1983 will cherish the memories forever. Our prayers go out to the entire family for comfort and strength.*



Cynthia Harris - July 13, 2021 at 08:58 PM

TE

“ Rufus and I grew up in Starkville, MS and graduated high school together in the Class of 1983. I saw him several times when he worked at St. Dominic hospital. Each time we met, it was like old times. He was still his funny jovial self. His passing has left a void in our class. But we want his family to know that your loss is ours. I pray that God will grant you His peace as you learn to navigate life without Rufus' physical presence. ❤️

Taryn Brown, Ed.D - July 13, 2021 at 08:25 PM

LG

“ I enjoyed Rufus In high school. He was always being loud and funny. You would know when Rufus was in the room. He will be missed.

Linda Baker Gwin - July 13, 2021 at 08:24 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Rufus Lamar Purnell.



July 12, 2021 at 11:14 PM