

## *Interment*

EASTLAWN CEMETERY  
1401 WOODLAND AVENUE – COLUMBUS, OH 43219

## *Pallbearers*

DANIELLE FORTE  
JASON HARRIS  
TIA HOLLAND  
MALIK HOLLAND  
DEON LUNSFORD  
RICHARD MISKEL JR.  
DAMONE WADE  
DAQUAN WADE  
MALCOLM WHITE

## *Acknowledgement*

THE FAMILY OF JAMES LAMONT FORTE, SR. WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH DEEP APPRECIATION THE MANY EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE, KINDNESS, AND SUPPORT SHOWN TO US DURING THIS HOUR OF BEREAVEMENT. THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND COMFORT. IT IS IMMENSELY APPRECIATED!



*M*ARLAN GARY  
FUNERAL HOME  
1 FUNERAL HOME | 5 LOCATIONS

### MINISTRY OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO:

**NORTH CHAPEL**  
2500 CLEVELAND AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43211  
614-267-8310

**EAST CHAPEL**  
5456 LIVINGSTON AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43232  
614-604-8774

**MANSFIELD CHAPEL**  
753 MCPHERSON ST.,  
MANSFIELD, OH 44903  
419-524-6999

**SPRINGFIELD CHAPEL**  
823 SOUTH YELLOW SPRINGS ST.,  
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45506  
937-325-1447

**CINCINNATI CHAPEL**  
647 FOREST AVE.  
CINCINNATI OH 45229  
513-221-4812

WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM

## *A Celebration of the Life of*



*James*  
LAMONT FORTE, SR.

NOVEMBER 14, 1977 – JANUARY 25, 2026

FRIDAY – FEBRUARY 6, 2026

VISITATION: 10:00 AM

SERVICE: 11:00 AM

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CHAPEL OF PEACE EAST  
5456 EAST LIVINGSTON AVENUE  
COLUMBUS, OH 43232

# OBITUARY

James Lamont Forte, Sr., was born in Columbus, Ohio, to Hazel and Frank J. Forte. He grew up surrounded by family, faith, and community, shaping him into the compassionate and dedicated man he would become. James, a 1996 graduate of Columbus South High School, later continued his education at West Virginia State University, where he also played basketball. At the time of his passing, he was continuing his education at the University of Phoenix.

James believed in building a strong family foundation rooted in love, respect, and unity. In 2012, James and the love of his life, Jeannine, relocated to Clearwater, Florida, where they continued their journey and created a life filled with purpose and joy. Professionally, James served as an Operations Manager for Gator Cleaning Solutions in Tampa, Florida, where he was known for his dedication, compassion, and unwavering work ethic that earned the admiration of colleagues and clients alike.

James was a passionate sports enthusiast, proudly cheering for The Ohio State Buckeyes and the Denver Broncos. After moving to Florida, he embraced the Tampa Bay Buccaneers as well. He loved good food, traveling, music, and relaxing with his favorite TV shows and movies. His vibrant personality and zest for life made every moment with him memorable.

James was preceded in death by his father, Frank Forte; Aunt, Darlene and Uncle, Fred Harris; cousin, Donna Daniels; Grandmothers: Vera Lucille Daniels, Naomi Forte Erwin, and Hildagard Ruth Turner.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving *Wife of 22 years*: Jeannine N. Gardner; his *Mother*: Hazel Forte; *Aunt*: Marion Daniels; *Daughter*: Jamasia Forte; *Son*: James L. Forte Jr.; *Bonus Daughters*: Ayris, Aryon, and Aliya; his *Sisters*: Diane Forte, Tiffany and Mahogany Harris; *Niece*: Danielle Forte; *Great-Niece*: Ma'Lonnah Forte; *Mother-in-Love*: Veronica "Ronnie" Thornton; his *Grandchildren*: Ayden, Justin, Nolan, and Weilynn. He is also survived by his *Cousin*: Vera L. Babbs; *Nephews*: Daquan and Damone Wade; *Sister-in-Love*: Jerrica Gardner; *Brothers-in-Love*: Juane Gardner, Jermaine (Colleen) Henderson, and Jamaal (Jessica) Stirtmire; *Godson*: Malik Holland; *Goddaughter*: Keelena (Kevin) Savage Jack; *Best Friend*: Tia Holland and a host of other family and friends.

James's memory will forever live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. Family was the center of his world. To those blessed to share life with him, James possessed a giant larger-than-life presence and his charisma and gifts of service were a true blessing to all who knew him.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

PASTOR JUDY WHITLOW  
OFFICIANT

ORGAN PRELUDE

PARTING VIEW.....FAMILY  
"LOVE'S IN NEED OF LOVE TODAY" BY STEVIE WONDER

SCRIPTURE READING.....PASTOR MICHAEL PERRIN

PRAYER.....PASTOR MICHAEL PERRIN

REFLECTION.....MA'LONNAH FORTE

SELECTION.....JAMASIA FORTE  
"MISSING YOU" BY BRANDY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/CONDOLENCES

REMARKS.....TWO MINUTES PLEASE.....FAMILY AND FRIENDS

READING OF OBITUARY.....READ SILENTLY (SOFT MUSIC)

SELECTION.....MR. & MRS. WILLIAMS

## THE EULOGY ELDER JANET KIMBLE-SMITH

BENEDICTION.....ELDER JANET KIMBLE SMITH

RECESSIONAL.....CLERGY, FAMILY AND FRIENDS