

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Travis Dunston, Jr.**



*Sunrise: July 30, 1954*  
*Sunset: December 11, 2008*

*Saturday, December 20, 2008*  
*Visitation: 10:00 AM*  
*Service: 11:00 AM*  
*Rock of Ages Baptist Church*  
*Reverend Marvin E. Wiley, Pastor*  
*1309 Madison Street*  
*Maywood, Illinois 60153*

# Order of Service



Processional

Reviewal

Call to Worship

Scripture

Prayer

Solo

Acknowledgements & Resolutions  
*(2 minutes please)*

Obituary (read silently)

Solo

Message of Comfort

Benediction

Recessional

Family

Family and Friends

Minister

Minister

Minister

Freda Benfield

Appointee  
Mark Williams  
Kathryn Kerr

Soft Music

Alesia Gerard

*Rev. Marvin E. Wiley, Pastor*

Minister

Family and Friends

## Pallbearers

*Brandon Gillespie  
Justin Gillespie  
Jason Gwin  
Percy Jackson  
Adam Mobley*

## Interment

*Oakridge Cemetery  
Westchester, Illinois*

## Repast

*Rock of Ages  
Maywood, Illinois*

# Life's Reflections

*Travis Dunston, Jr. was born to the late Travis Dunston, Sr. and Annie Lee Dunston in Chicago, Illinois on July 30, 1954. He was the third of six children.*

*Travis accepted Christ at an early age. During his walk with Christ he united with the First Baptist Church of Melrose Park under the pastorate of Reverend H. McNelty.*



*Travis spent his early years at Melrose Park Public School and later attended Proviso East High School where he developed a love of music and sports.*

*Travis was always a hard-worker and followed in his father's footsteps at International Harvester. He became a specifications writer and worked there for more than 25 years. Always the entrepreneurial type, Travis became interested in the limousine industry and ran his own business for almost twenty years.*

*Travis was the kind of person that never met a stranger. He was a friend to a multitude of people and was always upbeat. He was a kind and giving man who you could always count on in countless ways.*

*When Travis was about 5 years old, his family moved to Maywood and the Burnside family lived across the street. The two families became friends and during fifth grade, Travis decided that Deborah Burnside would be his wife. They were married on June 18, 1977. God blessed them with three beautiful children, Leigh, Ivan and Stephen. He was a wonderful husband and father.*



*On December 7, 2008 Travis and Deborah left for a week vacation in Sedona, Arizona. Deborah wanted him to see what she considered to be the most beautiful place she'd ever seen. On the fifth day, Thursday, December 11, 2008, among all that beauty, Travis received his call from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

*He leaves to cherish his memory; his best friend and the love of his life, Deborah Dunston; daughter Leigh Adrienne; two sons: Ivan Julian and Stephen Thomas; mother: Annie Lee Dunston of Canton, MS; father and mother-in-law: Arthur and Ruby Burnside of Maywood, IL; sisters: Carol (Lewis) Clark of Canton, MS, Georgia Ward of Bellwood, IL and Freda Benfield of Canton, MS; brothers: Lee Allen (Deloris) Dunston of Greenville, MS; Fredrick Dunston and Bernard Narine both of Elkins Park, PA; brother and sisters-in-law: Ruby (Lloyd) Gillespie, Marie Gwin, and Arthur (Paulette) Burnside, Jr.; his special friend and business partner, Adam Farmer; two "grand-dogs": Joey and Cocoa; a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and extremely close family and friends.*





# Dear Travis,

You've been a part of my life for as long as I can remember and I can't imagine life without you. You were first a friend, then eventually my husband, but always so much more. I could not have asked for a better man to share my life with.



I think even you would have been surprised by the sheer volume of saddened and brokenhearted family, friends and acquaintances that you've left behind. You have no idea how many lives you've touched.

But I am a strong woman, thanks in part to you, and I will continue with the life we started together. Your body may be absent but you will always live in my heart.



Now all your work here on Earth is done and it's time for you to rest. I know you are having a ball with your father and Our Father.

I am honored to have been the wife of a man who was loved by so many. Just know that the kids and I will love and miss you forever.

Love Always,

Your "Sweetheart" Deb



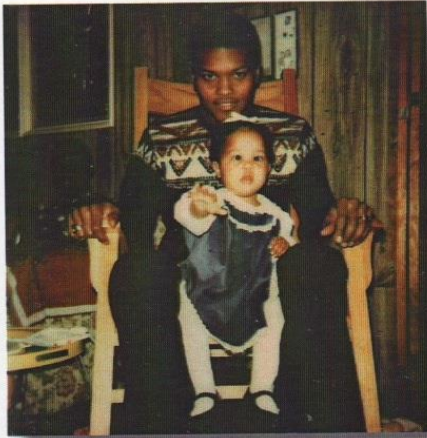
*To our loving father,*

We were truly blessed to have you for a dad. We will never forget the important life lessons you instilled in each one of us. Thank you for showing us how to work hard and be a joy to others. Thank you for your patience, understanding and love.

*Your children,*

*Leigh, Ivan and Stephen*

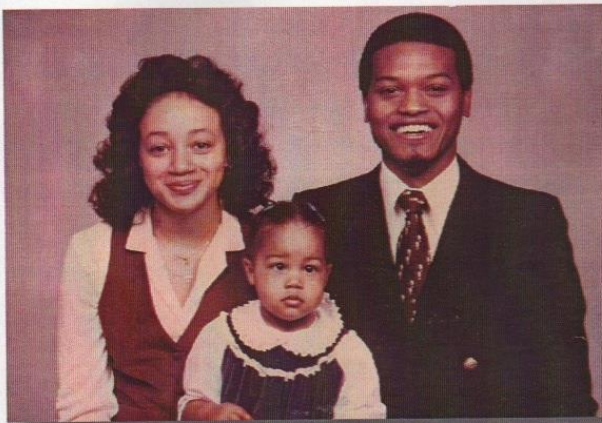




*Daddy,*

Your earthly body has definitely earned it's rest. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of Heaven's rewards than you. We will all miss you endlessly. You were a shining example of God's love for us all. Thank you for showing me how to be a good person. Each memory I have of you will help dull the pain of each day I have to live without you here with me. To simply say I love you is an understatement... I adore you. You were definitely my hero here on Earth. Now you will be my special angel to watch over me from Heaven while I am here finishing the work God has for me to do. I will be sure to "get it did" and "make it right." \*smile\*

*Your Little Leigh-Leigh*



Lonely is the home without you  
Life to be is not the same  
All the world would be like heaven  
If we could have you back again.

A light from our household is gone  
A voice we loved is still  
A place is vacant in our home  
That never can be filled.

May the God of love and mercy  
Care our loved one is gone  
And bless with consolation  
Those left to carry on.



The happy hours we once enjoyed  
how sweet their memory still  
But death has left a vacant place  
The world can never fill.

How dearly we loved you  
and prayed you might live  
But Jesus just beckoned  
and we had to give.

God gave us strength to bear it  
And courage to fight the blow,  
What it has meant to lose you  
God alone will only know.

*Love Always, Your Mother*

## *The Storm Is Over*

As we live and breathe, we know that we're born to die.

Only those who don't know the joy, will ask the question why?

We've received the best reward that this ole world can give

You brought of happiness to so many people and for that you'll always live.

Now that the storm is over, you can enjoy the sun.

Though we'll never see you again in this life, your new life has just begun.

You used your smile to make us feel better, when you thought we were blue.

Now the day has finally come, so we can use our smile for you.

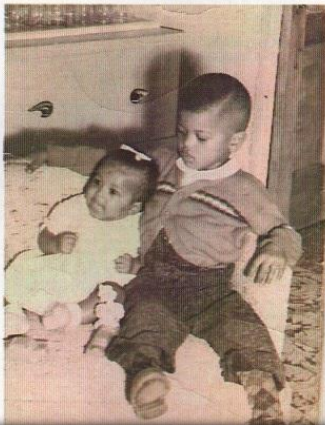
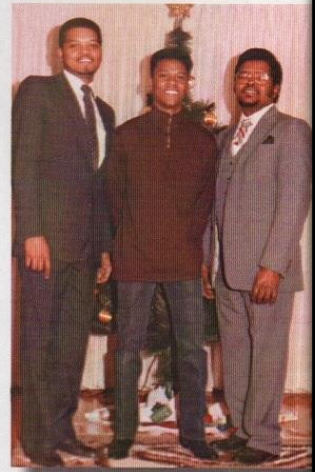
So we'll rejoice on this day, this isn't a sad time,

We know you are with us in our hearts and in our minds.

Our memories of you, they will last forever. That's something we'll never release,

So have a nice journey to your new home, and may your soul rest in peace.

*From Your Brothers and Sister*



A thousand times we needed you  
A thousand times we cried  
If love alone could have saved you  
You never would have died  
A heart of gold stopped beating  
Two twinkling eyes closed to rest  
God broke our hearts to prove he only took the best  
Never a day goes by that you're not in my heart and my soul

*Love Always,  
Your Sister, Georgia*

### *Marie's Tribute to Travis*

Dear Travis, I don't remember a time when I didn't know you because you and your family have been an integral part of my fondest childhood memories and the many life experiences our families have shared throughout the last five decades.

Your passing is extremely difficult because before you were my brother-in-law, you and your family were dear friends. It was a happy day when you married my sister, Debbie because that forged an even deeper bond than friendship, the Dunstons and Burnsidés became family.

You have always been a thoughtful, patience and loving brother-in-law. You always made me feel welcome when hanging out with Debbie at your house. I also appreciated how you always included Jason in any childhood outings for Leigh, Ivan and Stephen.

You will be missed for so many reasons big and small - from how deeply and steadfastly you loved my sister Debbie, to being Dad's barber to shoveling the snow off my car, giving me a big hug and telling me to drive home safely two weeks ago. I wish that I could have known that would be the last time that I would see you so that I could have told you how much my family loved you and how grateful I am to have had a wonderful brother-in-law like you.

*Love, Marie*

### *Dear Travis,*

I'm going to miss you, Brother. I've known you for 47 years of my life and watched you mature into a great man.

*Love, Sonny*

### *Loving*

Loving and kind in all his ways  
Upright and just to the end of his days  
Sincere and true in his heart and mind  
A wonderful memory he left behind  
he had a nature you could not help loving  
A heart that was purer than gold  
And to those who knew him and loved him,  
Uncle Travis' memory will never grow old.

*From Your Nieces and Nephews*

A beautiful life that came to an end  
He died as he lived, everyone's friend.  
In our hearts a memory will always be kept  
Of one we loved and will never forget.

*From Your Great Nieces & Nephews*

### *Uncle*

An uncle like no other,  
A hard working role model for us to be.

You taught us to live life at its best

And the true meaning of a loving family  
You were an angel in our presence

And now our angel up above God granted  
you a passage to Heaven with the rest of the  
ones we love.

Our hearts were broken on the day of your  
departure to prove many things

He only accepts the best with Him in  
Heaven so He set you to be free.

*Love always,  
Your Great Niece,  
Leah*

### *A Wonderful Life*

A wonderful brother, father, uncle, husband, and friend  
Everything wrapped into one.  
You were always on the outside and within.

Adored, loved, and cherished forever.  
A courageous spirit which held so many hearts together.

A strong stance, a sharp mind, a man of patience a man so kind.  
To have had a chance to know a man so loving and true,  
Is a blessing in itself, yes a blessing, that's true.

We will all miss you and think of you forever,  
But deep in our hearts we know you have joined our Almighty  
Father in Heaven.

You have left our hearts open and showed us the way,  
Now we must continue our journey until we meet again  
someday.

*Love Always, Your Niece, Andrea  
Uncle Travis, TD, Trav...  
We Love You!*



## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took His hand when I heard Him call,  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone will stay that way,  
I found that peace at close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy*

*A friendship shared, a laugh a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I, too, will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life has been full, I've savored much.  
Good friends, good times, a loved ones touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all to brief  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief,  
Lift up your hearts and share with me,  
God wanted me now,  
He set me free.*



## *Acknowledgements*

*Our family would like to express our deepest appreciation for the many acts of kindness and concern, as well as expressions of sympathy during our time of bereavement.*

*May God Bless You All.*