

William King “Brother” Lawson



William King Lawson ,was born March 24, 1943 in Clarendon County, Summerton, South Carolina, to the late Nathaniel Lawson and Major Louise Stukes-Lawson.

Educated in the Clarendon County school systems, William was called “Brother” by his family and friends. In 1959, he moved to New Jersey to begin a career as a General Contractor where he was able to utilize the skill of working with his hands. In 1960, William had a son from Marie Richardson from Summerton, SC. In 1963, William married Janet McDowell Lawson and had five children: Shelley, Michael, Norma Jean, Joyce, and Terry. He also had two additional children from Christine Redwood: Tanya and William (B.B.) King Lawson, II. In 1984, William became a licensed electrician and worked for the City of New York and he later retired and moved back to Summerton, SC to live out the rest of his days near his family. William was very social and charismatic. He left an impression on everyone he met and many considered him a good friend. He was loved and adored by many, especially by his grandchildren. Many family and friends enjoyed being around him all the time. His nieces and nephews stayed close to him and he had a special place in their hearts. William had an awesome memory. He knew his family lineage well. He loved surrounding himself by family and friends, visiting and spending time with them in both the North and in the South.

William was preceded in death by his parents: Nathaniel Lawson and Major Louise Stukes-Lawson, his wife Janet Lawson; his sisters: Lou Anna Wells and Inez G. Bennett, and his sons: Michael McDowell & William (B.B.) King Lawson, II and his daughter Joyce Lawson.

William departed this life on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

He left behind to mourn his children, Shelley McDowell of Memphis, Tennessee; Norma Jean McDowell of Newark, New Jersey; Theresa “Terry” Lawson of Hillside, New Jersey; Tanya Lawson of Clifton, New Jersey and Michael Richardson of New York City. He also leaves to mourn, his sisters and brothers: Carrie Lee Lawson, Mozelle Ragins, Majorie Carter, Rev. Elliot (Betsy) Lawson, Joe Nathan (Martha Ann) Lawson and his brother-in-law John (LouAnna) Wells. He leaves 14 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren, his Aunt Carrie Richardson, a host of nieces and nephews. Special care taker – Hilda “Cookie” Lawson-Robinson.