



Joseph Williams

March 28, 1921 - November 12, 2021

Joe Williams was born on March 28, 1921 in Fitzgerald Georgia. He moved to New Brunswick ,New Jersey in 1925 with his parents and 14 brothers and sisters. He was the first in his family to graduate from high school. He entered into the United States Marine Corps in 1942 as part of the Marines' first African American recruits at the segregated Montford Point Base adjacent to Camp Lejeune, NC. He was later stationed in the defense of The Republic of the Marshall Islands. When he returned in 1945 he married Dorothy Whipple, the love of his life. They had a full military wedding. Joe and Dorothy had two daughters, Linda and Kathy. They lived in Harlem until they bought their first home in White Plains New York.

Joe worked at the White Plains school district as a Masonry foreman until his retirement in 1982. In addition to his duties with the school system, he and his wife Dorothy ran a successful daycare center known at Barnyard Day Nursery. Joe and Dorothy were married for 34 years until her passing in 1979.

Joe later married Juanita Lane, his high school classmate in 1981. They were married for 22 years until her passing in 2003 in Athens Georgia. Joseph is a member of Mount Pleasant Baptist church in Athens, Georgia.

Joe is a lifetime member of the Montford Point Marine Association, a non-profit military veterans organization, founded to memorialize the legacy of the

first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps. On June 27, 2012, Joe Williams and some 400 “Original “Montford Point Marines received the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor in recognition of military service during World War II.

Joe’s memory will be cherished and kept alive by his daughters Kathy Dawson and Linda Brown, 10 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and 1 great- great granddaughter, his sister Thelma Williams and a host of relatives and friends.

A graveside service will be held on Monday November 15, 2021, 10:00 am at Ferncliff Cemetery in Hartsdale, New York. The family wishes to thank community Hospice for its thoughtful service and tender care. The family is requesting that in lieu of flowers, that a donation be made in his name to the National Montford Point Marine Association Inc. Scholarship program. National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. – Scholarships (montfordpointmarines.org) .

Tribute Wall



“ *I'm not much of a writer so bear with me.*

My Uncle Joe was a trailblazer and great inspiration to my dad and I to join the Marines. I am so proud.

I have very fond childhood memories of the home in white plains; the beautiful landscape, the swing on the porch and especially the daycare barn ('toy's R' Us had nothing on them! lol

It showed what you can achieve with hard work

I also remember just sitting, watching and listening to the conversations between my uncle and my dad in the living room. even though we haven't communicated much in the later years, the memories will always be dear to my heart.

Join with the 'Super hero' team of your Brothers and Sisters

SIP & Sempre Fi

Uncle Joe.

Edward Brown - November 14, 2021 at 09:41 PM

SA

“ *Dear Kathy, Linda and families. We are so sorry to learn of the loss of your father.*

Mr. Joe was such a remarkable man. We continue to be grateful for his service to this country. Sending love and prayers. Sandi and Terry Lawryk

Sandi - November 14, 2021 at 06:40 PM

LP

“ My condolences, thoughts and prayers are with you the Williams family. May GOD give you strength, peace and comfort during your time of sorrow. Your extended family in Florida: Laurice Peterson



Laurice Peterson - November 13, 2021 at 11:22 PM

EB

“ My fondest memories are when I was young and my mother took me to see Uncle Skinny (aka, Uncle Joe) and Aunt Dorothy who lived in upper Harlem. We went to see the new baby, Linda. I recall that their two best friends, Domino and his wife was also there. I remember Uncle Joe being so happy and so proud, smiling the whole evening. He was so handsome and had such a beautiful smile. It was not long after that he and Dorothy moved to a house that was next to Uncle Ike.in White Plains, NY. Two brothers, close in age, now lived close to each other in homes that mirrored each other.

I visited many times when Uncle Joe moved to the much larger home, and Kathy was born. I remember helping to get her dressed one evening, for a baby contest. Uncle Joe and I took her to the contest, and when she won we were both so happy. I think he bought ice cream that night to celebrate! Other fond memories include the BiCentennial. As a proud veteran he loved this country. He and Dorothy made it a grand affair in which family and friends were invited. There was plenty of food and fun things to do. I will miss him so very much. My last uncle but one whose memory will everlasting for me.

Eonja Brown - November 13, 2021 at 03:53 PM

KH

“ *I loved seeing Bro. Joseph Williams at church Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church. He was so soft spoken, humble, and such a blessing to know. He will be missed.*

Katrina Hill - November 13, 2021 at 09:19 AM

BW

“ *Betty Willoughby lit a candle in memory of Joseph Williams*



Betty willoughby - November 12, 2021 at 05:27 PM