



## Willie James Jelks

June 11, 1937 - June 12, 2014

Willie James Jelks (WJJ)

On June 12, 2014 of Alexandria, VA, age 77.

He "went bowling" due to hereditary Amyloidosis of the heart and renal failure.

Born in Montgomery, AL on June 11, 1937 to Frank Jelks and Lessie B.

(Lloyd) Tyner. Willie was the oldest of seven children. Survived by his beloved wife Cheryl; brother Emmitt Jelks, Indianapolis, IN; sisters Jeraldine (Arthur) Smith Gary, IN; Rosie (Ed) Beard, Indianapolis, IN; five children James (Cheryl) Jelks; Jennifer (Mark) Merricks; Ora Jelks; Randy (Velma) Jelks; Dennis (Achoiva) Jelks; three step-children Stephanie (Alex) Fitch; Tiffany (Michael) Scruggs; Alan Sponaugle; 26 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. Preceded in death by his parents; brothers Mickey, Theotis and Eugene. Willie was an avid bowler and would help anyone who asked. He was inducted into the NCAUSBCA Hall of Fame October 1999. Family and friends may call at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Dr., Alexandria, VA on Thursday, June 19, 2014 from 2-4 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. And also on Friday, June 20, 2014 from 2-4 pm. & 7-9 pm. Funeral service at Jefferson Funeral Chapel on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at 11 am with interment to follow at Mt. Comfort Cemetery.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Willie James Jelks*

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October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Obituary Wall*



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**Jefferson Funeral Chapel** - January 28, 2019 at 10:06 AM



“ *Papa Will,*

*We had many conversations and shared the same views about core beliefs in life. Word hard and stand up for what you believe. You were a great man to my mom who offered guidance and growth to her and for that I thank you. She hasn't had the best of lives but with you in her life it was better. It was my pleasure spending holidays and laughs with you. Even sick times or when you had medical questions I was happy to walk you through the reasoning and help you arrive at your personal answer. There was not a mean bone in your body unless the person deserved it of course! Sidney will always remember paying papa Will a quarter when she got to his house because "Papa Will is gonna get me if I don't bring him his quarter." You will be missed but you are in such a better place! Love ya, Stephanie aka little one*

*P.S. I'm wearing my big shoes to the funeral just for you!*

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June 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Cheryl, Alan and family

*So sorry for the loss of Willie and my thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time. It was a pleasure knowing Willie for many years and he always loved taking a "stroll" down memory lane thru the late 70's and early 80's.*

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June 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Cheryl, Alan & family,

*Willie was my friend for a very long time and he brought you both into my life. He came from nothing and became EVERYTHING! He was a Prince of a man. I love & respect him! He will live in our hearts forever! He made a difference in so many lives. While we are selfish as humans and want our loved ones with us, I can find comfort in knowing that HE is not suffering! Thank you taking such great care of him during the most difficult days of his life as it came to and end here on earth.*

*Until we meet again upon the other shore my treasured friend. Don't forget to meet me at the gates of heaven.*

*With much love,*

*Cynthia*

*xoxo*

*HUGS!*

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June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Willie, You will be truly missed. It was a pleasure bowling and knowing you. Bowling lost a great one. RIP my friend and we will meet again.

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June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Cheryl.*

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June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Cheryl and Family,  
So sorry for your loss. Keeping you in my prayers and thoughts at  
this difficult time.*

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June 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *I knew you for a short time when Cheryl and I were inducted into the  
Bowling Hall of Fame at the same time. Always remembered your  
smile and enthusiasm for bowling and helping so many others to  
love the sport.  
Well done, and now Rest In Peace.*

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June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Go rest high on that mountain Willie cause your work on earth is  
done. You've certainly earned your reservation. R.I.P.  
Pat Blackmore*

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June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Join your brothers Willie. You a good friend and an inspiration to all  
who had the pleasure to meet you.*

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June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ WJJ, save a set of lanes for me, been proud to know you.

June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Going to miss you Willie jelks (papa willie) RIP gone but you'll never be forgotten

June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Will, the last couple months were real hard and not something I'd wish on anybody, and even you said you wished to not live a life "connected to machines", which I fully understand and agree with. We did the best we could though, I believe. I wish we could have did more, but there is a limit and a time for everything and everyone in this world. I was relieved to see you no longer in pain, but I was saddened to the core to watch you go. Love you as a son, Alan.

June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Going to miss seeing him on Saturday mornings when the youth were bowling - great man! No more pain!! John 11:25-26

June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Willie's is going home to rest. God blessed the family during this sad moment. I will pray for his family to watch over each one of you.

June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



*“ An Angel has gone to heaven. Willie was such a positive influence to me as well as both my sons. Always willing to give his time to help others. We will miss you my good friend. You were like a brother to me. The lanes need a good lanesmen in heaven and you will be the best! RIP Willie!*

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June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



*“ I miss you so very much already. You were always there when I had a problem to help me figure it out. There is such a big empty space in my heart in which is going to take a very long time to fill. You will be missed by so many people you did not even know considered you their friend. Till we meet again.....*

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June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM



*“ Willie, you always brought to bowling a gift of life that made the game a joy, especially when we watched you throw that ball so smoothly and consistently down the alley. Thanks for being a friend and an example for all of us. You are missed and will continue to be an example for the rest of us.*

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June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM



*“ Willie, you always had the smile and the style, and took pleasure in helping others!! I will never feel like you are gone, only waiting for us with arms open. Peace, thank you, thank you so much!!*

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June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM