



Mr. Sylvester Harold Saunders

June 2, 1941 - June 25, 2025

SYLVESTER HAROLD SAUNDERS, known as Harold and affectionately nicknamed “Bodie,” was born in Washington, DC, on June 2, 1941, to Mamie and Sylvester Saunders. Harold was the third of six children. He passed away at the age of 84 on June 25, 2025, after a long illness.

Harold was educated in the D.C. Public Schools, graduating from Spingarn High School in 1959. He was always a diligent worker and took on summer jobs while in school. After graduation, he served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War era. Shortly after Harold returned home from the Army, he soon began a long illustrious career as a printer with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, retiring after more than 42 years of federal service. He soon became bored and found himself working again, this time at CIA Headquarter in Langley, VA, as a security guard.

Harold was a peaceful and gentle man, known for his integrity, with characteristics such as disciplined, trustworthy, steadfast, helpful and generous. A man of faith, he joined Metropolitan Baptist Church at its Washington, D.C. location under Rev. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr., and continued his Christian growth there under Rev. Maurice Watson after the Church moved to Largo, MD.

Harold loved his family dearly and especially doted over his mother, who passed away in 2006. He loved all sports, from the Washington Commanders and all of the other Washington sports teams, to bowling. He was also enthusiastic about cars, and you could often find him visiting auto shows or

the places where people gathered to show off their sports or antique cars. He kept his own car spotless, so much so that you might see him washing it almost every day. He also enjoyed going to the movies and was an R&B aficionado. He used to love to sing and dance – especially to the oldies – and his favorite artists were James Brown, Peabo Bryson, Toni Braxton, and Michael Jackson, just to name a few. His all-time favorite song was “Hey Ya!” by OutKast. Even in his hospital bed, that song would almost always get him moving!

He trusted his heart to Jeanette McIntosh, and they were married on May 20, 2000. Her daughter Sharon McIntosh Durham (living in Florida) instantly became his stepdaughter and her son William McIntosh, his step-grandson. Harold leaves to mourn two sisters, Linda Smith and Joyce Hardy; Joseph DeLoatch, Aaron Smith and Maya Smith, nephews and niece who considered Harold more of a father figure; Keith Martin, nephew; Carol Brown, Rhonda Robinson, Denise DeLoatch, nieces; Alexia Booze and Jaquita DeLoatch, great nieces; Breon Reynoso and Aaron Thomas, great nephews; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

QUANTICO

18424 JOPLIN ROAD
TRIANGLE, VA 22172

Previous Events

Burial Service

JUL 17. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

QUANTICO
18424 JOPLIN ROAD
TRIANGLE, VA 22172

EVERYONE IS TO ARRIVE AT THE CEMETERY NO LATER THAN 1:00PM.

Tribute Wall

LB

“ *May the love and support of family and friends around you provide comfort in these trying times.*

Billy Hughley (brother-in-law) and Dorothy Hughley (sister-in-law).



Leta Barner - July 16, 2025 at 06:03 PM

LB

“ *We are Harold's family by marriage. Sending condolences while remembering his warm smile and friendly personality. May his memory be a blessing and a gentle source of comfort.*

Eunice Barner (Sister-in-Law), Leta Barner, Melanie Barner, and Saidah Barner (The Nieces)



leta barner - July 16, 2025 at 01:02 PM

RH

“ Dear Family, I am Harold's niece by marriage, and wish to express my sincere condolences. I knew Mr. Harold to be a delightful, and energetic person. May you find comfort and peace in your memories of him.

Sincerely,
Rhonda Johnson

Rhonda - July 16, 2025 at 12:24 AM

LI

“ Christmas was an especially joyous celebration with Bodie in the house! I will truly miss my brother.



Linda - July 15, 2025 at 12:05 AM

JB

“ Jerry & Edna Lee and Denise Lee Barton purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Sylvester Harold Saunders.



Jerry & Edna Lee and Denise Lee Barton - July 12, 2025 at 01:56 PM

AT

“ I am so thankful that God loaned Harold to us. He was a man who loved his family unconditionally. I know that he would like to leave an afterglow of smiles and many happy memories for us to cherish. His presence here will be missed but we know that this is not the end for Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints (Psalm 116:15). Trust God he will comfort you during this difficult time.



Annie Twyman - July 07, 2025 at 11:06 AM

GL

Bodie was a spark with joy. He was always optimistic and had a great smile.

He had a strong work ethic and was a positive role model for young cousins like me.

We send our condolences to Bodie's wife and family.

I celebrate his life well lived. And now Bodie has gone on to glory.

Jerry Lee

Gerald Bruce Lee - July 12, 2025 at 02:00 PM