



## Mr. Tomie Lee Sullivan

December 30, 1938 - September 7, 2023

### OBITUARY - Tomie Lee Sullivan

A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.

Proverbs 17:22

Mr. Tomie Lee Sullivan was born to the late Larry Sullivan and Lillie Mae Hammond on December 30, 1938 in Washington, D.C. He began his unique path in life as a child in rural South Carolina and later moved to Pittsburgh, PA where he played as a wide receiver on the Braddock High School championship football team.

After high school, Tomie served in the United States Armed Forces before beginning his career as a plate printer at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D.C. In 1968, he married the late Rachel Thurston, and through this union had a daughter, Celeste Elaine.

Tomie was a faithful and dedicated member of the Dayspring Community Church where he led the audio visual ministry, sang in the men's choir, and participated in an array of church activities.

Tomie Lee was a vibrant person who communicated through humor and storytelling. He was not satisfied until even the grumpiest of strangers belted out in laughter at one of his jokes! Aside from his second career as a comedian, Tomie was the unofficial photographer at family functions. He had a love for Motown and gospel music and was known to "cut a rug" on the dance floor. Don't bother him nightly unless you wanted to participate in his daily Family Feud Watchathon with him and his daughter where they would both yell out answers as if it would impact the outcome of the show! Last but certainly not least, Tomie was a huge fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers. He could be found with a terrible towel in one hand at any moment ready to cheer on his team!

Tomie's goal was to enjoy life's every moment, no matter how high or low. He rarely complained but found a way to see the humorous side of every situation.

Tomie Lee is survived by his devoted daughter Celeste Elaine Sullivan and loving brother Wallace Bright Jr.; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Rachel Sullivan and devoted mother, Lillie Mae Bright, and loving father Larry Sullivan.

Tomie's charm and wit impacted many and his infectious smile brightened the days of all he encountered. He will truly be missed, although we know at the appointed time we will all indeed meet again.

# Cemetery Details

## FORT LINCOLN CEMETERY

3401 BLADENSBURG RD  
BRENTWOOD, MD 20722

# Previous Events

## Viewing

SEP **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Metropolitan Baptist Church  
1200 Mercantile Lane  
Largo, MD 20774

## Funeral Service

SEP **16**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Metropolitan Baptist Church  
1200 Mercantile Lane  
Largo, MD 20774

# Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Tomie Lee Sullivan.

September 16, 2023 at 01:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Tomie Lee Sullivan.

September 14, 2023 at 04:08 PM



“ Hickory Farms Savory and Sweet Snacker Gift Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Tomie Lee Sullivan.



September 14, 2023 at 04:08 PM