

Celebration of Life
In Loving Memory of
Leonard Joseph Bell



Sunrise: March 28, 1944

Sunset: November 5, 2021

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
Rev. David Bava, Pastor
206 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Monday November 29, 2021
Viewing 9:30am - 11am - Service 11am

Deacon Willis Daniels, Officiating

Obituary

Leonard Joseph Bell (Slim) was born March 28, 1944, in Washington, DC to the late Ida T. Bell and Edward Lewis. He was the second oldest child of seven and on Friday November 5, 2021, he departed this life peacefully.

Leonard was educated in the Washington DC public school system and graduated in 1962.

He was employed as an engineer at the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) for 45 years, where he received many awards and recognitions for his Outstanding Performances until his retirement.

Leonard was a lifetime member of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church which he attended with his mother and siblings. Leonard lived a happy and fulfilling life, enjoying plays, cruises, Doo Wop concerts, and celebrating birthdays, whether it was his or someone else, he made sure it was special. He was a charming and pleasant person, with a heart of gold, who loved to dress and was really handsome.

As the Family Patriarch, he truly loved attending family functions. He was very supportive and always showed them love with a kiss or a hug. He loved hosting our family's annual Fourth of July fireworks display and took great pleasure in seeing the joy this gave the children.

Leonard enjoyed sports, and one of his favorite's was bowling where he received several trophies and awards in the Mixed Bowling League on BAFB.

Leonard loved hand dancing and was well known and loved by the DC's Oldies dance communities. His love for hand dancing extend all the way back to the Teenarama Dance Party where his family would watch him dance on TV. His fancy feet and legs work moves were one of his trademarks which caused everyone to smile.

Leonard was a lively person who enjoyed, listening to blues, jazz, and Doo Wop music. His also listened faithfully to WPFW oldies and watched "A Choice Affair" event on TV.

Leonard was the luckiest person we knew. He won so many times on various radio stations, he caused them to change the rules to only one winner every 30 days. It was amazing how he would study the raffle tickets numbers before selecting one and pick the winning tickets, and he also won a car.

Some of his fondest memories were when he went to hear his son Lionell preach, playing pool with his son Leonard Jr., and walking his daughter Marie down the aisle at her wedding. You could see, how proud he was when he spoke about these events.

Leonard was preceded in death by his mother Ida T. Bell, father Edward Lewis; brothers Samuel and Bernard Bell; nephews James Simms and Delonte Simmons, Jr.; his grandparents Helena and Gartrell Crew.

He leaves to cherish his memories two sons Leonard, Jr. and Lionell Bell; daughter, Marie Bell-Anderson (Charles); grandchildren Keon Leonard Cody Sr., Tijah Walker Bell, Kevin Colbert, Jr. Bell; three sisters, Sandra M. Giles, Rene' Simmons (Delonte), Nadine Bell-Muhammad and a brother Godwin Bell; eleven nieces, two nephews, sixteen great nieces, ten great nephews, three great-great nieces, seven great-great nephew and a loving devoted companion and friend of 17 years, Cynthia Tolson, extended family which he thought fondly of James and William Bell, Melvin and Latisha Doze and a host of other relatives and many friends.

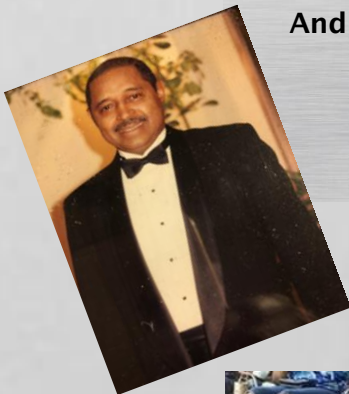
Leonard was very well known and loved, and he will truly be forever missed by all who knew and loved him.



Tomorrow

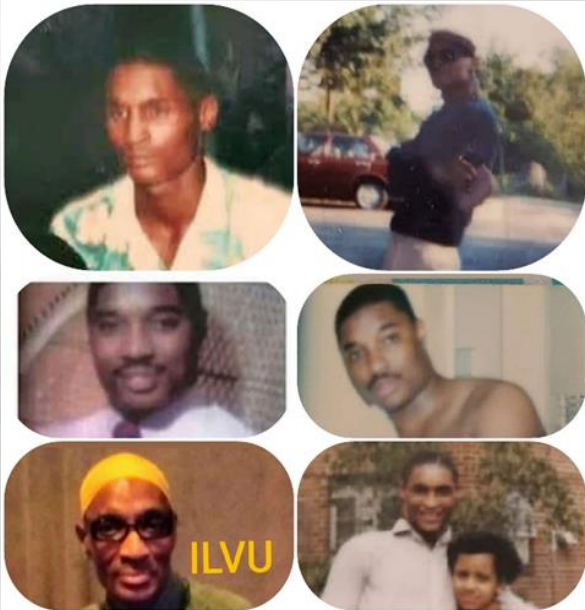
When tomorrow starts without me and I'm not there to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me,
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today.
While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.
I know how much you love me as much as I Love You.
And each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.

But, when tomorrow starts without me,
please try to understand,
that an angel came and called my name,
and took me by the hand.



Loved by your children.....

DAD'S MEN. LEONARD J. BELL, JR. & LIONELL P. BELL. WE LOVE AND MISS YOU...



Bell Lionell
 DAD ITS HARD TO BELIEVE YOU'RE GONE. MY HEART IS ACHING. I AM YOU AND YOU ARE ME SO YOU WILL FOREVER LIVE IN LOVE. I AM LOVE. THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME A MAN'S MAN AS A FATHER. MY HOPE FROM THIS MOMENT IS THAT OUR FAMILY CAN LOVE MORE AND EXTEND IT TO ALL. LOVE IS IN NEED OF LOVE TODAY. IT CAN BEGIN WITH THE BELL FAMILY, LIKE BELLS THAT RING ALL OVER THE WORLD EVERYDAY. WE GIVE LOVE TO EACH OTHER, THEREFORE SHOWERING LOVE IS THE ANSWER. ILVU..JUST HELP ME THOUGH AS I GIVE MY ALL. RIP...XOXO



DAD, Our time was our time. When called upon you were there. I remember when I was about 5 years old, and not feeling well, you took care of me. During my visits with you, I recalled looking out of your front window apartment on New York Ave., seeing all those cars going up and down the street with excitement. I now drive down this same street, frustrated with all that traffic making sure that I look over to your front window and remember our time together 😊. Seeing you at my six-grade graduation and all my friends saying who's that sharp dressing man - that's my DAD I said so proudly. The first time you saw your grandson Kevin and you boosted with a proud smile that warmed my heart. Finally, when my husband to be Charles, asked you for my hand in marriage and again was that same proud smile. Yes, you said, take her!!! Our grand finale, you and Ms. Cynthia attending our wedding and insisting on wearing that tuxedo you haven't had on in years (LOL). I didn't fuss, it was more important to me that you were there to walk me down the aisle wearing that Tux and that same proud smile that warmed my heart. Our Father and daughter dance was so special for me. Dad, you turned it OUT on that dance floor. Thank you, Ms. Cynthia, for loving my Dad and cherishing him. Rest peacefully Dad, in the arms of the Father of our Salvation. Until we meet again.

Thank you for loving your family,
your daughter Marie Bell Anderson.





Order of Service



Opening Hymn Hymn #431 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine”
 Opening Prayer..... Deacon Willis Daniels

Scripture Reading

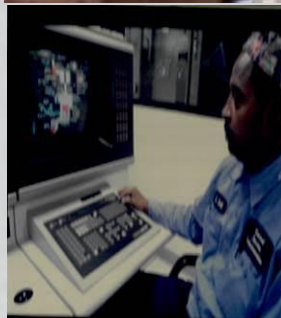
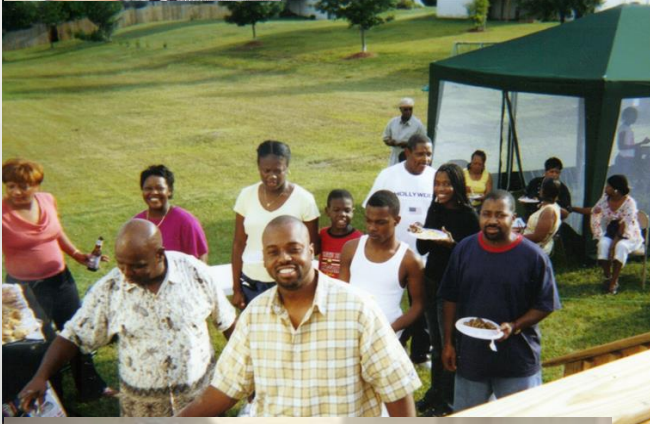
First Reading
 A Reading from the book of Wisdom 3:1-6, 9
 Gloria Tobe

Responsorial Psalm
 Psalm 23
 Wandra Stone

Second Reading
 A Reading from the book of Revelation 21:1-7

Gospel..... Deacon Willis Daniels
 Offertory Hymn.....Hymn #495..... “Amazing Grace”
 Words of Expressions..... Friends and Family.....Family/Friends (2 Minutes Please)
 Hymn “His Eyes are On the Sparrow”Lionell Bell (Son)
 Poem Reading..... “Tomorrow”.....Jasmine Simms
 Obituary Reading.....Robin Quick
 Poem Reading..... “Im Free”.....Robin Quick
 Closing Prayer..... Deacon Willis Daniels
 Sending Forth.....Deacon Willis Daniels
 Recessional.....“Take Me to the King”.....Holy Redeemer Catholic Choir







I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard him call.
I turned by back and left it all.



I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to work, to play.

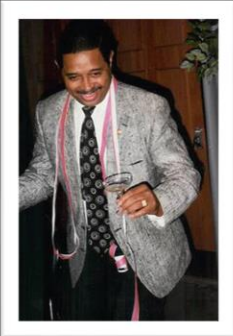
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that peace at the close of the day.



If my parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh,
a kiss Oh yes, these things I too will miss.



But not burdened with times of sorrow.
I will you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much Good friends,
Good times, a loved one's touch.



Perhaps my time seemed all too brief.
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee God wanted me now,
He set me free.



Honorary Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgements

The family of Leonard Bell wishes to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your prayers, cards, calls, and other acts of kindness shown to us during this time of bereavement.
We thank you for your love. God bless.

Special Thanks

Holy Redeemer Church
Washington Health Institute Doctors, Staff and Medical Case Managers
Apartment Residents and Neighborhood Friends

Services Entrusted To

Robinson Funeral Home, Inc.
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