

Goodbye To My Dad

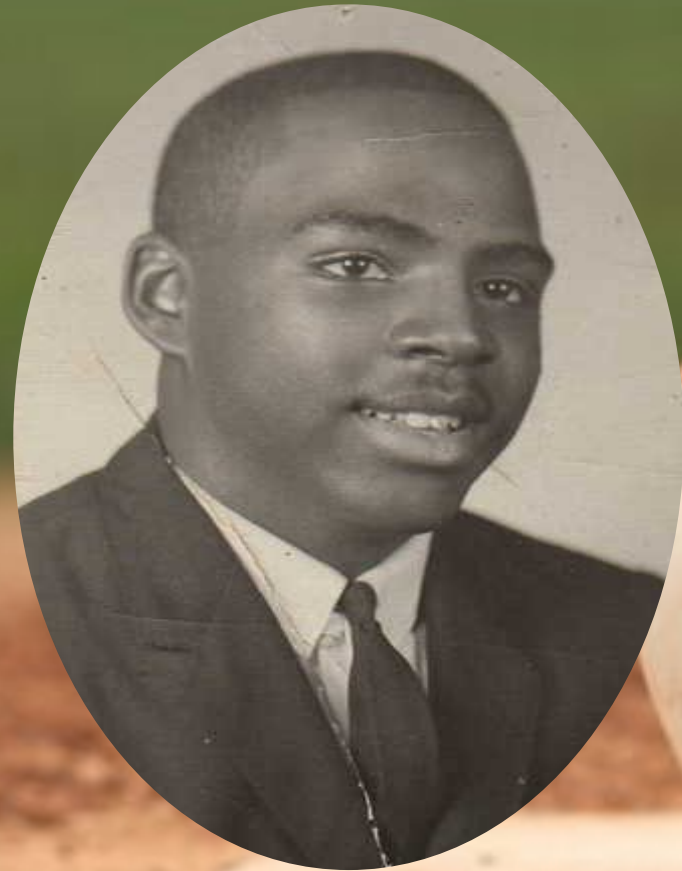
Goodbye Dad, I had to say
A few months ago on a cold winter day
I'll remember the good times and try not to be sad
But saying goodbye still hurts so bad
I miss you more then I can express
My love for you will never grow less
I keep trying to imagine how I will go on
I realize tomorrow is another dawn
I know you're in heaven above
Looking down on us with all your love
Only to whisper in our ear
Remember that I'll never stopped loving you
I'll always remember the good times we had
Remember the man, my wonderful Dad
I'll remember you each and every day
And if I need to talk to you, I'll just sit down and pray
One day we'll be together again
To talk about all the places we've been
Until that time I'll always treasure
Having you for a Dad was such a great pleasure

~Debra Marie Stratton-VanBuskirk



IN LOVING MEMORY

Leroy "Poochie" Pittman Jr.



Sunrise
June 25, 1945

Sunset
December 29, 2021

God saw you getting tired,
When a cure was not to be.
So He wrapped his arms around you,
and whispered, “come to me.”
You didn’t deserve what you went through,
So He gave you rest.

God’s garden must be beautiful,
He only takes the best
And when I saw you sleeping,
So peaceful and free from pain
I could not wish you back
To suffer that again.



His huge smile was infectious and extremely contagious, and you would find your belly aching from the continuously laughter while being in his presence. If you paid close enough attention you could be blessed with snippets of sayings, profound knowledge and life lessons that could propel you to even greater heights. He knew how to enjoy life and learned not to sweat the small stuff.

Leroy was also notorious for challenging his brother Roy on accomplishments to date including who was the better athlete and always demanding ownership or being recognized as the originator of the many quotes and affirmations they both regularly shared with everyone throughout the years. Although they didn’t align on who was “top dog” they were the best of buddies navigating life together as brothers. Leroy maintained a loving relationship and an inseparable bond with his siblings and was always there to support them. Although he could never help Helen catch the rhythm despite holding her hands to make them clap he allowed her to dance to her own beat. Leroy was also quick to respond and be of service when called upon by Edna, Eleanor and Franklin as they knew he was only a phone call away.

Leroy will be missed dearly by family, friends and all who knew and loved him.

Rest in Love Leroy

June 25, 1945 –December 29, 2021



LEROY
PITTMAN
1963

HIGH SCHOOL HONORS 1 Football Letter

3 Baseball Letters

- 2nd Team All-PIL as Junior
- 1st Team All-PIL as Senior
- 1st Team All-State as Senior
- MVP of the State Metro Baseball Series at The Dalles, 7 for 11 in the 3 games



Memories of Leroy

Leroy was a beautiful soul and could always be counted on to tackle those mundane chores that everyone likes to avoid like mowing the lawn, mopping the floor and spring cleaning. Although he felt taken advantage of at times he still was always present and ready to offer a helping hand. He understood that blessings were in the giving and not always in the receiving.

He was always neat and organized and in his early days recognized as the sharpest dresser and dancer in the neighborhood. He never had to beg for attention as many people were automatically drawn to him and fascinated with his wit and charm. This allowed him to insert himself and be comfortable navigating in many social circles and also positioned him to excel and break racial barriers. He was never too far from his briefcase that contained all the references materials and legal forms he accumulated and used to provide guidance to those in need including himself.



His culinary talents included smothered pork chops and rice, prime rib and yams. Although he could cook just about anything. Basically, everything he touched turned into a culinary delight that satisfied your tastebuds. He could whip up a mean breakfast complete with his favorite, pancakes, and bacon. He also knew how to convert those bland “meals on wheels” meals into something spectacular.

Leroy always kept some cash in his pocket but would be quick to let you know he was broke. His money was his money, and your money was his money.

He stayed in shape by walking several miles daily stopping along the way to visit his favorite establishments to say hello to the staff and possibly luck out on the greatest freebies including Starbucks mocha Frappuccino's and free bananas from Fred Meyer's.

He was known by everyone in the neighborhood, you would be pressed to find very few establishments in the NW area that were not familiar with Leroy. The NW and downtown areas were his domain where everyone knew his name and enjoyed conversing with him to absorb his general knowledge, astute business sense and understanding of IRS tax code and regulations. But everyone especially enjoyed his jovial demeanor, quick wit, and sense humor.

Obituary

Leroy Pittman, Jr. passed away on Wednesday, December 29, 2021, at the age 76 after a heroic battle with cancer and dementia. He was known as “Poochie” to his closest friends and family and later in life as “Skillet”. Born of Lucille Garner and Leroy Pittman Sr. on June 25, 1945, in Mer Rouge, LA. He relocated with his family to Portland, OR in 1949 where his father found work on the railroad. Leroy was recognized for his exceptional athletic ability as a dual-sport athlete in football and baseball. He excelled in baseball at Washington High School earning a MVP honors for a state playoffs championship among other letters and accolades. After a year of playing baseball for Clark College, his talents at short stop led him to the Kansas City Athletics AA team where he roomed and played with Reggie Jackson. Leroy had also enlisted in the military at one point, he was a cook and obtained a certification in helicopter repair and earned his M14 marksman's badge.

Leroy was a charismatic man always surrounded by many friends. He enjoyed life to its fullest and was always in good spirits naturally keeping everyone in his presence entertained. He could be counted on to offer a helping hand to those in need and spent a significant amount of time serving as an advocate for the homeless community in Portland area, helping individuals to navigate the system to secure housing and the funding needed to support daily living expenses. He was an exceptional chef that always made sure there was plenty of food to feed the souls at many family events.

Leroy had a gift for numbers and was considered a brilliant math genius that could retain tons of information and spot patterns that others often overlooked. His numerous talents led him to taking on many roles and excelling at them all including breaking racial barriers by becoming the 2nd African American appointed as a bank officer at First Interstate Bank in Oregon and by obtaining one of the 10th highest scores on the IRS Tax preparer exam. He was gifted beyond measure and was able to excel at whatever he set his mind to, including retail banking, finance, tax preparation, government procurement contracts and project management. He used his talents to support the community by helping to write grants and proposals for multiple non-profit organizations in the Portland metro area. He leaves with us a legacy of accomplishments and has set the example of how to show compassion for those that can't advocate for themselves.

All of this considered, his greatest trait and achievement was his love, support and adoration for his family and friends, especially his “nieces (and nephews) he loved to pieces”. He was a son, brother, father, grandfather, uncle, cousin, and friend to so many more. The best dancer in the neighborhood and at one time the sharpest dresser.

Leroy was preceded in his passing by his siblings Eleanor Pittman and Edna Pittman, and his son Trent Pittman.

Leroy leaves to mourn him his siblings Roy Pittman, Helen Pittman, and Franklin Pittman, and his children Randi Pittman, Michelle Lawrence, Leah Pittman-Jackson, Travis Bentz, Corey Pittman, Domanic Roses (Pittman), Taleesha Pittman, Theodore Pittman, Chisa O'Quinn, and Terrell Pittman; grandchildren Andre' Pittman, Adrian Pennington, Shardea Booth, Alex Hayden, Michael Lawrence, Everett Lawrence, Zendaya Roses, Jada Roses; great grandchildren Adrian Pennington Sr., Andrea' Pittman and a host of nephews, “nieces he loved to pieces” and many other relatives and friends that loved him dearly.



Baseball Prayer

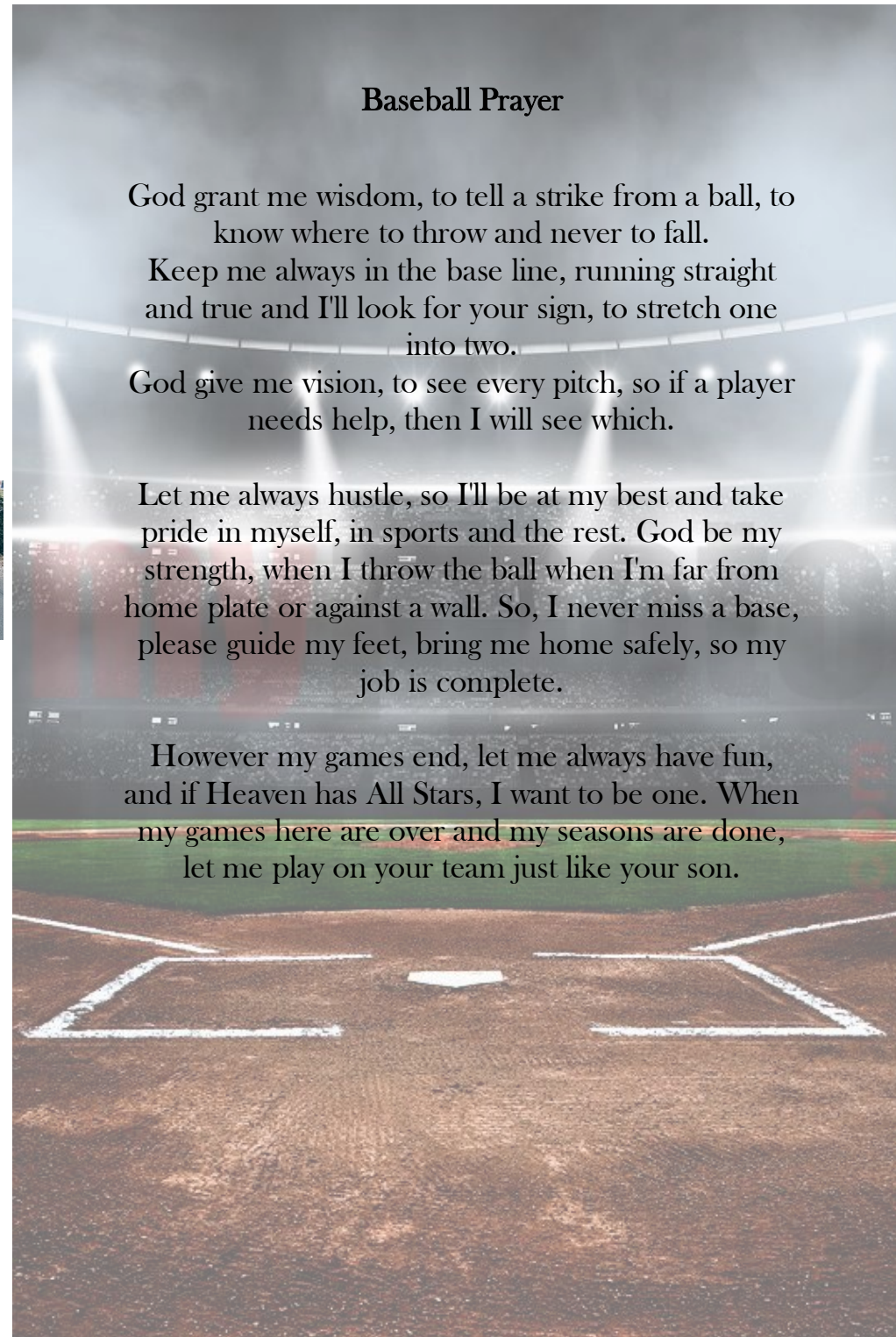
God grant me wisdom, to tell a strike from a ball, to
know where to throw and never to fall.

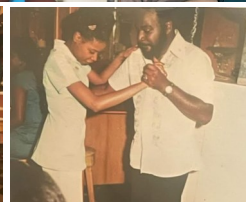
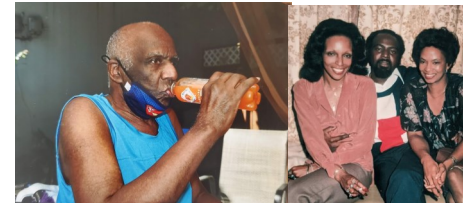
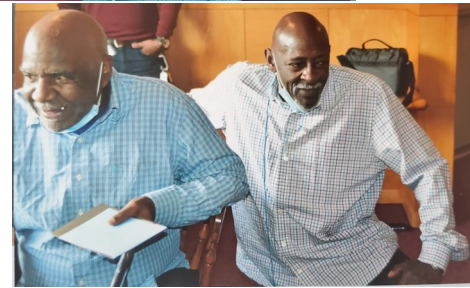
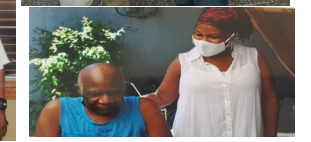
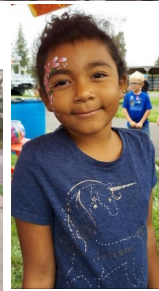
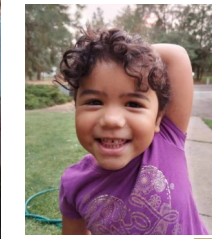
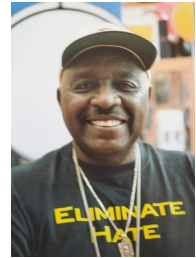
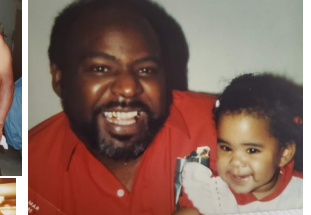
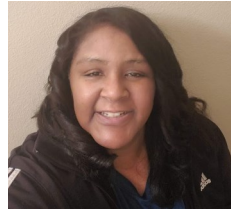
Keep me always in the base line, running straight
and true and I'll look for your sign, to stretch one
into two.

God give me vision, to see every pitch, so if a player
needs help, then I will see which.

Let me always hustle, so I'll be at my best and take
pride in myself, in sports and the rest. God be my
strength, when I throw the ball when I'm far from
home plate or against a wall. So, I never miss a base,
please guide my feet, bring me home safely, so my
job is complete.

However my games end, let me always have fun,
and if Heaven has All Stars, I want to be one. When
my games here are over and my seasons are done,
let me play on your team just like your son.





Don't Grieve For Me

Don't grieve for me, from pain I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid, you see.
I took his hand when I heard his call
I turned around and left it all.
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found the peace on a sunny day.
If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joys.
A family shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good family, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seem all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts, and peace to thee.
God wanted me now; From pain I'm free.

~Anonymous

Acknowledgments

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and keep you!

Terry Family Funeral Home
2337 N. Williams Ave.
Portland, OR 97277

