



## Mr. Harvey Lee Bowens

January 28, 1946 - July 2, 2017

UTICA/WASHINGTON - Mr. Harvey Lee Bowens, age 71, went to be with the Lord when he passed away on Sunday, July 2, 2017 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with his loving family by his side.

Born in Utica on January 28, 1946, Harvey was the son of the late James and Lealer Bell (Herring) Bowens. He was a graduate of Utica Free Academy and continued his education at Barrington College where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in May 1967. He continued his post graduate work at City College of Seattle where he was awarded a Masters of Business Administration degree in May 1979. A proud veteran of the United States Air Force, Harvey honorably served his country from July 1967 to June 1974. He rose through the ranks quickly and earned the elite distinction of having a top secret security clearance. On May 11, 1971 he married the former Lochreane R. Bivens with whom he shared 43 years in a strong, loving union based on respect, support, and good family values. Lochreane passed away on August 15, 2014.

Harvey was a partner in a Hertz Rental Franchise located in the Seattle, Washington Airport, a position he held from 1979-2004. Harvey was a natural leader and his organizational skills, sense of humor, and consideration for his clients made his career a success. Due to health concerns, he retired early and relocated back to Utica. Harvey was a multi-talented man, and whether at home or work, among family or friends, he was caring, affectionate, and happy to see people smile when he cracked a joke. He was a man of character. He

loved his sports, especially the Lakers, 49ers, and Yankees. He was a member of St. Paul's Baptist Church and enjoyed his time in the Choir. Harvey is survived by his sons, Brian Bowens, and Christopher Bowens; and his daughters, Carmel Butt, and Ayashia Bowens, all of Washington; his 13 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren. He also leaves his siblings, Elizabeth Preston, John, Arlene McFadden, Larry and Fletcher Beavers, James R., Mike and Shirley, Evelyn Noah, Steve and Chenno, Sandra and Rev. Ted Howard, Kenneth and Melinda, Cheryl, Bruce, Doris, Lealer, Edwina, and Phillip and Robyn; a very, very large host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; sister-in-law, Barbara Bivens; and brother-in-law, Herman Tucker.

The family extends their gratitude to the staff of the St. Luke's Home and Hospital, especially the personnel of the PCU; and all of Harvey's family members who went above and beyond in caring for him.

Visitation will be held Friday afternoon from 12:00-2:00 at St. Paul's Baptist Church, 219 Leah Street. Donations and cards may be addressed to Harvey's daughter, Ayashia Bowens. Harvey's Memorial service and Home Going Celebration with Military Honors conferred will commence on Friday afternoon at 2:00 at the church with Rev. Ted Howard and Rev. Marilyn Bell officiating the ceremony.

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ Knew Harvey from high school at UFA. We played sports together and enjoyed each others company. Ron Temple, Harvey's relative through mairriage , was my best friend in High School and we still stay in touch. That is how I heard of Harvey's passing. Harvey had the rare gift of radiating good will with a sense of humor and a positive attitude. Someone who will always be remembered , and those memories are what counts. God bless Harvey and his big beautiful family.

*Bill Szentagotay, UFA class of 63.*

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**Bill Szentagotay** - July 08, 2017 at 01:28 AM



“ When I was about 9, and playing baseball at Lincoln playground, some kids cam over and asked if they could play some ball with us. I said "sure" and we got to play 7 on a side, instead of 4. The only thing I knew about color was from "Our Gang" and "Little Rascals", where kids just played together. I met Harvey Bowens and he stood out right away. He had so much in common These kids started coming over a lot and I found out that they had passed other playgrounds, where the kids there said there was no room for them. We always had room and soon they were coming to my house and calling me out to come play ball. Harvey became on of my best friends and we played baseball and basketball together. We went to the same high school, but I got thrown out at 16 and we lost track. I knew he went to college, worked in Seattle, and ran into his brother John, at a reunion. Then I found out he was on dialysis. It made me sad, but I never made it to Washington, I did not know he was in Utica. I just read his obituary and was amazed at how much he accomplished. He lived a remarkable life and, after all this time, I miss him and am deeply saddened by his death. Harvey Bowens, your light will shine forever. Rest in Peace.

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**Don Jacksina** - July 05, 2017 at 09:26 PM

AB

*I second the comments above. I met Harvey at Kernan School when we started 7th grade. Back then, we were placed in alphabetical order and so he sat right behind me. Before that time, I hadn't interacted with a black person. While Utica wasn't formally "segregated", African-Americans went to elementary school at Potter School and white kids went elsewhere (e.g., Washington, Lincoln, etc.). Harvey was, as noted by others, a warm, funny, bright young man. We tried to make one another laugh but he was usually the one who succeeded first. I too spoke with his brother John at UFA's 50th reunion and was sorry Harvey wasn't there because of his medical challenges. I hope John did pass along my regards and best wishes. Thoughts and prayers for his family. Take comfort that you had a wonderful father, grandfather, uncle, brother, and so on -- just a terrific person.*

*Alan Balutis*

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**Alan Balutis** - July 09, 2017 at 09:04 AM