



## Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.

January 12, 1960 - June 1, 2021

UTICA - James Lee Adams, Sr. "Winky", age 61, passed away on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. After a year-long courageous battle with cancer James transitioned peacefully into eternal rest.

Born in Belle Glade, Florida on January 12, 1960, James was the second born child and the #1 son (first born) of Joyce Adams. In the 1960's, his family relocated to Utica, NY where James attended Brandegee and Conkling Elementary schools and Utica Free Academy high school. A proud veteran, he enlisted in the United States Army where he honorably served his country stationed in Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. Winky's military background instilled him with additional structure and core values. He was blessed with two sons, and the older of the two sons was named after him, James L. Adams Jr. At one time, James was married to the former Louise Kline and he had a second son, Derelle Adams. Winky also had two bonus sons, Romelle Ponder, and Leon Kline. Winky also shared a marriage with Charlene Love, and she remained with him to the end, as a friend. She and her current husband, Fabian were a source of support for any of Winky's needs for which everyone is thankful.

Winky worked as a truck driver, and was employed at Feher Rubbish Removal & Recycling Company, and most recently had a position at Elg Utica Alloys, Inc. Winky was known to be a "Momma's Boy". He was very respectful and loved and honored his elders, a virtue that came from his family upbringing. As a dad, he did a good job guiding his kids. He was thoughtful, and he was

the epitome of an exemplary person and very overprotective of his sisters. He was a good cook, with chili and spaghetti as his specialties, and ham as his favorite. Winky enjoyed family fishing trips and the serene setting. The family get-togethers were lively, with music and dancing, and it was love that was always the cause of the good times. Winky played basketball during his youth, and during high school at Utica Free Academy. He was a coach for Dick Miller's Youth Premier Basketball team and mentored the players. He was an avid Dallas Cowboys fan. All in All, Winky was kind, compassionate, generous by nature, and beloved by many. Winky was a member of Friendship Baptist Church; he loved the Lord and church was a huge part of his upbringing. James is survived by his mother, Joyce Adams; his children, James L. Adams Jr (Jennifer Alberico), Derelle Adams (Erica Blackshear), and bonus-sons, Romelle Ponder, and Leon Kline. James also leaves his grandchildren, Eriyahna Adams, Prince Adams, and Saint Adams; siblings, Rose (Jeff) Shealey, Sandra Linen, Ronald Adams (Pamela Cobane), Gary Linen (and his late wife, Betsy Linen), Rebecca (Arlene) Linen-Hernandez, Lakiesha (Artie) Linen-Neal, Anne Zielinski, Traycee Adams, Jahmilia Adams, Carolyn Adams, and Joetta Adams.

James was predeceased by his Grandmother, Dorothy M. Jones; aunt, Carolyn Gadsden; uncle, Ivory Adams Jr.; siblings, John Linen Jr., Katrina M. Adams, Mary M. Linen; nephew, Odum Shealey; and cousin, Edward Patterson.

Also left behind to remember Winky is an aunt, Marva Adams; uncle Alonzo Gadsden; a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; and the many friendships he made in his life that were so important to him. Friends may pay their respects to Winky on Wednesday morning, June 9, 2021 from 10:00 – 11:30 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc Celebration of Life will commence at 11:30 upon the conclusion of visitation officiated by Rev. March. Interment will follow in Forest Hill Cemetery with Military Honors.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 9. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

## Home Going Service

JUN 9. 11:30 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.  
932 South Street  
corner of Hammond Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501  
(315) 724-6714  
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ Sherisse Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.



sherisse Wells - September 28, 2021 at 01:28 PM

MA

“ Mark/Margie lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.



Mark/Margie - June 15, 2021 at 04:02 PM

JH

“ A great soul gone too soon but the memories will last a lifetime.. my condolences and prayers for the family. From Kevin's Horstead's Kids

Jasmine Horstead - June 09, 2021 at 11:17 PM

WF

“ Praying For The Family, May Our Memories Live On In Our Hearts And The Lord Bless All His Kids Will Miss U Friend Forever In Our Hearts 💕💕



Workman Jackson & Prince Families - June 09, 2021 at 09:41 AM

PB

“ *Paulette Brown-Haithcox lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.*



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**Paulette Brown-Haithcox** - June 09, 2021 at 07:40 AM

PB

*My deepest sympathies and prayers to the family 🙏*

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**Paulette Brown-Haithcox** - June 09, 2021 at 07:41 AM

MW

“ *Our deepest sympathy to Joyce and the entire family. Winky was like a son to us , very respectful and manners you don't find in today's society. He was always willing to lend a hand when needed and would often stop by to see if we needed anything. He will be sorely missed. Rest well. Bobby and Mary. 🙏🙏🙏*

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**Mary and Robert Wells** - June 08, 2021 at 01:21 PM

RD

“ *My condolences to the Adams family. Winky was a beautiful person. He has earned his wings. We all loved you but God loved you the best. RIP Winky.*

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**Rachael Davis** - June 07, 2021 at 07:07 AM

PJ

“ *Very sorry for your loss. Winky was one of Conklin's best on the court during those years. He was tough and hard to guard. A very respectable guy.*

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**Patrick Johnson** - June 06, 2021 at 10:27 PM

EM

“ *My deepest condolences and prayers for family members*



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**Eleanor (Lois Steele) McDonald** - June 06, 2021 at 03:39 PM

DR

“ *My deepest condolences to the family. Winkie was so sweet and nice. He always called me his sister. I will always consider him my brother.*  
*Love Diane Rice*

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**Diane Rice** - June 06, 2021 at 08:37 AM

DH

“ *Dorothy Holloway*



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**Dorothy Holloway** - June 06, 2021 at 07:36 AM

DH

“ *Winky was a great friend. We went to school at Conklin and UFA. He was cool as a fan. He always made me laugh. He will be truly missed. RIH dear friend.*

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**Dorothy Holloway** - June 06, 2021 at 07:33 AM

FL

“ Winky was such a great man. Always had an amazing smile, and cared very much for his family. I'm honored to have known him, and will keep him and Mommy (Mary Linen) and all other family that have past away in my heart. God Bless, the lord has gained many angels these past few years. Praying for the families strength. Love you all! Fawn Linen, Niari Linen, Syriana Linen.



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**Fawn Linen** - June 05, 2021 at 10:32 PM

JD

“ Condolences to the Family and Loved ones. Wink is a Cool Cat we always shared great pleasantries whenever we saw each other.  
Rest Well  
Peace and Love  
Jody Dorsey

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**Jody Dorsey** - June 05, 2021 at 07:46 PM

DT

“ To the Family Praying for Comfort and Strength. I remember his smile.

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**Diane Tanner** - June 05, 2021 at 05:27 PM

SA

“ Sincere condolences and prayers of comfort and strength to the entire family.  
You are in our thoughts.

*Sabrina & Juliana*

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**sabrina** - June 05, 2021 at 03:10 PM

SW

“ *My deepest condolences to the family. Memories of the time we shared will forever be in my heart. You were one of the good ones and I'll never forget you. You put up a great fight! You've earned your wings my friend. Rest In Peace my bestie. Love you!*



Sherisse Wells - June 05, 2021 at 01:30 PM

IJ

“ *To a long time dear friend and a very special brother. You will be sincerely missed. May you forever Rest in Peace. My heartfelt Condolences to the family and may God Bless you all. Isaac Moody Jr.*

Isaac Moody Jr. - June 05, 2021 at 01:00 PM

SH

“ *Sheila H. lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.*



Sheila H. - June 05, 2021 at 12:49 PM

Junior Montanez

“ *My 🙏 and condolences to the family so sorry to hear about James that god give the family Peace and comfort and strength that he Rest In Peace*



Junior Montanez - June 05, 2021 at 10:30 AM

B,

*My condolences to Joyce and Familyy prayer's are being sent for your strength..*

**Betty Whitehurst/Ocala ,FI** - June 06, 2021 at 03:47 PM

JL

*“ I’m so sorry for the loss of such a wonderful compassionate happy go lucky soul. He always greeted me with a smile and had a big heart for everyone. He will be truly missed by all that knew him. My thoughts and prayers go out to all his family and friends. May he Rest In Peace and know how much he was loved by all. 🥺🙏🙏🙏❤️  
Lots of love from Josette, Frank JR and Joey Lucenti*



**Josette Lucenti** - June 05, 2021 at 09:01 AM



*“ I can't think of Winky without thinking of his sister Mary(May) my love of over 32 yrs. Winky was much like his sister. He had a great sense of humor. Great laugh. And a great love of family. He worked hard. Never complained. He doted on his children. And loved his Mom. Even when he was ill I never heard him complain. He fought to the end. Never giving up. Much like his sister. I think that's brave. I think of him as a brother who loved and lived well. I will miss him. But keep his memory close to my heart. I know my Mary(May) welcomed him with open arms. Maybe a joke or a beer... If that's allowed in heaven. And maybe some head cheese. Winky loved that stuff.*

**Anne Zielinski** - June 04, 2021 at 09:54 PM

PF

“ Winky you as I knew as a very kind and funny man..I had alot of memories with you when I was hanging out with MayMay (my bestie) ..you will definitely be missed. To the family I am very sorry for your loss I am keeping you all in my prayers. 🙏🙏🙏🙏



Pamela Leonard. Family friend - June 04, 2021 at 09:22 PM

VM

“ You will be truly missed It was a blessing to know you my sympathy and comfort to the family



Vicki Mann - June 04, 2021 at 07:49 PM

TB

“ Dear Joyce and family, very sorry to read of your son's passing. I remember Winky when we were neighbors.



TC Boehlert - June 04, 2021 at 04:58 PM

RS

“ Rose Simmons lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.



Rose Simmons - June 04, 2021 at 04:55 PM

RW

“ *Winky, you will surely be missed. You were such a great person. I will never forget our talks and conversations. My sincere condolences to the family. Rest In Peace.*

Rhonda M Wells - June 04, 2021 at 04:01 PM

RW

“ *Rhonda M Wells lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.*



Rhonda M Wells - June 04, 2021 at 03:50 PM

MA

“ *Mark/Margie sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.*



Mark/Margie - June 04, 2021 at 02:50 PM

MA

“ *Our deepest condolences to the family. We are so sorry for your loss. "I'm going to miss you buddy" Mark & Margie*

Mark/Margie - June 04, 2021 at 02:49 PM

CP

“ Cynthia Patterson-Bivens lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Lee "Winky" Adams Sr.



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**Cynthia Patterson-Bivens** - June 04, 2021 at 12:40 PM

LT

*Sorry for your lost*

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**Leola Turner/Jones** - June 05, 2021 at 11:35 AM