



Mr. James "Tender" Brown, Sr.

June 27, 1926 - January 19, 2023

UTICA- Mr. James "Tender" Brown, Sr. went home to the Lord on Thursday, January 19, 2023, at the age of 96. At the time of his passing he was in the hearts of those he cherished the most, and surrounded by his family.

James was born on June 27, 1926, in Dooling, GA to the late Will and Annie Bell (Thomas) Brown. As a young man, he came to Utica and made it his home. His life was shared for a long time with Doretha Woods. They were a united front in both their work life and their home life. They formed a blended family and were wonderful parents to their shared 8 children. Doretha passed away on January 15, 1988. At one time he also loved Auginette "Ann" Finch-Brown, a marriage from which came their son, James Brown, Jr.

James came to Utica to find more employment opportunities, and a majority of his working years were spent working railroads. He was one of many who paved the way by laying steel tracks, which was very hard work with very long days. James went on to become an entrepreneur as the owner of JB Pool Hall on Washington Street. He concurrently owned and operated a Soul Food restaurant, assisted by Doretha and their girls. He was a hard worker and a go-getter, and with the profits from his businesses he was able to purchase multiple properties, which made a better life for his family. He always remembered to support his community along the way as well.

A favorite hobby of James' was gambling. Most of the time he was a lucky man as he placed his bets, and he never put his love of gambling before his family's needs and welfare. He was a well-loved man, and his witty ways kept

everyone around him laughing. He was “street smart” for his time, and his knowledge was the basis for some great stories that the next generations of his family loved to hear. One of his great-granddaughters, Alaysa, interviewed James for a college essay. One of the questions she asked was “what did you want to be when you grew up?” to which he answered “rippin’ and runnin’!”—and he sure succeeded at that!

He was proud to be a black man who lived a long, unscathed life, for which he was grateful to the Lord. James had a multitude of close friends from the old neighborhood. He remembered those who went before him, but felt blessed to still be among his family. Family members were always spending time together at his business ventures, and they enjoyed many family outings on the back road by the tracks together. James had a personal relationship with his Lord Jesus, and appreciated and embraced the gift of life.

James is survived by children, Connie Boddie (and the late Milton Boddie, Sr., who passed on January 8, 2023), Velma Woods, Dale Hunt, and James Brown, Jr. He always held close to his heart the memory of the children who went home to the Lord before him, Nova Lee Woods, Mary Smith, Robert “Link” Smith, Ronnie Woods, and Larry Woods. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Shannon Boddie, Brian Boddie, Milton Boddie, Jr., Marcus (Nydiyra) Boddie; Ernest (Maria) Jones, Kimberly Jones; Carl Davan “Duka” Stanley, Dale “Mikey” (Alyssa) Stanley, Paul (Sarah) Stanley, Isaiah (Ashley) Stanley; Devin Jemal Brown; Lisa Woods, Nikki Woods, Anthony Woods, Travis, and Tirus Freeman, and Donald Freeman; Frachon (Todd) Johnson, Simone (Robert) Bouck; Mary Smith, and Greg Smith, Sharonda Woods, and Sherry Woods; Noel Woods, and Kimneisha Brown. He is also survived by a host of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and his brother, Jim Brown. He was predeceased by his siblings, O.C., B.W., Edward, Fill, and Syl. His grandchildren, Ronald Freeman, Nova Lee Jr, & Iris Woods, Nolan Woods; Ronnie Woods Jr. Reggie Woods & Dorothy Woods. He will be remembered by his nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; his sister-in-law; Lilly Mae Jones; and his longtime buddy, Joe Allen.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 27, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. His Home Going Service and Celebration of Life will follow on Friday at 12:30. Those unable to attend may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89670476485>. Interment will take place in Forest Hill Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Forest Hill Cemetery

2201 Oneida Street
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 27. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

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

Home Going Service

JAN 27 (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

EP

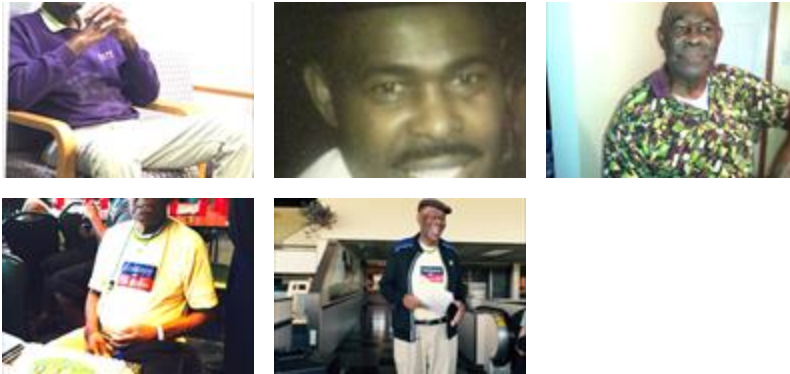
“ Elizabeth Patterson-Moyer lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Tender" Brown, Sr.



Elizabeth Patterson-Moyer - January 26, 2023 at 08:21 PM

DH

“ 5 files added to the album dad



Dale Hunt - January 25, 2023 at 08:11 PM

JD

“ Condolences to the Family in this time of Mourning.
May your memories of your Loved one comfort you.
Peace and Blessings
Jody Dorsey and Family

Jody Dorsey - January 24, 2023 at 03:00 PM

JC

“ Condolences and prayers to the family of Mr Brown.

Jeff C. - January 24, 2023 at 02:11 PM

EM

“ *My condolences and prayers to the family
..Rest In Heaven.,*



Ernesto montanez - January 24, 2023 at 12:32 PM

TS

“ *Tracey Mumford and Karen Sherry purchased the
Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr.
James "Tender" Brown, Sr..*



Tracey Mumford and Karen Sherry - January 24, 2023 at 09:40 AM

MD

“ *Marion Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr.
James "Tender" Brown, Sr.*



Marion Davis - January 24, 2023 at 09:16 AM

GD

“ *Mr. Tender was like the godfather of the projects, never upset, always clean, always had a dime, or quarter, and will let you in the pool room to be nose, lol. Rest easy Mr. Tender, never forgotten , My deepest sympathy to the family, hold on to God's unchanging hands. Much Love.*



Grace Decastro - January 24, 2023 at 08:13 AM

DW

“ *Condolences to the families Brown, Boddie. woods, Hunt. Sending prayers of comfort 🙏*
❤️



Dawn Winston - January 23, 2023 at 08:34 PM

EJ

“Tender” was blessed with a long and grateful life, and Nature gracefully instilled within him all the noble qualities of “a good man.” May peace be his restful companion, and may all who were fortunate enough to share in his life joyfully count their blessings!! To the Family of Mr James “Tender” Brown, Sr., I thoughtfully and sincerely add my condolences to the long list of those who appreciated his presence.



Peace & wellness to you all;

Ernest Jones
Syracuse, NY

Ernest Jones - January 23, 2023 at 06:32 PM

BW

Mr. Tender rest well, I'

Mr Tender rest well! My condolences to your family..Betty Whitehurst

Betty A Whitehurst - January 23, 2023 at 08:24 PM

AB

“Tender was my godfather and I remember when he bought me my first doll house for Christmas. I was so happy. I remember going to his house and swimming in his pool. I was always in awe of his height and I never acted up around him. May he rest in peace. My condolences to his family. Great Memories.



Alberta Bell - January 23, 2023 at 04:46 PM

JJ

My condolences to the family of James "Tender" Brown. God has surely given him a blessing with many years and good health. Connie, Velma, and Dale your Dad loved you so much and God is well pleased with the care you gave your Dad.

Please rest in God and know that he has your Dad. All God's Blessings.

Judy Johnson - January 23, 2023 at 10:56 PM

BF

“ *Brenda L Fudge lit a candle in memory of Mr. James "Tender" Brown, Sr.*



brenda l fudge - January 23, 2023 at 02:48 PM

MB

“ *My deepest condolences for the family that I do loved deeply. Uncle Tender (my favorite) will be truly missed. I appreciate you for always making me feel liked I were your favorite niece.*

R.I.H. 🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷🌷

Marva Brown - January 23, 2023 at 02:13 PM

P(

Mr. Tender was a very kindhearted friend everyone wants to have. He was a close friend to my family (like an Uncle), and even closer friend to my dad Danny Austin. Rest in peace Mr. Tender.

Deepest sympathy and condolences to the family.

Patricia Henry (James) - January 23, 2023 at 04:39 PM

KE

“ *Sending love and prayers for you all
Uncle Tender definitely made his mark.*



Kendel - January 23, 2023 at 02:03 PM

CP

Sending love and prayers to uncle tender

Cousin peter - January 23, 2023 at 02:20 PM