



## Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.

January 5, 1943 - January 8, 2023

UTICA - On Sunday, January 8, 2023, Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr., affectionately known as “Ish,” age 80, passed away in the comfort of his own home with his devoted family by his side. He is now at peace and with his maker.

Milton was born on January 5, 1943 in Phenix City, AL to the late Felix Boddie and Mildred L. Burke; during his life he also knew the love of his second dad George E. Burke. The family later relocated to Utica and Milton graduated from Utica Free Academy in 1961. Following graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in the Military Police overseas in Germany during the Vietnam War Era.

On October 5, 1974, Milton wed the former Connie Woods. The two of them made a solemn vow to stay together until death do them part, and as a couple they honored this commitment to the very end.

Milton first found employment in the family dry cleaning business on South Street his uncle Emmett Wilson owned as a delivery man. He later moved on to the Niagara Mohawk Power Company, now known as National Grid. Ever one to work his way up, he began as a meter reader and ended his career there as a supervisor. He was well respected, loved, and will be remembered by many. He also delivered papers for the Utica Observer-Dispatch and drove children with the Birnie Bus Company. Those kids appreciated Mr. Boddie's special demeanor!

Coming from humble beginnings, Milton always counted his blessings. He was always punctual, never overstayed, and always left with his kangol cap

on and a toothpick in his mouth. He was true to his word, regimented, and honest. But mostly he gained a reputation for being loving, caring, and genuine.

He was a 33rd degree Mason Member (the highest degree in masonry) of the Masonic Hiram Lodge #18, he was both Past Master and Treasurer of St. Elizabeth and Chapter #15 (past Most Wise in house of Rose Croix), past Commander and Chief in Utica Consistory #45 and Noble in Allepo Temple #88. He was a member of Consistory 88 out of Syracuse, NY, as well as a faithful brother, he professed his belief in a supreme being and upheld the virtues of faith, hope, and charity. He also held affiliation with the 25-year retirement club of National Grid, a member of the Gas Lighters club. In both roles, he gained many friendships that he nurtured well over the years.

Milton loved keeping up the appearances of his home, his cars - which were always filled with gas - and his lawn. He drew much enjoyment from taking walks on the parkway and sitting on his front porch. Ever meticulous, he began his day at 5 a.m. and knew exactly what he was going to eat and drink all day. He really was a good eater! He counted Guy Fieri as one of his mentors on "Diners, drive-ins, and dives" for home-style plates. As well, a good old western movie could keep his attention again and again.

Milton was a beloved Sunday school teacher in his St. Paul's Baptist Church community, where he was a lifetime member. He loved teaching the children and passing on to them the values he learned and lived by from his own childhood, followed by attending services. A valued member of the community, he served as a trustee and loved being part of his church family. He took solace in knowing he was a child of the king.

Milton is survived by his beloved and cherished wife, Connie; and their children and their spouses, Brian, Sr. and Debbie Boddie, Shannon Boddie, Milton Boddie, Jr.; and Marcus L. Boddie and Nadiyah Boddie. He will also be missed by his grandchildren, Samantha, Ryan, Karimah, Jada, Brian, Jr., Raven, and Brianna; Janatene, who spent much precious time with her papa, and who he affectionately called "Nurse Jana" by him; Siane, Marcus, Khalil,

Sarai, and Daniel; and several great-grandchildren. Left to cherish his memory are his siblings and their spouses, Diane Clark, Marty and Debbie Boddie, Vanessa Boddie Shakir; Joseph and Hollis Howard, and Janice "Maria" Goodwin, aka "Red." He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; his aunt, Deaconess Burke; his God sisters, Paula Workman, and Edwina Bowens; his God brother, Dale Garrett; his God children, Calvin Brown, Jr., Amanda Bennett, and Juan Wright; his father-in-law, James Brown; and sisters-in-law, Velma Woods, and Dale Hunt. His loss is also felt by his longtime friends, Mae Helen Evans, Carol Mitchell, Bridget Brown, Bobbie Dancy, Nate Price, John Bowens, Pearlene McLeod, and Peg Waterman. He now joins many wonderful friends whom he appreciated throughout his life but have gone before him. He was predeceased by his mother and stepfather Mildred L., and George Burke, his father Felix Bodie, mother-in-law, Dorthea Woods,

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to Dr. Suderhan Dang, Dr. George Vates, Dr. Shafiq Ismat and the nurses, and staff at Strong Memorial Hospital. A special thanks also goes out to the staff of Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc., for providing support, assistance, and compassion. We also want to acknowledge Vornette Chastine, as she will always be a part of our family that we love as a daughter, sister and nurse while caring for our dad. She was amazing to Milton and has been especially wonderful to Connie in this difficult time – she is so loved by this family. The Bobby Murad family, Ali and Elvira Capra, and Sharon Davis were always the best neighbors and blessed friends, their kindnesses will be forever remembered. Pastor Marilyn Bell provided love, prayer, and calm, and uplifting moments which was of such comfort to the family – they hold her close to their hearts. Additional visits and support from Rev. J.L. Griffin and Rev. Alan Tucker were extremely appreciated.

On Saturday, January 14, 2023 from 10:00–11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Baptist Church, 219 Leah St., members of the Masonic Hiram Lodge #18 will provide

ritualistic services for Milton. Visitation for family and friends will be held from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the church. Milton's Home Going Service and Celebration of Life will commence at 12:30 p.m. with Military Honors conferred by the U.S. Army. Those unable to attend may be present for the services virtually on Zoom; Meeting ID: 835-638-95-256, Passcode: 179797. Interment will take place in Forest Hill Cemetery at the convenience at the convenience of the family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 14. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Baptist Church  
219 Leah Street  
Utica, NY

## Home Going Service

JAN 14. 12:30 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Baptist Church  
219 Leah Street  
Utica, NY

# Tribute Wall

SA

“ This really break my heart ❤️ I work with Mr. Boddie for 7 yrs out of Birnie Bus, He always gave me Advice when I was down and depress. He would always say to me Stop letting stuff bother you Stress alone will Kill you.. He would say what happened yesterday leave in the Pass and move forward what done in yesterday don't need to be in your present situation now..

He was a great man I will never forget him my heart n mind.. He would always say to me, When he drive the Bus what days he wouldn't be there because he had appointment.. I would say no problem I be here, Because I know the Bus Route as well by hearts..

Me and Mr. Boddie work as a team there wouldn't be a thing he wouldn't do for me.. If I need help he was there always helping hand..

This hit me hard, I still can't believe it..

I wanted to go pay my respects but it was on the same day of my daughter Birthday 🙁🙏 Mr. Boddie you are never forgotten.. Thank You g F or being there like a Father figure to me.. I could hear you say Stop worrying n stressing your self out.. I'm glad I got to know you 7 almost 8 years we made a Good Team.. R.I.P God Bless You and the Family 🙏🙏

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**Sabrina** - February 26, 2023 at 11:07 PM

CS

“ MS.CONNIE WE ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. WE WILL KEEP YOU IN PRAYER. SUCH A GREAT LOSS, LOSING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE.

SAFETY AND BLESSING'S.  
THE SLADE FAMILY.

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**CYNTHIA SLADE** - January 31, 2023 at 07:30 PM

MS

“ *Maureen Saunders-Barnes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.*



Maureen Saunders-Barnes - January 22, 2023 at 05:20 PM

ML

“ *Mary Griffin Landry lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.*



Mary Griffin Landry - January 19, 2023 at 09:45 PM

RB

“ *We definitely have so many great memories with the Boddie family. We had so much fun together, hanging out together, especially the family cookouts. Every birthday, you said, "Happy Birthday "Ms. Thang". 🙏 We will never forget you. We pray God's love and comfort to you all (family). We love you, the Fowler/Blackshear family!*

Rochelle Blackshear-Fowler - January 15, 2023 at 05:38 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 13, 2023 at 03:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 13, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 13, 2023 at 11:13 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 12, 2023 at 11:00 PM



“ *The DiNigro's lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.*



**The DiNigro's** - January 12, 2023 at 09:31 PM

BW

*Connie, my Hear felt condolences to you And your family.*

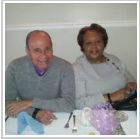
**Betty A Whitehurst** - January 18, 2023 at 01:51 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 12, 2023 at 05:41 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to you, Connie and family. We are so sorry for your loss. Praying for comfort and peace. Bobby and Mary Wells.* 🙏🙏🙏

**Mary Wells** - January 12, 2023 at 05:40 PM

ZM

*Connie you and your family have my deepest condolences as well as my daily prayers... My Bodie RIP.*

*Warm Regards,  
Zelda Scott*

**Zelda Morris** - January 13, 2023 at 12:23 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 12, 2023 at 02:25 PM

VR

“ Our deepest condolences to Connie and the family ❤️🙏...The Rucker Family



Vanessa Rucker - January 12, 2023 at 03:10 AM

AC

"Thinking of you at this difficult time." Chief Apostle W.J. Steele, Pastor Angela U Carter.

Angela Carter - January 12, 2023 at 08:34 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..



January 11, 2023 at 08:57 PM

BL

“ Billy, Rob, Vid, and LaTia purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..



Billy, Rob, Vid, and LaTia - January 11, 2023 at 01:00 PM

LM

“ *Connie, so sorry to hear about Boddie, love  
Lois Murphy*



Lois Murphy - January 11, 2023 at 10:52 AM

SL

“ *RIP Mr Boddie and I know you and dad are finally back together!  
You were one of the best men I had ever met in Utica NY and  
definitely appreciate all the wisdom you shared with me through the  
years! I love ya!*

Steve Lakins - January 11, 2023 at 05:43 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the  
family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



January 10, 2023 at 09:23 PM

DW

“ *Connie and family, so sorry for your loss of  
Milton. He was an awesome guy. Sending  
prayers and condolences to you and your  
families.*



Dawn Winston - January 10, 2023 at 08:14 PM

JD

“ *Peace and Blessings  
Condolences to the Family in your time of loss.  
Mr. Boddie is and will always be a True Gentleman with a peaceful  
and pleasant demeanor.  
Whenever we crossed each other's path he always had kind words  
and a firm handshake.  
There aren't too many Men wirh Mr. Boddie's makeup left in the  
world of today.  
Sleep well, sympathies and condolences to the Family and Friends .  
Jody Dorsey and Family*

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**Jody Dorsey** - January 10, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



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January 10, 2023 at 04:20 PM

TS

“ *Our deepest condolences for your loss. Prayers for the family.*

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**The East Family - Gwen, Marion and Saunt** - January 10, 2023 at 04:01 PM

KT

“ *Our deepest condolences and prayers lifted for the entire family. Bro  
Boddie was an awesome man and mentor. He will never be  
forgotten. SIP Sir. 🙏🙏*

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**Keith and Angela Webb, Memphis Tn** - January 10, 2023 at 03:18 PM

RF

“ *Sorry for the loss of your love one*



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**Rose Simmons & Stanley Dunigan, family** - January 10, 2023 at 02:56 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr..*



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January 10, 2023 at 01:07 PM

EJ

“ *A Precious Moment Of Silence:*

*I sought a precious moment of silence, just to quiet the soul, when my mind dared to reminisce about the by-gone days of old.*

*It wasn't so much the memory of things, or the places I have been, but of those who gave me a song to sing when I simply needed a friend!*

*Milton (Isn) Boddie, Sr. and I shared a very close and cherished friendship for many years. His generosity, respect for individual personhood, thoughtful advice, honest and sincere spiritual insights regarding life and relationships is something for which I will always be grateful. Thanks, so much Isn, for giving me a song to sing when I simply needed a friend!! A Life Well-Lived...RIP my friend, and your memory, as did your life, will continue to serve as a blessing.*

*My sincere and heartfelt condolences to Connie and family.*

*Ernest Jones,  
Syracuse, NY*



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**Ernest Jones** - January 10, 2023 at 12:58 PM

RM

“ *Rochelle Moore-Nichols lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.*



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**Rochelle Moore-Nichols** - January 10, 2023 at 12:23 PM

CP

“ Cynthia Patterson-Bivens lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.



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**Cynthia Patterson-Bivens** - January 10, 2023 at 11:32 AM

RW

“ Rhonda Wells lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.



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**Rhonda Wells** - January 10, 2023 at 09:23 AM

BF

“ Brenda L Fudge lit a candle in memory of Mr. Milton Boddie, Sr.



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**brenda l fudge** - January 10, 2023 at 08:20 AM