

### Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.  
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles  
when life is done. I'd like to leave  
an echo whispering softly down the ways, of happy  
times and laughing times and bright and'  
sunny days. I'd like the tears of those  
who grieve, to dry before the sun  
of happy memories that I leave  
when life is done.

By: Helen Lowrie Marshall

### Pallbearers

Opher Jackson      John Oatman  
DeShawn Johnson      Anthony Masten

Flower Bearers  
Family and Friends

### *Family Expressions of Gratitude*

*Of great comfort during our time of sorrow were the expres-  
sions of sympathy conveyed to us in many ways. We appre-  
ciate your thoughtfulness and thank you most sincerely.*

*The Family*

Arrangements Entrusted To:  
R. A. Prince Funeral Services  
16222 Broadway Avenue  
Maple Heights, OH 44137

Phone (216) 518-1777 Fax: (216) 518-1975  
raprince.com

*Celebrating the Life  
Of*

*James R. Witherspoon, Jr.*

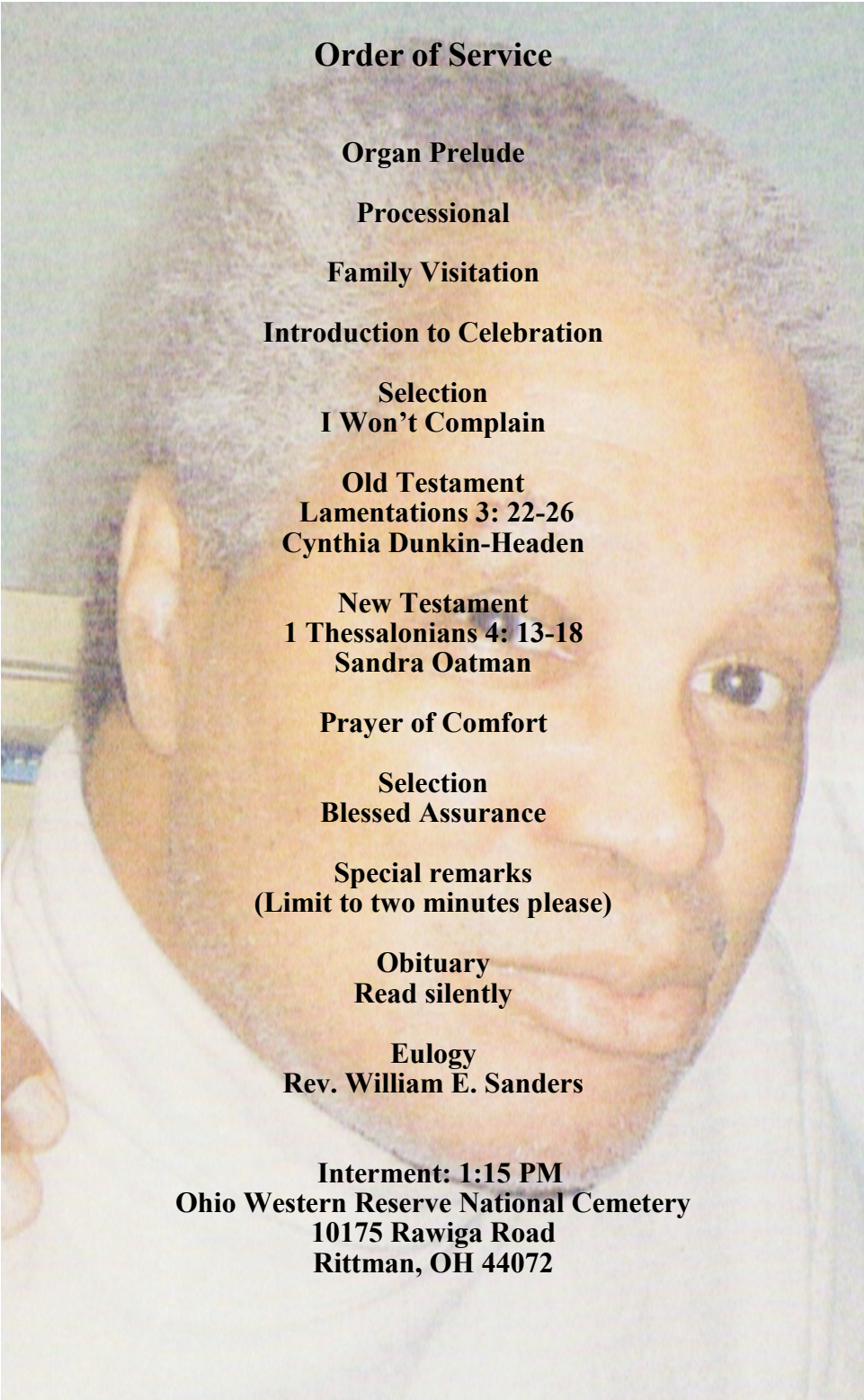
Sunrise: September 23, 1947      Sunset: October 11, 2024

Wake: 10:00 AM      Funeral: 10:30 AM

Monday, October 21, 2024

Lee Road Baptist Church  
3970 Lee Road  
Cleveland, OH 44128

Rev Dr. James P. Quincy III, Pastor  
Rev. William E. Sanders, Eulogist

A close-up portrait of James Robert Witherspoon, an elderly man with short, graying hair, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing a white collared shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

## Order of Service

**Organ Prelude**

**Processional**

**Family Visitation**

**Introduction to Celebration**

**Selection**

**I Won't Complain**

**Old Testament**

**Lamentations 3: 22-26**  
**Cynthia Dunkin-Headen**

**New Testament**

**1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18**  
**Sandra Oatman**

**Prayer of Comfort**

**Selection**

**Blessed Assurance**

**Special remarks**

**(Limit to two minutes please)**

**Obituary**

**Read silently**

**Eulogy**

**Rev. William E. Sanders**

**Interment: 1:15 PM**

**Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery**  
**10175 Rawiga Road**  
**Rittman, OH 44072**

## Obituary

James Robert Witherspoon was born in Cleveland, Ohio on September 23, 1947. He was the oldest of four children of James and Gertrude Witherspoon. He was baptized at Lee-Seville Baptist Church under the pastorate of Rev. Euclid Foreman. James is a product of the Cleveland Public School System. He graduated from John Adams High School in 1966, and was a member of the wrestling team.

Following high school, he was drafted into the United States Army. He was a Vietnam Veteran. He attended Cuyahoga Community College. He possessed outstanding barbering skills but never went to barber school.

James was an avid sports fan. He enjoyed watching football, basketball, baseball and tennis. In fact, he was invited to try out for the Pittsburgh Pirates as a first baseman.

He would later meet and marry Bernice Jackson. From this union a son was born, James Robert Witherspoon III.

For several years, James coached B-Buzz Little League Baseball. He also played volleyball, bowling and tennis. Whatever he played, he played to win. He also enjoyed all kinds of music, Rock and Roll, Bebop, classical and R&B .

James loved his bike so much, although he was unable to drive, nothing stopped him from getting to where he had to go.

James was preceded in death by his parents James and Gertrude Witherspoon.

He leaves to cherish his memory his son, James Witherspoon III; sister, Jacqueline Witherspoon; two brothers, Stephen and Allan Witherspoon, grandchildren, James R Witherspoon IV, Trinity McCoy, Aaron Witherspoon and Xander Van Witherspoon, niece, Eboni White, nephew, Brian Witherspoon and other relatives and friends.

Humbly submitted,  
The Family