

I DID IT MY WAY



Kick Off 11:28:49

Final Score 03:26:21

Richard Branham Wilson

Friday April 8, 2021

Visitation: 10:00 am Service: 11:00 am

Cage Memorial Chapels

7651 S. Jeffery Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60649

Rick's Game of Life

1st Quarter

Richard Wilson (Rick) was born in Chicago, Illinois on November 28, 1949 to Willa Mae and George Wilson. He was the second of three children and baptized in the Catholic faith. His father died early in his childhood and he was raised and nurtured by his mother and her sisters who all lived within proximity. This meant he was also raised among many cousins who at any time were congregated at each other's houses or playing in the alley.

Rick attended St. Ambrose and St. Laurence grammar schools along with his siblings and cousins where he was an altar boy. He made childhood friends there that he maintained throughout his life. Rick participated in extracurricular activities, mainly football where he developed into a "Star Player". He, his family, and friends went on to attend Chicago Vocational High School (CVS). He played in three championship games and earned numerous awards, trophies, and recognition in local newspapers. Rick earned a full football scholarship to Lakeland College in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

2nd Quarter

Richard graduated from CVS and headed to Lakeland College. During his time at Lakeland, he received more football honors, including being named one of the first Black Defensive Captains for the football team. Rick was also an active member of the Black Student Association on campus. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business.

Upon graduating, Rick returned to Chicago and worked as a claims representative for Hartford Insurance Company; but soon realized he had other aspirations. Rick's heart and true passions were education, coaching, and working with children.

3rd Quarter

Richard received his teacher's certification from Chicago State. During his professional career he taught and coached at Dunbar High School, his Alma Mater CVS, and Thornridge High School, where he retired in 2012. Rick used his life experience to mentor many students and young people in the community. He encouraged them to work hard, focus on education, and achieve life goals.

4th Quarter

Richard enjoyed sharing his love for sports with co-workers, friends, and family alike. He co-founded Déjà-vu softball team which he enjoyed playing, coaching, and managed for many years. Rick always looked forward to hosting his famous Super Bowl parties and running football pools. He was always ready to debate, analyze, and strategize the moves that his Chicago sports teams (Bears, White Sox, and Bulls) needed to implement. Rick loved having family & friends at his house and hosted many special events... the door was always open.... He enjoyed traveling, preferably Amtrak, to various destinations.

Overtime

Rick is survived by his children Ranese Barnes (Keith), Regena Wilson, Kimberly Gibson (Mark), and Richard Wilson II; his younger brother Arnold Wilson (Lydia); his grandchildren Kameron and Mariah; goddaughter Aniyah; nieces Jameela and Erika; great niece and great nephews; many cousins, and lifelong friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and older sister Virginia Wilson.

Order of Service

Processional.....Father Thomas Belanger & Family
“Amen”

Opening Prayer

Gospel Reading

Homily..... Father Thomas Belanger

Obituary - Special Reading..... Arnold & Aliyah Wilson

A Special Message:

Cousin..... Patrick Branham

Cousin..... Kim Jerry

Niece..... Jameela Myles

Expression from Family & Friends.....2 Minutes per Speaker

Closing Prayer..... Father Thomas Belanger

Recessional..... Father Thomas Belanger - Pall Bearers- Family
“Sunshine”

Interment

Mt. Glenwood Memory Gardens South

18301 S. Glenwood Thornton Road

Glenwood, IL 60425

Pall Bearers

Kameron Williams

Patrick Branham

Eric Grier

Bryan Carey

Arnold Wilson

Keith Grier

Robin Claton

Jamel Williams

Honorary Pall Bearers

Richard Wilson II

Larry Girtley

Cedric Young

James Clayton

Kenneth Taylor

Dana Pierce

Mark Gibson

David Rogers

Gale Walker

Mike Thornton, Jr.

Laurenton Ghent

Ron Spencer

Déjà vu Team



The family of Richard Branham Wilson acknowledges with grateful appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy, expressions of love, thoughtfulness, and compassion to our family during this time.