



## Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr.

July 6, 1953 - April 3, 2025

We celebrate the homegoing of our beloved Willie Lee Pree, Jr., affectionately known as Junior, Uncle Junebug, Bill, Daddy, and PaPa. On Wednesday, April 3, 2025, Willie peacefully transitioned from this earthly life into the arms of our Heavenly Father. While we grieve his absence, we rejoice in the beautiful life he lived and the enduring legacy he leaves behind—one built on love, faith, wisdom, and unwavering devotion to family and community.

Born on July 6, 1953, in Oakland, California, to Norma and Willie Lee Pree, Sr., Willie spent his formative years with his siblings in Fulton, Arkansas, nurtured by the strong and loving hands of his grandparents, Clinton and Mary Ella Pree, and his cherished great-grandmother, Catherine “Granny” Murdock. It was there, in the warmth of his family’s country store—affectionately known as The Place—that his passion for cooking, storytelling, and good barbecue took root.

A proud scholar and man of faith, Willie was baptized at Galilee Baptist Church and remained a servant of the church throughout his life. He graduated from Hope High School in 1972, where he met his former wife, Reva Pree, and later earned his Bachelor of Business Administration from Southern Arkansas University in 1977. His early work at AP&L, where he even drew blueprints for homes, marked the beginning of a lifelong commitment to service and excellence in the energy sector.

Willie's professional journey took him across Arkansas and Mississippi as he rose through the ranks at Entergy—from Business Manager in Warren, AR, to District Manager in Greenville, MS, and finally to Senior Customer Service Manager in Tunica, MS, where he retired. Along the way, he dedicated himself to civic service, holding leadership roles as President of Warren Lions Club, President of Bradley County Chamber of Commerce, Vice President of Bradley County Industrial Development Commission and Board member of the Pink Tomato Festival, participating in Greenville 100 Black Men, and serving faithfully at Mt. Tabor Baptist Church and Union Hill Baptist Church.

Beyond his professional and civic life, Willie was a man who truly lived. He cherished life's simple pleasures—smoked ribs on the grill, a good story, an old blues tune, and quality time with his grandson. He especially found joy and fellowship in the great outdoors. Willie was an avid hunter and fisherman, often found in the early morning woods or by the water's edge with his close-knit group of hunting buddies. Their shared laughter, friendly competition, and lifelong friendship added a richness to his days that he treasured deeply. Those trips weren't just about the hunt—they were about brotherhood, memories, and the joy of being in nature.

Willie is survived by his loving daughter, Jasmine Pree Hameth (Reginald) of Atlanta, GA, and his cherished grandson, Austin Cary of Lufkin, TX. He also leaves behind his siblings: Brenda Pree, Patricia Holmes, and Marilyn Scott (Larry) of Baytown, TX, and Clinton Pree of Fulton, AR and a host of nieces and nephews. To know Willie was to be loved by him. His legacy is one of warmth, resilience, and unwavering love for his family, friends, and community. He will forever be remembered for his servant's heart, his infectious laugh, and the light he brought to every room he entered.

We won't say goodbye—just “see you later.” The fire's still going, the stories

live on, and your seat at the table will always be yours.

Celebration of Life services will be held Saturday, April 18th, 2025, at Greater Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Hope, Arkansas at 11:00 a.m., with burial to follow at Scott's Memorial Cemetery in Hope under the direction of R.L. Reed Funeral Home, LLC.

A wake will be held Friday {Apr. 18th}, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., at Greater Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Hope, Arkansas.

“For precaution due to the COVID-19, Masks are Encouraged but Not Required While Attending the Services and During Visitation Hours. However, wearing masks ensures safety for you and others. Thank you.”

# Cemetery Details

## Scott's Memorial Cemetery

Highway 67 East  
Hope, AR 71801

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 18. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Greater Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
909 Rosston Road  
Hope, AR 71801

## Celebration of Life

APR 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Greater Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
909 Rosston Road  
Hope, AR 71801

# Tribute Wall

MF

“ *Monica and the Thomas Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr..*



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**Monica and the Thomas Family** - April 18, 2025 at 06:12 PM

MP

“ *I have fond memories of working with Willie at the local light office (AP&L) here in Magnolia. My condolences to the family. May the memories of your loved one bring you peace, comfort and strength.*



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**Mary S. Pickings** - April 18, 2025 at 03:48 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr..*



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April 17, 2025 at 07:13 PM

DW

“ *Dianne Willis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr.*



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**Dianne Willis** - April 17, 2025 at 09:54 AM

RR

“ 1 file added to the album Light-12 Club



Randy Reed - April 16, 2025 at 08:05 AM

MC

“ Prayers for the entire family and friends in the earthly loss but Heavenly gain of Mr. Willie Pree Jr. May God Continue to keep his Loving Arms of Protection around each of you 🙏🙏🙏 Mr. Pree and his family were members of the Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church here in Magnolia, Ar. They were Loyal and Faithful members,,, He wasn't always a fast talker when he first met you but once he became familiar with you he always had a conversation to share,,, My Condolences to each of you 🙏❤️❤️❤️🙏

Mary Caldwell - April 16, 2025 at 01:54 AM

JO

“ Willie was my Classmate & a very likeable person. He will be greatly missed. Prayers goes out to the Family James Ogden Class Of 72

James Ogden - April 15, 2025 at 10:10 AM

GC

“ Sending condolences and prayers to the Pree family during this difficult time now and hereafter 🙏🙏🙏❤️🙏🙏🙏



Gwen Carter - April 14, 2025 at 09:22 AM

SG

“ *Mr Pree was my first supervisor at Entergy. He was a good man. Prayers for your family.*

Sandy Ballentine Gavin - April 13, 2025 at 06:27 PM

DS

“ *Certainly. Here's a more polished and heartfelt version of your sympathy statement:*

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*To the Family of Mr. Pree,*

*Please accept my deepest and most heartfelt condolences. I will always remember the life-changing opportunity Mr. Pree gave me when he hired me at AP&L. His leadership and character left a lasting impression on my life and career. He was not only a great manager but a remarkable individual who will truly be missed.*

*With sympathy and respect,  
Dr. Michael Alexander Sr*

Dr Michael Alexander Sr - April 13, 2025 at 05:40 PM

DS

*Please excuse my notes at top. Thank you.*

Dr Michael Alexander Sr - April 13, 2025 at 05:42 PM

LA

“ *To Reginald and Jasmine, I extend my sincere condolences.  
Loretta Alexander*

Loretta Alexander - April 12, 2025 at 01:56 AM

GJ

“ To the Pree Family, and to My Family Mrs Reva Pree and Children, My Condolences - Thoughts and Prayers are with You during Your Time of Bereavement. May The Lord out God Comfort, Strengthen, and give You peace, that surpasses Your comprehension, and Understanding, and May God Bless All of You.

Georgia Brewer Jackson- Phoenix AZ  
HHS Class of 1972

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**Georgia Brewer Jackson** - April 11, 2025 at 11:01 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr..



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April 10, 2025 at 10:19 PM

LD

“ Praying for the entire family especially Jasmine, Reginald and Jay.

*The Daniel Family*

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**Larrishia Daniel** - April 10, 2025 at 09:55 PM

SA

“ To Mrs. Reva Pree and family: You all are in our prayers.

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**Smith Family from Waldo, AR** - April 10, 2025 at 06:43 PM

MC

“ Michael & Mary Clayton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr.



Michael & Mary Clayton - April 10, 2025 at 12:04 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr..

April 09, 2025 at 01:26 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr..



April 09, 2025 at 01:26 PM

AP

“ Angelia Parker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr.



Angelia Parker - April 08, 2025 at 11:57 PM

PR

“ My condolences are extended to the family.  
Willie was a valued friend and colleague.  
Patricia Rucker, Retired Entergy MS



Patricia Rucker - April 08, 2025 at 08:48 PM

YH

“ Sending prayers and condolences to the family. From Co-Worker  
Yvonne Herring- Entergy MS

Yvonne Herring - April 08, 2025 at 08:39 PM

RR

My dearest condolences for you Jasmine my heart feels for you and  
family my dearest sister n law

Ruby Ray - April 10, 2025 at 01:32 PM

GT

“ Gracie W Tucker sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr.



Gracie W Tucker - April 08, 2025 at 03:52 PM

GT

My sincere condolences and prayers to the family of Willie. What a  
man, what a man a mighty good man. Rest in peace from all your  
labor. May all the great memories you made with your loved one help  
you in these times and time to come. 🙏🏻💙💜

Gracie W Tucker - April 10, 2025 at 11:46 PM

DH

“ Dearlean Hughes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie Lee Pree Jr.



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**Dearlean Hughes** - April 07, 2025 at 03:06 PM



“ My condolences and prayers to the family!



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**Danny L Harris** - April 06, 2025 at 07:45 PM

BR

*I met Mr. Pree early on at Entergy. Mr. Pree was a professional. He set the standard. He had a welcoming personality.*

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**Billy Ridgell** - April 18, 2025 at 05:47 PM