



**1800 John L. Patterson Street
Springfield, Tennessee 37172
615-384-7984 Fax 615-384-7916**



**VIEWING AND VISITATION, MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023, 3-6 PM AT
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1312 PARHAM STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TENNESSEE 37172. FUNERAL, TUESDAY, JULY
11, 2023, 12 NOON, AT COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1312 PARHAM STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TENNESSEE 37172.**

**IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE MADE TO BLACK ON TRACK % W. D CROWDER FUNERAL
HOME, 1800 JOHN L. PATTERSON STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TENNESSEE 37172.**

**Billy Mack Townsend was born in Springfield, TN on November 16, 1949 to the late
Lloyd Jr. and Annie Mae Townsend.**

**He was a graduate of the Class of 1968 at Bransford High School in Springfield, TN. After
high school he was drafted to the United States Army where he served in the Vietnam War. Billy went on to continue his
education at Kaplan University receiving an Associate's degree in Psychology.**

**Billy professed a belief in Christ at an early age. He joined First Baptist Church in Springfield, TN under the leadership of
Pastor W.J. Speed. He was called to ministry in 1976. God later called him to pastor at Mt. Lebanon in Adairville, KY. He
founded Community Baptist Church in 1986. At Community Baptist Church he touched the lives of many through pastoring,
counseling, and community outreach. All who knew him loved him and he loved all.**

**One of his famous quotes is "There's no harm in getting knocked down, but there is shame in staying down." His hobbies
included creating board games, writing books, composing songs, and**

**Btown creations (creating tee shirts). Billy founded and chartered the Afrojans. In 1973, The
Afrojans filed an application and received charter status with the State of Tennessee. With
youth recreation being the initial focus, the Afrojans hosted dances, dinners, and other
gatherings that gave the youth something to do other than walking the streets and getting into
trouble. Our most noted event was our annual Afrojans Community Fair. This event took
place on the grounds of Bransford High School. The gathering was one of the largest
gatherings of Blacks (Afro-Americans), in Springfield at that time. It was family-oriented and
provided wholesome entertainment for all. The evening climaxed with the crowning of Miss
Afrojan (our queen for the particular year). The backdrop was a large lighted heart touched by
a dove. On the heart, written in bold letters was the word LOVE. Love was always the theme
for the Afrojans Community Fair.**

He was one of the founding members of Townsend Construction Company. One of his most recent visions was Black on Track and to create the Center of the Hood which broke ground in 2021. Black On Track is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation that focuses on the youth and young adults in the black and low income communities who seem to be struggling with little to no self-worth, causing the drop out and incarceration rates in these communities to rise. He was united in holy matrimony to Ruby Elaine Thomas on July 1, 1973. They were married for 50 golden years and to this union they have 3 children, Colaina, Billy J, and Macktorvus Townsend. Billy and Laine enjoyed traveling especially to New York City and cruising, adventuring to new restaurants, watching old movies and creating family memories. They also enjoyed listening to soul music. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd Jr. and Annie Mae Townsend and siblings, Dovie Northington and Johnny Townsend. To forever cherish his memory he leaves a loving and devoted wife, Ruby Elaine Townsend; one loving daughter, Colaina Townsend; two devoted sons, Billy J. Townsend (Chalese), and Macktorvus Townsend; beautiful grandchildren, Asianna, Joel, and Kiyonna Townsend; adorable great-grandchildren, Easton and Emani Heath; three brothers, Phillip (late Erisine), Thomas (Patricia), and Jimmy (Vanessa); three sisters, Rosa Rodgers (Roy), Pattie Townsend, and Virginia Neuble (John); one brother-in-law, Jeffrey Thomas (Janet); two sisters-in-law, Rita and Rebecca Thomas; sister-cousins, Vivian Pope and Carolyn (Kat) Gibson, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins; special friend, Tommy Sawyers; a host of other special friends; and the Class of 1968.