



Jerry Dorsey III

July 23, 2024

Jerry Dorsey III was born on May 12, 1933 to Willie D. and Jerry Dorsey II in Birmingham, Alabama. He was the eldest of three children.

He attended primary and secondary schools in Birmingham, AL and then moved to Detroit, MI as a teenager with his family.

Jerry was a veteran of The United States Army and a member of the 73rd Tank Battalion. After the military, he went to Radio Electronic Television School; (RETS), in Detroit, MI and graduated on September 14, 1960. Jerry was then hired by the military aircraft division of The Boeing Company and moved to Washington State. After leaving Boeing in 1967, he worked for KING Broadcasting as an audio/visual engineer for 25 years before retiring April 1, 1993.

Prior to moving to Washington State, he met and married Anna C. Powell who preceded him in death. This union was blessed with the birth of Jerry Dorsey IV and KiKora R-T Dorsey (aka Donna M.).

While at Boeing he met and married Willa M. Carter, who also preceded him in death. This union was blessed with the birth of Rhonda L. Dorsey (aka Pooh).

On August 7, 1986 in Seattle, he married Rosella Braxton. They were married for 37 years until his passing and together, raised her son Phillip J. Heath.

Jerry was also a surrogate father to Darnez A. Dorsey (Andre) and Adenika Y. Jenkins (Yvette).

Jerry enjoyed spending time with his family and taking vacations. He traveled to Canada, Panama, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, Japan, the Caribbean and all around the United States of America.

He enjoyed sports, all genres of music, sci-fi movies and cartoons as well as The Price Is Right television show.

Jerry was a mild mannered man who loved to argue. (As do his children and grandchildren ??). He was known for his calm demeanor in a crisis and one of his favorite saying was "Don't sweat the small stuff". Jerry was an accomplished builder and renovated his home multiple times. He also designed and built furnishings for his house, sewed his own clothes, painted murals and loved taking pictures. Jerry was known for his stylish clothes which included a conglomerate of hats, T-Shirts, watches, glasses & Dickies; (pants). He also loved to bowl until arthritis made bowling painful. His recipe for salmon is beloved by the family. Jerry's favorite pet as a child was a dog named King. His favorite food was Mexican and he loved Beer, Rum & Coke and Margarita's!

Jerry was preceded in death by his Mother Willie D. Dorsey and Father Jerry Dorsey II both of Detroit, Michigan, Sister Mrs. Alberta McGimpsey of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Brother Willie James Dorsey of Detroit, Michigan.

He leaves not to mourn his passing but to forever rejoice in his memory his

wife Rosella Braxton of Buckeye, AZ; son Jerry Dorsey IV, (Jeanette) of Detroit, MI; Daughter KiKora Dorsey of Buford, GA; Son Andre Dorsey (Charlene) of Orangeburg, SC; Daughters Adenika Jenkins (Robert) of Winston-Salem, NC and Rhonda Dorsey of Seattle, WA. Grandchildren; Neliswa N. Dorsey, Sherrell A. Dorsey, Ayanda M. Dorsey (Brian) and Otis B. Stevenson, Jr. A Great-Granddaughter Ava N. Dorsey and a blended family of In-Laws, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

My Dearest Jerry,

We had to prove to ourselves that we could make it past our prior relationships. After 5 years, then 10 years, we both said that now we can start building something neither of us had before. We enjoyed our life together without an audience. We built routines that included favorite places to eat out at and family vacations. I am so glad that we got to spend time here in Arizona before you couldn't walk. These last two birthdays have been the greatest. What a beautiful surprise last year with the whole Dorsey Family here Celebrating your 90th Birthday. It was the best surprise ever. This year it was great also, one of your friends from King Broadcasting and his son and daughter-in-law plus my brother and sister-in-law were here for your 91st Birthday. Also, your daughter Rhonda setup Zoom for friends and family to come on to wish you a Happy Birthday. It was great to see how excited you were to have your cake and ice cream before eating anything. I will always Love You Forever and Ever. I Miss You So Much.

Rosella

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Tribute Movie



Simply Cremation & Funeral Arrangements - October 02, 2024 at 05:56 PM

LS

To the Dorsey Family:

*This was a beautiful Tribute to Uncle. I'm so sorry that I did not make it to Uncle's celebration of life. but he knew that this niece who Loved him very much did not Fly. So I will remember my uncle when I last saw him making his famous salmon dish in my kitchen. Uncle, I will miss you, but you lived a good life. Like you said, you did all that you wanted to and some. Now you are with your Sister (my Mother) and your little brother again.
Love your Niece Lorraine (Rainey)*

Lorraine Sproul - December 16, 2024 at 03:15 PM

TA

“ *Sending our deepest sympathy to Rosella and the Dorsey family. We were the lucky ones, who had gotten to spend at least a brief amount of time getting to know Jerry. Truly the world has gotten a bit more dimmer without him in it. Kind regards.*

Tom and Janine Akins - August 09, 2024 at 12:59 PM

ST

“Wow Rosella that was beautiful !!!I had the pleasure of meeting J D when I was 22 years old.. I was so impressed with him the very 1st time we met. He was so hip and cool and had this young woman on his side and dressed to the 10's . Also J-D could almost fix anything and remodel his kitchen and add on an entire upstairs. He was the first Black man I've ever met that I thought that's how I wish I can be like one day. But he quickly told me it didn't happen overnight and he was still a work in progress. Well I realized decades later I'm still a work in progress but have grown a lot and I will never be good around the house and remodeling kitchens and as great as J DI will miss him so much and so grateful of the knowledge and wisdom he has shared with me over the years. Beside a friend I looked at him more as a father figure. RIP J D AND I WILL NEVER FORGET U STEVE (OBS SR)

Steve - August 08, 2024 at 08:23 PM

WB

“Family, It is our sincere prayer that God will give you peace in the midst of this storm. We thank and praise God for the privilege of knowing Jerry, for to know him was to love him. Thanks for the fun memories, for you always welcomed us with open arms. Blessings on our family.

Wendell Braxton - August 06, 2024 at 07:28 PM

JD

“My Dear Uncle, You was always the life of the party, I loved to sit back & listen to you mommy(your sister) go back & forth on things 😭 I have loved all our pandemic zoom calls every month & I would not have dared missed that big surprise party, you will forever be loved & missed. Love your niece, Jackie

Jackie Dennis - August 04, 2024 at 11:00 PM

FR

“ Although I'm new to a certain part of the family, I was around long enough to know that Jerry Dorsey the third was loved by his family. I marveled at his 90th birthday celebration And I will miss him.

Fred - July 30, 2024 at 09:05 PM

AD

“ Hey Dad You took me in and treated me as your own. I will miss you & will always treasure our family adventures. Still got my Kangol 😍
.Love Always ❤️

Adenika - July 30, 2024 at 11:07 AM

MK

“ Dear Kikora and Family, I am deeply saddened by your loss. The Dorsey family has always been family to me. I remember all the good times and visits that I had. Let the love all around you help you through this challenging time. You will always remain my family. With lots of love and support, Mercedes King

Mercedes King - July 26, 2024 at 09:50 AM

ND

“ Your infectious laugh and well of love will live on within me now Grandpa (& w/in Rellish who laughs Just like you 🤔) Your loving Grand and Great-Granddaughters 'Swa & Ava Dorsey

Neliswa Dorsey - July 26, 2024 at 12:33 AM

TB

“ RIP brother in law We love you gone but never forgotten!!!

Timothy W Braxton - July 25, 2024 at 09:37 PM

SB

“ Sending my Deepest Condolences to the Family and my family!! I'm going to miss you Jerry, so glad you were in my life , your voice will echo in memories forever!! 💔💔 RIP JD

Sonja Beauchamp - July 23, 2024 at 07:51 PM

AB

“ To the entire Dorsey family -I extend my deepest sympathies to you for your loss. We thank you for entrusting Simply Cremation & Funeral Arrangements to care for his final services.– Ashley Bradford, Admin Team-member at Simply Cremation & Funeral Arrangements

Ashley Bradford - July 23, 2024 at 07:42 PM

LH

“ It was a blessing to have known Mr. Dorsey. You can be assured that the love you shared will keep forever in your heart ❤️

Learleen Henry - July 23, 2024 at 07:35 PM