



Lance Bruce

March 26, 1949 - October 25, 2024

Lance Whitman Bruce Sr. (Butch), born March 26, 1949, in Wilmington, Delaware, to the late Quentin Bruce and Marjorie Sephas Bruce. His parents had three boys, Quentin (Q-Dog) Bruce the oldest, Bernard Bruce being the youngest with Lance (Butchie) being the middle child. Butchie lost his parents at a young age and was raised by his uncle aunt, Mel and Janet Trader and grew up with his cousins Wayne Trader and Sharon Gibbs.

Butchie grew up in Wilmington, Delaware where he attended Stubbs Elementary school, Bancroft junior high and then P. S Dupont High School. While in high school ,Lance joined a band called "Majestics" where he did talent shows and traveled with until his enrollment in the military during the Vietnam War era. Lance

served for three years in the Navy, patrolling the ocean during the war and played organized football for the USS Sierra Ship. After his term, Lance attended college to further his education in Economics and Political Science at Delaware Technical Community College. He later on attended LaSalle University in Philadelphia for business management. While serving in music and the educational world, Butchie worked at Christiana Care Hospital for 35 years at the Newark campus, where he retired from. He had several roles, a Respiratory Therapist and certified nurse technician.

Lance met his wife Maria Bruce, during her personal visit to get a procedure done July, 1972. They got married a year later on July 14, 1973. Lance and

Maria just celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on July 14, 2024.

Lance's music career continued when he joined with Garfield and Berman Jones, the Overtones, and formed the group, Wish with their sister Trudy. Wish went on tour to travel the world and opened for the groups like The Temptations, and made an album that went world wide. Lance adored Motown music. He loved the soul written in Smokey's music and rhythm that the Temptations had as well as their dance moves when performing .

Lance (Butchie) served his community for over 35 years. He became the recipient of many community service awards in various ways. He was committed to making a footprint in the city that helped raise him. Within that time, he obtained and joined organizations like the "NAACP" "3rd District Neighborhood" planning counsel, where they fought to end the drugs and crime in Wilmington. He also assisted in the increase of computer access for the youth that attended Fletcher Brown Boys and Girls Club. Bruce advocated for greater economic development as well as the revitalization of the "22nd street project", The Gardner Way project", " The Walnut Street L project", " Elks on the River project". He also played a major role in creating the " Weed and Seed" program in Northeast Wilmington and the Delaware HIV Consortium, and Henrietta Johnson Medical Center.

Lance also received the Community Leadership award from the "New Destiny CDC Program", May 2, 2009. Local newspapers like Scoop and the N.P.C. news, Next Level Magazine wrote articles on his community work.

Cemetery Details

Delaware Veterans Cemetery

2465 Chesapeake City Rd
Bear, DE 19701

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC 6. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Ezion Fair Baptist Church
1400 B Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Celebration of Life

DEC 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ezion Fair Baptist Church
1400 B Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Burial

DEC 6. 2:00 PM (ET)

Delaware Veterans Cemetery
2465 Chesapeake City Rd
Bear, DE 19701

Tribute Wall

AT

“ *We Thompson's from East 25th Street are just finding out about this. We are so sorry to hear of this. May he rest in enteral peace.*

adriane d thompson - March 01 at 11:03 AM

DD

“ *Doris Davenport lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Doris Davenport - January 19, 2025 at 07:26 PM

GJ

“ *Lance and I have been the best of friends for 44 years, though it goes beyond that. It started with music singing together and quickly evolved into extended family. We all became so close spending so much time together! So many great memories and never to be forgotten! My sympathy and condolences to Toni, Ree & Cameron and may GOD continue to comfort, keep, bless and cover them always!!!*
I have to face the reality that Friday, December 6th is near and it will be so hard to say goodbye to yesterday, my brother!

Garfield Jones - December 04, 2024 at 11:48 AM

G(

“ Garfield, Trudy & Berman (WISH) purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Lance Bruce.



Garfield, Trudy & Berman (WISH) - December 04, 2024 at 10:54 AM

G(

“ Garfield, Trudy & Berman (WISH) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lance Bruce.

Garfield, Trudy & Berman (WISH) - December 04, 2024 at 10:54 AM

TC

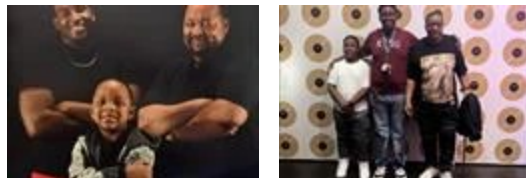
“ Trudy Jones Coleman lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce



Trudy Jones Coleman - December 04, 2024 at 06:11 AM

MB

“ One of the best men ever
Great dad, husband, and an awesome grandfather. I am going to miss you everyday,
Dad



Maria Bruce - November 30, 2024 at 08:37 AM

M(

“ *Maria Bruce (Wife) lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Maria Bruce (Wife) - November 30, 2024 at 08:21 AM

AB

“ *ARLENE BEARD lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



ARLENE BEARD - November 25, 2024 at 09:20 AM

3C

“ *3rd District Neighborhood Planning Council lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



3rd District Neighborhood Planning Council - November 17, 2024 at 10:53 PM

DK

“ *Delores Keys lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Delores Keys - November 17, 2024 at 03:21 PM

DK

“ *Delores Keys lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Delores Keys - November 15, 2024 at 12:30 PM

RS

“ *Ramona Smith-Tillman lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Ramona Smith-Tillman - November 14, 2024 at 11:44 PM

DW

“ *Dwayne Wilmore lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Dwayne Wilmore - November 13, 2024 at 01:34 AM

BF

“ *Bruce Fitzgerald lit a candle in memory of Lance Bruce*



Bruce Fitzgerald - November 10, 2024 at 06:55 PM