



Leonard Ingraham

MAY 23, 1953 - MAY 22, 2020

SURVIVED BY:

DAUGHTER - BERNISA

SONS - SOTERO (APRIL),
TAVARES (TAMEKA), AND DAMEIN

GRANDCHILDREN - SOTERO, CARMEN,
ALEXIA, TITUS, AND SERGIO

SISTERS - BEVERLY AND GAIL

BROTHERS - MILTON, KENNETH "TONY",
WOODROW JR. (DOROTHY)

NIECES - KEIR AND MAIA

NEPHEWS - MELVIN (DEBRA)
AND MATTHEW

SEVERAL BELOVED COUSINS

OBITUARY

Leonard Jerome Ingraham was born on Saturday, May 23, 1953 to Woodrow and Ophelia Ingraham in the city of Detroit, Michigan. He was the fourth of six children. He graduated from Pershing High School in 1971 and attended Michigan Technological University afterwards. In 1973 he began working for the City of Detroit, in the Housing Department.

The following year, 1974, Leonard met and fell in love with Connie Knighten. They married in 1979. Together, Leonard and Connie raised their four children, Sotero, Bernisa, Tavares, and Damein. He was a caring husband, father, and provider. Family and education were incredibly important to Leonard. He always encouraged his children to excel academically.

Leonard also loved the city of Detroit and would often tell his children about its rich history as they took long drives. One of his favorite landmarks in the city was Belle Isle. It became a favorite of the entire family as many evenings and weekends were spent there cruising the island or picnicking.

He loved to cook, and every meal that he prepared was excellent. He always involved his children in the cooking process, assigning them vegetables to dice, or ingredients to prepare. At the time, his children would grumble amongst themselves about this added chore. In time, however, they came to appreciate the value of this training and cherish it. One of his signature casseroles was an original recipe that he referred to as “Chicken Back Surprise”. His homemade pizza was phenomenal, all the way down to the crust! It was a huge hit in the family. There was one more rare treat. His wife Connie was born in New Orleans, so he perfected a seafood gumbo made New Orleans style, just for her. It was delicious!

Photography was another passion of his, and he took great pleasure in capturing life’s special moments on film. Like his parents, Leonard enjoyed working in his vegetable garden and planting several varieties of flowers around the home.

On warm summer evenings, you could always expect to see him sitting on his front porch watering the lawn or the flowers with a garden hose. His favorite music would play softly in the background as he sipped a cold beverage. This is where he would find his peace. These were special moments that his family would forever treasure.

In January 2005, after 31 years of dedicated employment with the City of Detroit, Leonard retired from the Engineering Department where he worked as a Construction Inspector. During his retirement he regularly arranged for family dinners, which were filled with laughs and good times. Every Friday he would look forward to afternoon lunches with family at various restaurants around town. Retirement also afforded him more time to shop at two of his favorite stores: Macy's and Walgreens. He has never been known to pass up a good deal. Every time his children or grandchildren would visit, he would have gifts for them. Leonard was truly loved by those who knew him, especially his family. Leonard Jerome Ingraham, father, grandpa, brother, cousin, uncle, and friend; he will be deeply missed.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OBITUARY READING.....SOTERO

MEMORIAL DISCOURSE.....TAVARES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE FAMILY OF LEONARD INGRAHAM WOULD LIKE TO
THANK YOU ALL FOR THE MANY COMFORTING
MESSAGES AND OTHER EXPRESSIONS OF KINDNESS
DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

*"If a man dies, can he live again? I will wait
all the days of my compulsory service until
my relief comes. You will call, and I will
answer you. You will long for the work of
your hands."*

- Job 14:14, 15