

On Thursday, November 16, 2023, Albert Graham was called home to be with the Lord. Albert Graham was born on October 7, 1941, to the late Hester Graham in Saluda, South Carolina. Over the years Albert became affectionately known as “Mr. Bert” or “Big Guy”. At a young age he and his mother moved to the North Philly section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to live with his grandmother. Albert attended the Philadelphia School System: Robert Vaux Junior and Senior High School. As an adult, he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior and proudly committed to always displaying love. Bert had a heart of gold.

In the late 1950s Big Guy moved to New York, landed employment as a hat maker and accomplished his goal of visiting the Empire State Building. While there he met a blind musician and became his personal assistant, driving him to various venues. New York would be the place for a lot of first for Albert. While residing in New York his first child, Karey, was born.

Mr. Bert developed a passion for detailing cars and decided to pursue any opportunities that would position him to fulfill it. As such he relocated to Philadelphia, joined FC Kerbeck Car Dealership, as a detailer, and was gainfully and respectably employed for 40 plus years. He was well liked by Management, exemplified in his length of employment and ability to get others employed. In 1971, Albert met the love of his life, the late Minerva Carmichael and her three sons: Ronald, John, and Anthony Carmichael. On June 30, 1973, the two would become one, Albert and Minerva joined hands in holy matrimony and remained for 28 years until she gained her wings and went to see the Lord. In 1974, the couple was blessed with a daughter, Natasha. Albert moved the family to Palmyra, New Jersey in 1979. He faithfully provided for his wife and children. Albert ensured that all his children attended and graduated from the Palmyra School System.

Mr. Bert interests included playing on the softball team for FC Kerbeck, listening to Oldies but Goodies music and watching Old Westerns and Black & White movies. Big Guy loved his Cadillacs, they were his car of choice to recommend and drive. His love was evident in designating, naming and dedicating parking spaces in front of his residence as “Cadillac Drive”. Mr. Bert was a man’s man, a social butterfly! Everyone enjoyed his presence and company. After his precious wife passed away in 2002, he co-founded a club at the Lying Garage where “The Gang” hangs out. He was thoughtful, caring and giving. Big Guy was a kindhearted man who would give the shirt off his back, to anyone needing a helping hand. Boy ole boy, did he give the best advice. Young and old gravitated toward “Mr. Bert” for guidance and direction. He had a vast amount of knowledge on various topics and an innate ability and willingness to listen first and speak last. You could have known him as Albert, Mr. Bert or Big Guy but he was always referred to as a “Good Man.”

Albert leaves to cherish his memories, four sons Karey, Ronald, Anthony (Marlene) one daughter Natasha (Jerome). Fifteen grandchildren Karisma Carmichael-Elivo Stevens, Dominique Carmichael, Symone Tibbs, John F. Carmichael, Joseph F. Carmichael, Jeremiah F. Carmichael, Kalesha Denea, Tenae Balwin, Charles E. Carmichael, Eric A. Carmichael, To’mara F. Carmichael, Amber Graham-Barnes and Jazmine Cooper. And one good friend, Pamela Hunt. And a host of great grandchildren, cousins, family, and friends.

Albert was preceded in death by his wife Minerva Graham, grandmother Blanch Herbet, Mother Hester Graham, son Rev. John Carmichael (Latisha), Granddaughter Sydney Tibbs, and Grandson Jamil Davis.