

*Pallbearers*

Family Members and Friends

*Flower Attendants*

Family Members and Friends

*House of Clay*

I have finished now with this house of clay, please kindly and gently lay it away. And let me rest from this life of pain, toiling in sunshine, storms, and rain. Trying to help the sick and poor, and turning no needy from my door. I have started to do my Master's work, never a duty did I shirk. Many times I was misunderstood, when I have done the best I could. I am tried now, so let me rest. Don't cry, don't you know that God knows best? Don't weep for me for I am not dead, I have another house you know, where God's redeemed can go. I do not need this house of clay, so tenderly, carefully lay it away.

*Acknowledgement*

The family of the late *Willie Jacob Pettway* would like to express our gratitude for your thoughtfulness, kindness, prayers, and other means of care and concern. We are thankful for friends like you. May God bless and keep each of you.

~The Pettway Family

*Interment*

Evergreen Cemetery

ARRANGEMENTS IN CARE OF:



4315 N. Main Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32206  
(904)765-1234  
Tyrone S. Warden, FDIC  
[www.tswarden.com](http://www.tswarden.com)

A CELEBRATION  
*of Life*

FOR

*Willie Jacob Pettway*



November 8, 1952 — August 6, 2016

*Service*

11:00 AM, Saturday, August 13, 2016

*Greater Beulah Missionary Baptist Church*

9550 Ribault Avenue

Jacksonville, Florida 32208

*Anthony L. Willis, Sr. Pastor*

*Rev. Turret Laidler, Officiating*



## Obituary

**Willie Jacob (Billie) Pettway** the 3<sup>rd</sup> of five children was born on November 8, 1952 to the late Thomas and Carrie Pettway, who resided on the eastside of Jacksonville, Florida. Throughout Billie's life he visited and enjoyed many churches, and later became a member of Shiloh Baptist Church. A product of the Duval County School System, Billie graduated from Mathew W. Gilbert High School Class of 1970, which was affectionately dubbed "*the last class to pass*". While at Gilbert, Billie was a standout linebacker, wearing number 51 on the Mighty Panthers football team. It was there he developed lifelong friendships with Kenneth Graham and Dennis Gresham Chappelle. After graduating from high school, having a love of the sea Billie set his sights north to Piney Point Maryland and attended Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship. After successfully completing and graduating from the seaman program Billie returned to Jacksonville to simultaneously begin his seagoing career and started a family with his former wife Diane Heggs. Together Billie and Diane raised three children, Devron, Willie, and Angela. After traveling several years touring the world on deep sea vessels, Billie decided to change gears and give oceangoing tugs a try. He was employed by Crowley Maritime where he dedicated 30 tireless years of service as Chief Engineer before retiring in 2010. In addition to his unwavering service to Crowley, Billie played an instrumental role in helping countless young men began their careers in the maritime industry.

In retirement, Billie decided to once again become a world traveler; this time with his lovely and devoted fiancée, Sherry Warrick. Never one to let grass grow under their feet, Billie and Sherry set out on their collective journey of life and the pursuit of happiness, traveling the globe to great destinations. To know Billie was to love him. He was known for charming everyone he met with his great smile, disarming them with his quick wit, and loving everyone with his overwhelmingly generous heart. Many were humbled and blessed by his willingness to listen and mentor any young man or family member who sought his advice. Billie loved travel, fishing, shopping, and dancing with his sister-in-law, Joanne Pettway at all family functions; they would really cut a rug! However most importantly, he deeply and unequivocally loved his family.

**Willie** leaves to carry on his legacy three children, Devron Antonio Pettway, (Nichole), Willie Devon Pettway (Jami), and Angela Lawan Pettway; fiancée, Sherry Warrick; siblings, Thomas, Jr., Brenda Laidler (Oscar), Valerie Morgan (Paul), and Quinton Pettway (Joanne); grandchildren, Devronessa Copeland (Curtis), Catterria Holliday (Tony), Dianah Miller, Kerrigan Brown, Barron Pettway, and Parker Pettway; one great-grandson, Andrew Copeland; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

## Order of Service

Pastor Anthony L. Willis, Sr., Presiding

### Processional

**Solo** ..... Daly Braxton

**Selection** ..... Choir

**Prayer** ..... Minister

### Scripture

Old Testament ..... Erica Laidler

New Testament ..... Bishop Trey Wright

### Resolution &

**Acknowledgements** .....

**Obituary** ..... (*Read Silently*)

**Reflections** ..... (*2 Minutes Please*)

*Poem by*

Barron Pettway \* Parker Pettway \* Dianah Miller

As A Co-Worker ..... Eli Seals

As A Friend ..... Dennis Gresham Chappelle

As A Family Member ..... Orlando Heggs

**Solo** ..... Daly Braxton

**Words of Comfort** ..... Rev. Turret Laidler

### Recessional

<sup>38</sup> *For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,*<sup>39</sup> *Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**Romans 8:38-39**

### Repast

10934 Lem Turner Road, 32218