



Gardener Leslie Waters

December 6, 1955 - October 24, 2025

Gardener Leslie Waters, affectionately known as “Les”, was born on December 6, 1955 in Salisbury, Maryland. At the age of sixty-nine (69), he peacefully departed this life on Friday, October 24, 2025 at Bay Harbor Nursing Home in Salisbury, Maryland. He was the son of the late Oscar L. Waters and Edith Jones Waters.

Les graduated from James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury, Maryland with the Class of 1973. Prior to retirement, he worked at Hecht Company, Home Depot and Ross.

At an early age, Les attended Friendship United Methodist Church in Allen, Maryland where he was a member of the youth choir. Les had a profound love for music. In his pastime, he loved to sing and play drums. He played in several different bands with his brothers and others including On The Edge, ES Funk, Inc. and the Skull Snaps, also known as The Diplomats.

While living on the Western Shore, Les would hang out with his niece, Ebony Khan. On Friday evenings, Les would love to go Brew River in Salisbury with his brother Ervan to eat raw oysters and listen to On The Edge band. He also loved watching football. On Sundays, Les would call John to talk smack about the football games. His favorite team was the Washington Redskins, now known as the Commanders.

Les leaves to cherish his memories: one sister, Ophelia Khan of Bowie, Maryland; three brothers, Ervan Waters of Salisbury, Maryland, Oscar P. Waters (Vickie) of Norfolk, Virginia and John Long (Paula) of Allen, Maryland; a very special and devoted friend, Veron Polk of Salisbury, Maryland who stood by him until the end and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Les was preceded in death by his parents, Oscar and Edith Waters and a sister, Marian Long.

Submitted With Love ~ The Family

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 15. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Funeral Service

NOV 15. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - November 14, 2025 at 04:12 PM

ER

“ *Eric Richardson lit a candle in memory of Gardener Leslie Waters*



Eric Richardson - November 13, 2025 at 03:03 PM

EW

“ *Ervan Jr., Sean, and Tiffany Waters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gardener Leslie Waters.*

Ervan Jr., Sean, and Tiffany Waters - November 13, 2025 at 02:58 PM

EW

“ *Ervan Jr., Sean, and Tiffany Waters purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Gardener Leslie Waters.*



Ervan Jr., Sean, and Tiffany Waters - November 13, 2025 at 02:58 PM

EW

“ *Ervan Jr., Sean, And Tiffany Waters lit a candle in memory of Gardener Leslie Waters*



Ervan Jr., Sean, and Tiffany Waters - November 13, 2025 at 01:54 PM

BM

“ *To the Family of Gardener Leslie Waters we send our condolences and Love to you for your loss.*

*Bette McFadden
Rahman McFadden*

Bette Mcfadden - November 13, 2025 at 11:47 AM

W(

“ *Winifred Robinson (Winnie) purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Gardener Leslie Waters.*



Winifred Robinson (Winnie) - November 12, 2025 at 10:29 PM

MB

“ *Les and I were our own team. I was team Les and he was team Myra. Our getting together was such a blessing to both our lives and I will cherish every moment I got to spend with Les! RIP Big Brother! My sincere condolences to the entire Waters Family! My prayers and thoughts are with you all! God Bless, love Myra Burke-Slaughter*

Myra Burke-Slaughter - November 11, 2025 at 08:35 PM

DH

“ *Deanna Haynes lit a candle in memory of Gardener Leslie Waters*



Deanna Haynes - November 11, 2025 at 01:29 PM

DH

May the God of all comfort keep the family in peace during this time of bereavement. May God forever bless you all.

Deanna Haynes - November 11, 2025 at 01:31 PM

MS

“ *Marilyn, Sthefany, and Sharon purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Gardener Leslie Waters.*



Marilyn, Sthefany, and Sharon - November 09, 2025 at 09:28 PM

RC

“ *Rose Cottman lit a candle in memory of Gardener Leslie Waters*



Rose Cottman - November 07, 2025 at 06:25 PM

AF

“ Anthony, Debra Goins, and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gardener Leslie Waters.

Anthony, Debra Goins, and family - November 07, 2025 at 05:29 PM

AF

“ Anthony, Debra Goins, and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gardener Leslie Waters.



Anthony, Debra Goins, and family - November 07, 2025 at 05:29 PM

NB

“ Condolences to the Waters and Long family. I'm going to truly miss my BFF(Best Friends Forever). Our weekly conversations and him always keeping me laughing about something.



Norma Banks - November 07, 2025 at 04:34 PM

KF

“ Kenneth-Josette Goins & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gardener Leslie Waters.

Kenneth-Josette Goins & Family - November 07, 2025 at 03:13 PM

KF

“ Kenneth-Josette Goins & Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gardener Leslie Waters.



Kenneth-Josette Goins & Family - November 07, 2025 at 03:13 PM

AJ

“ Annette Jones lit a candle in memory of Gardener Leslie Waters



Annette Jones - November 05, 2025 at 11:11 AM

LN

“ Condolences to the family from a fellow classmate of 73.

Launia Nutter - October 30, 2025 at 06:10 PM

YA

“ John we pray for you and your family.



Yvonne M Armwood - October 30, 2025 at 10:59 AM

RJ

Condolences from the Jackson family. Your spirit has touched us. We will be eternally grateful for your presence in our life. May Allah forgive you for any errors and have mercy on you and accept you in the heavens of his grace.

Ruth Jackson - November 12, 2025 at 07:45 AM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss*



Thomas Widgeon - October 29, 2025 at 07:43 AM

PH

“ *My heartfelt condolences to the Waters family. Words can't express the sadness of hearing of his passing. He will truly be missed. God's blessings and prayers during this time of bereavement.*



Phyllis Hardy - October 29, 2025 at 07:21 AM

JW

My cousin Les I will miss your smile and laughter.MANY YEARS WE PERFORMED TOGETHER HAD GREAT TIMES MY PRAYERS ARE WITH YOUR FAMILY AND THE JOY YOU SHARED AS ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY LOVE YOU ALWAYS COUSIN JANICE WHITE AND MY EXTENDED FAMILY ❤️🙏👐🥲

Janice Watson White - October 31, 2025 at 10:50 PM

MB

My sincere condolences to the family in the loss of your loved one. Praying for strength.

Minnie Barkley - November 03, 2025 at 11:34 AM

CS

May God bless the family forever God bless Smitty

Clarence Smith - November 03, 2025 at 12:06 PM

W(

My deepest condolences to the family. My heart is so full right now, I am so happy that I was able to see Les, hold him and his hands one more time. Les was so special to me and we had such a wonderful blessed friendship, he will forever be in my heart. Our bond was very real and we could talk/share our thoughts about anything with each other. My love for him ran very deep, I will ALWAYS LOVE YOU LES and you may be gone from my sight but NEVER from my heart and soul. Expressions of Love to his family. I know you are resting in the arms of our Lord and Savior ☐☐☐🙏🙏🙏 Winifred Robinson (Winnie) as you all know me.

Winifred Robinson (Winnie) - November 04, 2025 at 08:15 AM