



# Leroy Cooper

February 8, 1938 - August 28, 2020

## The Life Story

Before God's sunset on Friday, August 28th, 2020, Leroy Cooper experienced the loving arms of Christ as his whispered in his ear and took him home for eternal rest.

Leroy was the eldest son of fifteen children born on February 8th, 1938 in Benson, Louisiana to the late Roy and Ola B. Cooper. He accept Christ as his Lord and Savior at an early age and fellowshipped as a member of Maryspring Baptist Church.

Leroy was educated in the Desota Parish school district and graduate in 1956 from Pelican All Saints High School in Pelican, LA. After graduation he moved to Somerset, NJ to reside with his late sister, Mercedes Belton. He became a member of First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens. Having a love for gospel music he became a member of the Happyland Gospel Group lead by the late Noah Thompson, Sr. Leroy was a strong and talented baritone, and enjoyed singing and playing gospel music on his organ in the family home.

In the late summer of 1960, Leroy met the love of his life Betty J. Leftwich. He asked for her hand and they were united in holy matrimony on February 11th, 1961. Early in the marriage Leroy was drafted to serve his country in the United States Army for two years and was honorably discharged as a Corporal. After returning home he worked a number of years as a supervisor at Reynolds Metals in Carteret, NJ. Then he became employed at Eastern Surgical Dressing Plant Division of Johnson & Johnson in North Brunswick, NJ and remained there until his retirement in 2001.

Leroy will be remembered as a tall, strong man of integrity that loved his family deeply, and was lovingly referred to as "Boss Man" and "Harry". He loved being home and his residence was often called "the house of plenty". He was happy to entertain and always quick to feed others. A man of many hobbies he most loved football, chatting with people across the country on his CB radio, and more recently communicating with family and

friends on Facebook.

He is preceded in death by his four sisters, Mamie, Mercedes, Vera, and Brunetta. He leaves to cherish his memory, his devoted wife of 59 years, Betty J. Cooper: two daughters, April Dabney (Marzene), New Kent, VA, Bridgette Cooper-Boyd (Tommy), Somerset, NJ,; five brothers, Charles Cooper (Gwinette), Charlotte, NC, Fred Cooper (Roberta) , Baton Rouge, LA, Jerry Cooper, Shreveport, LA, Melvin Cooper, Baton Rouge, LA, Joe L. Cooper, Mansfield, LA; six sisters, Faye Levenston (Willie) , Portsmouth, VA, Ola Richards, Shirley Thomas (W.C.), Hattie George all of Dallas, TX, and Brenda Johnson, San Antonio, TX; three sisters-in-laws, Ester Miller, Penns Grove, NJ, Elenora Cooper, Houston, TX, and Naomi Epps, Greensboro, NC; ten grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, God-daughters, a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

# Cemetery

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## Franklin Memorial Park

1800 Route 27

North Brunswick, NJ,

# Events

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SEP

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**Celebration Of Life Gathering** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

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First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens

771 Somerset St, Somerset, NJ, US, 08873

# Comments

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“ I met Boss Man, through the Cooper brothers. I was privileged to have known him. I served in the Air Force with his brother Joe and lived near Fred and HC for many years.

I always considered myself one of the brothers... sitting at Fred's house and swapping crazy stories...(Boss Man was always the most respected.) Fond memories. May the Family find comfort in each other and Peace in the Love of Our Lord and Savior. Ray Francis.

**Raymond Francis** - September 09, 2020 at 12:08 PM

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“ Uncle Leroy “Harry” he was my Great Uncle. I have fond memories of him as a child. He always had change in his pocket. Everytime i saw him i would ask for change. In my mind as a child, if you had change that meant you had money money! He was kind, always had a huge smile on his face. I remember being amazed at his hair, it was long black and curly. As the Eldest son he set a great example for his brothers and sisters. God does things on his own timing, it is up to us to enjoy the time he gives us. More now than ever, we understand life's importance and have learned to cherish its rewards. To my great Uncle thank you for leading the way.

“Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the skies, all is well, safely rest, God is nigh”

**Matthew Emecheta** - September 09, 2020 at 09:54 AM