



A photograph of James Williams Sr. playing a red electric guitar on stage. He is wearing a black t-shirt and glasses. The background is dark with some stage lighting.

JAMES WILLIAMS SR.

CEO | MASTER GUITARIST | GOSPEL MUSIC PREACHER
THE ELECTRIFYING CROWN SEEKERS GOSPEL SINGERS

75 Years of Age

Saturday April 18th, 2020

Marrero, LA

2 Chronicles 7:14

*“If my people, which are called by my name,
shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek
my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then
will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their
sin, and will heal their land.”*

A Bit of HI“S”TORY

Originally from Liberty, Mississippi; James was an anointed Singer-Songwriter, Preacher/Teacher, Husband, Father, Friend...

He was gifted by God with the talent of guitar and started playing at the age of five (5) without any lessons and eventually self-trained in Jimmy Reed-style blues guitar.

“My father used to run me out of the house when I was trying to play the guitar,” remembers Williams. “When I got good? He used to brag on me so much and bring his friends around to hear me play. So when both of my sons started banging on pots, I got ‘em drums, I never ran my kids out. I always defended them and their noise. And they got good!” 52-year-old Brent Williams, a resident of Austin TX, left the band years ago for the military & a corporate career, handing over duties to now 31-year-old Keith Williams. When Keith can’t make the service, their 22-year-old nephew Lee Murphy, Jr. mans the Crown Seekers’ drum kit.

For all his flashy fretwork, James Williams claims that “the trick, in the end, is to figure out how to be humble and still create a sound that will get to the people.” Although behind a Gibson rather than a pulpit, Williams refuses to use his musical gift for financial gain. He recently retired after several decades at BellSouth...

Order of Service

St. James COGIC

3404 Andover St. Jefferson, LA 70121

Saturday April 25th, 2020 10am

- ❖ Officiant: Elder James Williams
- ❖ Inspirational Music - Electrifying Crown Seekers
- ❖ Family processional Scripture & Prayer - Keith Williams
- ❖ Tribute to James Williams Sr. By his children
- ❖ Reading of the Obituary - Brent Williams
- ❖ Inspirational Message - Elder James Williams, Pastor of St. James COGIC

Love Messages to Dad

James Jr.

Pops, I Love You! If I could be half the man you were, I'd have lived a good life! You were the best Father to all your children and Father-Figure to many!

Your passing has me feeling all kinds of hurt buty I'm tgrying to focus on all the times you made me laugh and smile.



Besides being the best guitar player that I ever knew, you were also pretty funny.

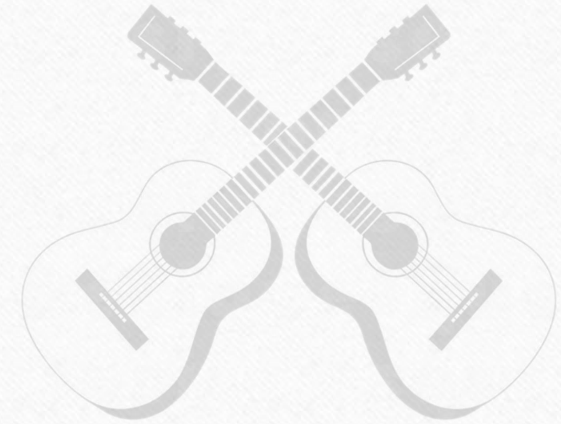
We were all blessed to have you as long as we did.

I Love You Pops!



Love Messages to Dad Brent & Sonnecia

- My Pops...
- It is your Number 2 Dad... Hey Brenton, you would say at times when you called. I will miss those times. You told me often, just how proud you were of me and how I “turned out”. A Proud Father of a US Army soldier, computer geek, drummer but most of all, you always encouraged me that I was a great Husband, Father and Man!
- Pops I am so glad God allowed me to share majority of my adult life with you. You were able to visit me in Texas and spent time enjoying all the many blessings God entrusted me from houses to cars and even our Music Entertainment business, The Band Hot Sauce ATX!
- More than anything, I am super proud to have made you proud! “Son, you’re A Man’s Man” you would say to me...
- Sonnecia & I will forever cherish you and carry on your legacy...
- Love you Pops!



Love Messages to Dad

Brenttney & Christa

Brenttney

Dear Grandpa,

Words cannot describe how I feel at this moment. Even though sadness is hovering over my head, the warmth and joy in my heart will help me through. Remembering how you would always support in all that I do, seeing a bright future for me even when I can't see it myself, and always asking for money and joke about it at the end when you know the type of person that I am. You have always brought joy in my life when we talk, and you have always made certain that I am safe and protected from the dark. You were, that will guide me along the way. You are my angand always will be, my light when I am in the dark. You will always be the spirit el in heaven as you were here on earth. I love you grandpa, always.



Christa

I'ma miss them times when the family got together, and you played the guitar and lead us all in singing good ol gospel songs. I named my first born after you, Raiden James. I'ma miss your laugh, you telling me I got them funny looking eyes, all your jokes and positive energy. Truly a beautiful spirit. From all of us, Christa, Raiden James and Caiden

Love Messages to Dad

Ashlee & Brent Jr. "BJ"



Dear Dadee,

We are giving a special note for you from us. We miss you. We miss how you say our names, play around with us and always being funny. We love how you play the guitar and would make us dance. Dadee, we love you so much and we love getting hugs from you. It's a rainy day today, but we are still having fun remembering who you are. And just so you know, we will continue to write letters to you all the time. We will never forget you and give you two hugs for today.

Love always, Ashlee and BJ



Love Messages to Dad

Treneca, Wilton, Archell, Lee Jr. & Milan

Treneca & Wilton

Daddy and Father-in-Law, we love and miss you so much already!!! You're someone who has ALWAYS INSPIRED us to STRIVE to become better people in our lives here on this earth so that we can and will make it towards our PURPOSE which is when we walk through those PEARLY GATES of HEAVEN!!! Father-in-Law I have been so BLESSED to have gained a friend and Father-in-Law who INSTILLED in me the WILL to strive to be a Man after God's Own Heart...it has been a Blessing and Honor to have known someone as GREAT as you; A REAL, TRUE MAN of GOD Mr. James Williams Sr. who has touched so many people's lives and I'm Blessed that one of those lives is mine. I will love and take GREAT care of your daughter Mrs. Treneca Williams-Girod and grandchildren just like you did!!! I thank God and you for my wife, my Blessing from you BOTH and I am TRULY BLESSED to become a member of your family!!! We love and miss you ALWAYS Dad and we BOTH cannot wait to see to see you again in Heaven!!!!!! We WILL FINALLY GET TO SING TOGETHER AGAIN WHEN WE MAKE IT THERE DADDY, I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE YOU ALWAYS!!!!!!



Archell



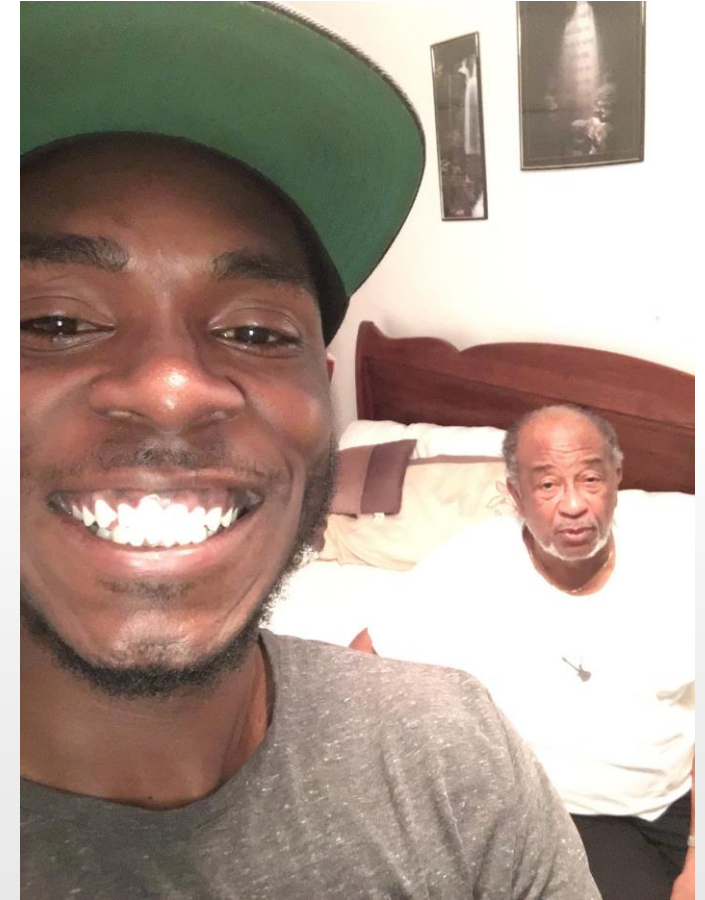
To my Grandfather thank you for ALWAYS being a friend and mentor to me, I love you ALWAYS!!!

Milan



To my Grandfather thank you for ALWAYS being a friend and mentor to me, I love you ALWAYS!!!

Lee Jr.



Dadee I PROMISE to do EVERYTHING in my POWER to make you and God PROUD!!!! I will see you again in Heaven, I love you!!!

Love Messages to Dad

**Monique, John, John Allen III, Jonathan Allen,
Vernon Robiskie III, Johnny Allen & Jayden Robiskie**

Monique & John

I've had so many memories with you Papa I don't know where to start. I do remember when John joined The Electrifying Crown Seekers and all you used to tell me was how John is a good guy. At first, I didn't listen to you and said okay Papa and laughed. So, three years ago I guess you decided to enforce the message that God sent to you. And you walked in my room and said I gave John your number and told him to call you. Who would have thought that John and I would marry the day before we made a year in our dating relationship. And Papa you didn't want me to be alone that's all you used to tell me. You always told me the boys and I deserve happiness. John and I will miss you so much, and we were blessed to share so many memories with you. We will miss our conversations, singing and food outings. Love you always, "Sing with the Angels", just like you used to sing while here on earth.

John Allen III, Jonathan Allen, Vernon, Johnny Allen & Jayden

We love you Dadee and will miss you!!







Love Messages to Dad

Keith, Jasmin, Kierra & Journey

Keith & Jasmin

Dad you have been the best father and man we know! Thanks for providing love, laughter and a life that we know God was pleased with!! We love you dearly and rest easy!! We will meet again!!

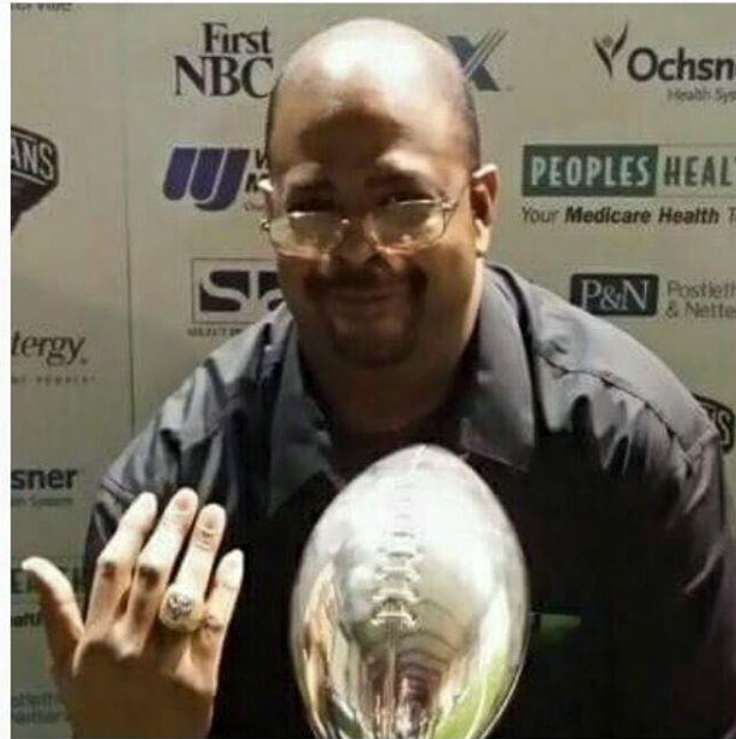


Kierra & Journey

We love you and you are the best granddad ever!!









SURVIVED BY

Spouse: Lynn B. Williams, Marrero LA

Children: James Williams Jr., Brent & Sonnecia Williams, Treneca & Wilton Williams-Girod, Monique & John Allen, Keith & Jasmin Williams

Grandchildren: Brenttney Williams, Christa Williams, Archell Williams, Lee Murphy Jr., John Allen III, Jonathan Allen, Vernon Robiskie III, Milan Williams, Johnny Allen, Jayden Robiskie, Ashlee Patterson-Williams, Kierra Williams, Brent Williams Jr., Journey Williams

Great-Grandchildren: Raden James Bridgewater, Caden Williams

Siblings: Roosevelt Williams Sr. (Deceased) & Arabell McKnight-Williams; Vernell & Aurtha Williams; Willie & Mary Alice Williams (Both Deceased); Clarence Williams (Deceased); Mary & Milton Burns; Aria & Jessie Carter; Carrie & Eli Porter; Joyce (Deceased) & Anthony Holmes and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws & friends

PREDECEASED

Parents: Rubén Williams Jr. & Rhoda Allen-Williams

Grandparents: Ruben Williams Sr. & Mary Kent-Williams
Albert Allen & Lovey Hackett-Allen

Siblings: Roosevelt Williams Sr., Willie Williams, Clarence Williams, Joyce Holmes



James was one of the four founding members of The Electrifying Crown Seekers Gospel Singers, organized in 1965. The group got its name from one of the former members, Mr. Earnest Roy. Later, Electrifying was added by a radio DJ. Wilson Howard. The Crown Seekers fame spread far and near. The group ministered for 55 years and was a down-home, country-tinged gospel group from Marrero, LA.

James was the only original member of the 55-year-old Crown Seekers, currently backed by members of his large musical family and their community.

The Electrifying Crown Seekers anchored a vibrant, under-the-radar gospel music community in the heart of the birthplace of jazz – “Naw’lins” (New Orleans).

Dedicated to preserving the raw quartet style of singing made famous by The Dixie Hummingbirds and The Blind Boys of Alabama, the Crown Seekers and the New Orleans quartet community fostered a nascent local circuit that supported close to 50 regular acts.

James influenced many Gospel Hits such as **"Turn The Other Cheek", "Make Jesus Number One", "Old Revival", "You're No Better Than Me", "Every Day I Wake Up", "The First Day", "Precious Lord", "Lord Forgive Me", "Can I Get A Witness", "Precious King", "Let's Get Serious", "Run On", "Made Jesus My Choice", "All The Way", "Send Me", "The Book", "Jesus Said It", "Taking Care of Me"...**



James & The Crown Seekers have toured France a number of times from 1990 through 2000's but can far more often be heard at St. Lucy's church fair, playing for charity.

The Crown Seekers are dedicated to God, their families, friends, fans and former members: Sam Jones,, , Jerry Pittman, Bill Robinson, Earnest Roy, William Walker and also the families of James is now joining his fellow deceased members in God's Heavenly Quartet: Rev. Bob Fradieu, Joe Johnson, Dan Pittman, Henry Pittman, Jimmy Mason, Johnson Lee Davis, Melvin Burns, Joe Cook, Cleveland Growe, Warren Hill, Monroe Pittman, Tommy Munson, Sylester O'Neal, Rev. Marion Tobias, Tommy Williams, and Robert Young.

"We don't play in clubs, but if they wanted gospel, we would do it there! We will play anywhere they need the gospel," promises Williams. "We can sing high, we can sing low, we can sing in between. We can sing country western—we do it all, so that wherever we go, from the nursing homes to the Jazz Fest, we'll be able to do whatever is needed."

Gospel quartets are rare, James Williams explains. "Most gospel groups have so many members because not everyone who plays an instrument can sing," he says. "We all play and harmonize, so we don't need more than the four." When asked why the Crown Seekers can be seen performing with up to nine people in its quartet, Williams laughs. "Somebody always wants to join our group. They always are trying to get in. And I have been trying to get more young people in the group in case anything happens to me."

*The Electrifying
Crown Seekers*

1. Turn The Other Cheek (4:07)
2. Make Jesus Number One (3:57)
3. Old Revival (2:39)
4. You're No Better Than Me (2:41)
5. Every Day I Wake Up (3:56)
6. The First Day (3:45)
7. Precious Lord (3:14)
8. Lord Forgive Me (3:49)
9. Can I Get A Witness (3:08)
10. Precious King (3:19)
11. Let's Get Serious (4:10)
12. Run On (3:58)
13. Made Jesus My Choice (4:04)
14. All The Way (3:50)
15. Send Me (2:36)
16. The Book (5:07)
17. Jesus Said It (2:20)
18. Taking Care Of Me (3:21)

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO

*Every Day I Wake Up
Is A Good Day*

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The Electrifying
CROWN SEEKERS
Gospel Singers

*Thank you Lord
For Saving Me*

1. I'll Be There
2. Oh How I Love Jesus
3. Jesus I Love You
4. Waiting up There
5. Nothing Until You Come
6. Repent Now
7. He Without Sin
8. Drop Your Net
9. When I Need Him Most
10. Thank You For Saving Me
11. Something At The End
12. Play My Troubles Away

Keep Praying

1. Keep Praying
2. Spread The Good News
3. Jesus Is Coming To Town
4. Come Back Home
5. He's Worthy
6. Too Late When I'm Gone
7. What you Done for Me
8. He'll Be There
9. Lord I Just Want To Thank You
10. Jesus (At The Mention Of Your Name)
11. Silent Night
12. A Tribute



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*The Electrifying
Crown Seekers
No Time To Lose*

For Bookings Contact:
Alfred Clay (504) 347-5454 or
James Williams, Sr.
(504) 348-3954

*Recording Mill
production*

1. No Time To Lose
2. Go See About Mama
3. Study War No More
4. Do It While I Live
5. My Reason To Thank Him
6. A Land
7. God Will Supply
8. Every Tub
9. Let Your Light Shine
10. Saviour
11. He's Alright
12. So That We Could Be Free

Les joyeux de la couronne

Crownseekers (de crown, couronne et seek, couler) sera le dernier groupe à se produire dans ce festival. Le gospel est à l'affiche, ce soir à la salle Palas

Déjà la soirée de clôture ! Jazz à Oloron tire la dernière salve ce soir, et en apothéose, en proposant du gospel avec Crownseekers. Originaire de la Nouvelle-Orléans, ce



seekers ou le retour du gospel à Oloron, ce soir en clôture à la salle Palas (marcel Bedaxagar)

tion dans les premières
s du festival. "Nous som-

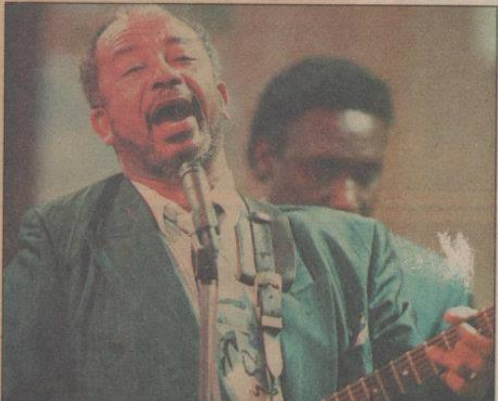
par les surprenants Acous-
teel Gang.

siques, plus traditionnelles : celles
du festival international des Pyr-

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 1997

LEADING THE WAY

James Williams leads the Crown Seekers, a Marrero gospel group, last Saturday night during a performance at King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church in





James

I Thank God every day for you
For you will always be
The dearest most important gift
He ever gave to me.
I'm thankful for the faithfulness
In all you said and did
That shows the precious love
That God has given me thru you.
Just wanted you to know by
Word and touch
Every day you made me very Happy,
I love you & will miss you so much.
Lynn...

