



Joe Sanders Jr

APR 21, 1947 - APR 8, 2021



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Joe Sanders Jr

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Joe Sanders, Jr. **Beloved Son, Father, GranDad, Brother, Uncle, Cousin and Friend**

Joe Sanders Jr., affectionately known as “Joe Boy”, was born on April 21, 1947 at Baptist Hospital in Alexandria, Louisiana. As the eldest son of Pattie Culbert Sanders and Joe Herman Sanders (deceased), Joe truly embraced being big brother to Jennie Lane Robertson of Stockton, CA; Gloria Faye Sanders (deceased); Norman Sanders (deceased); Cynthia Brooks (Albert) of Houston, TX; Dr. Pamelaia Sanders of Pineville, LA; Ronnie Sanders (Anita) of Pineville, LA; and Phoebe Weatherspoon of Atlanta, GA. He rarely missed an opportunity to celebrate milestones such as graduations, weddings and Bayou Classics that brought family together.

Joe grew up in the Rigolette neighborhood of Pineville, LA, also known as the “Piney Woods”, which is in Rapides Parish. Joe excelled in football and was a scholar athlete who lettered as an all-state offensive lineman. He helped lead Peabody High School (PHS) to two Louisiana state championship games. Joe graduated from Peabody in 1965 and later attended Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where he graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration, class of 1969.

After graduating from college, Joe accepted a position with Detroit Edison (now DTE Energy) in Detroit, Michigan. He took a detour shortly afterwards, to answer the draft call to service by the United States Army, where he served in the MP (Military Police) unit and did a tour of duty in Vietnam. After completing his military service, Joe continued his professional career as a young internal auditor at Detroit Edison.

Joe met his college sweetheart, Barbara Ann Miles, at Southern University and they married in 1972. While he rose through the management ranks in his career, he demonstrated unwavering support to Barbara in her career as well. Joe achieved many firsts in internal auditing in the



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company, including becoming the first Black executive in internal auditing and serving as the Acting General Director of Auditing for the company. He retired from DTE Energy after a successful 32-year career.

Joe was a well-respected member of the Detroit professional community. He carved out time to serve as President of the Detroit Chapter Southern University Alumni Association and the first Black President of The National Institute of Internal Auditors - Detroit Chapter.

While Joe achieved many career highlights, he was most proud of his two sons - Cornell Kip Larry (LaShanda Reed-Larry) of Mansfield, TX and Ryan Joseph Sanders (fiancé Janae Dandridge) of Detroit, MI. He traveled many miles to attend over 200 of Ryan's youth soccer and basketball games, missing only two throughout the years. He also supported Barbara and Ryan for many years by traveling to FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) events across the country, sometimes serving as a judge. And, he participated in numerous activities with the Oakland County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated for over 10 years.

With Kip, Joe shared his interests in tennis, golf and jazz through the years. He was overjoyed when Kip decided to attend his alma mater, Southern University. As fellow Jaguars, there wasn't a Bayou Classic they missed during Kip's years at SU.

After 45 years in the metro Detroit area, Joe and Barbara relocated in retirement to the Dallas/Ft. Worth suburbs in 2017 to be closer to Kip and his family. Joe loved spending time with Kip, LaShanda and "The Three" - a name he gave to his grandsons: Julian Alexander Sanders Larry, Sean Gabriel Sanders Larry, and Xavier Elijah Sanders Larry. He truly enjoyed attending Julian, Sean and Xavier's activities and became a staple in the stands of their basketball, baseball and football games. His dream was to travel across the country with "The Three" in an RV, but instead he took them each on walks, enjoyed family meals, vacationed together and introduced them to the Piney Woods.

In his free time, Joe loved to reconnect with his rural Louisiana roots by way of working in his yard. He could often be seen at his favorite local flower shops near the family home in Troy, Michigan and loved to get his hands in the dirt at the season's first sign of warm weather. Joe also made a point to reconnect with the Southern University alumni as a charter and lifetime member of the Southern University Fort Worth Alumni Chapter.



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Joe was a quiet, thoughtful, warm hearted man with a good sense of humor and a strong sense of family! He will forever be missed by his loving wife Barbara, cherished sons and grandson Kip, Ryan, Julian, Sean and Xavier. He also leaves behind his beloved mother Pattie and siblings Jennie, Cynthia, Pamelaia, Ronnie, and Phoebe. Uncle Joe's nieces and nephews include Michaunda Roberson (fiancé Malik Marin), Demea Jamison (Shaemekia), Wesley Alexander (Tannischa), Cairn Horton (Victor), Malrik Boose (Leslie), Shelly Sanders, Darion Sanders (fiancé Antonia), Jasmine Sanders, and Irie Weatherspoon. His heart was full seeing the family grow to include a host of great nieces, great nephews, and his godchildren Joseph Williams and Renée Macbeth.

Joe will also be fondly remembered by his brother-in-law Charles and sister-in-law Donna Alexander who helped make the transition to Texas smoother with couples' dinners and family gatherings. His extended Michigan clan includes Mike Marion, Saundra Marion, Hellen Dennis, along with Ron and Roberta Gamble. And, Terry "Rigolette" Williams, his homeboy, visited from California a month prior to Joe going home to be with the Lord.

In lieu of flowers, donations to scholarship funds can made online in the memory of Joe Sanders, Jr.:

Southern University Joe Sanders, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

<https://sualumni.site-ym.com/page/JoeSandersMSF>

Dr. Michael A. Evans, Sr. Scholarship Foundation

<https://evansscholarship.org/>

Details for the services on April 17, 2021 are listed be for those attending in person. Social distancing and masks are required at all venues.

Services may also be viewed via the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85399746522?pwd=QnQleXh0SUpveWxleG1GUmJGc25RUT09>

Passcode: 042121

Public Viewing at 12:00 p.m.

Home-Going Service at 1:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Baptist Church



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1188 W. Broad Street
Mansfield, Texas 76063

Final Resting Place (Interment)
Mansfield Community Cemetery
750 West Kimball (Cemetery Rd.)
Mansfield, Texas 76063

Repat: Eventfully Yours Special Event Venue
7640 NE Loop 820 #110, North Richland Hills, TX 76180

Joe and Barbara joined Bethlehem Baptist Church (Reverend Dr. Michael A. Evans, Sr.) through their Christian experience after over 25 years at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac, Michigan (Reverend Dr. John Tolbert, Senior Pastor). We appreciate all of the support offered by Mansfield Funeral Home during this time.





Events

Joe Sanders Jr

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Visitation with Family & Friends

 **Saturday**, April 17, 2021


 12:00 PM CT

 **Bethlehem Baptist Church**
1188 W. Broad Street, Mansfield TX 76063

Celebration of Life


 **Saturday**, April 17, 2021

 1:00 PM CT

 **Bethlehem Baptist Church**
1188 W. Broad Street, Mansfield TX 76063

Burial

 **Saturday**, April 17, 2021

 **Mansfield Community Cemetery**
750 West Kimball (Cemetery) Rd., Mansfield TX
76063





Tribute Wall

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June Burgett posted:

To Barbara and the Sanders' family, I want to extend my deepest sympathies. You are in my prayers and thoughts.

April 17 at 8:34 AM



Ruth Lawson lit a candle in honor of Joe.



April 17 at 7:44 AM



Charles Combs posted:

Barbara and the Sanders Family, our prayers and deepest sympathies go out to all of you. I know it's hard to lose such a great person, and Joe was just that. I will personally miss our talks in the driveway or in the garage. Joe will truly be missed. Barbara we are here for you, if you need anything. We pray for God's healing and comfort to you all. Your Friends and Neighbors, Charles, LaDia, and Tre.

April 16 at 5:50 PM



Amanda posted:

Barbara, Ryan and the entire Sanders Family: I was very sorry to hear of Joe's passing. He was a very gentle and kind man. I remember the wonderful times we had during the late 1990's participating in the FIRST tournaments with our team, Chief Delphi. Joe was a part of the team assisting with whatever was needed to support the team's activities. I remember those days with such fondness of all of you as well as my dear friends Sandra and Michael. I'm sending prayers to all the Sanders Family during this difficult time. Amanda Offer

April 16 at 2:28 PM



Bethlehem Bapt.Church-Asst. Church Clerk lit a candle in honor of Joe.

Dr. Michael A. Evans, Sr., Senior Pastor, Rev. Leonard Hornsby, Executive Pastor, Official Staff and members of the Bethlehem Baptist Church extend our deepest condolences to Sis. Barbara Sanders and Bro. Cornell Larry in the home going of Bro. Joe. We will continue to prayer for your strength as you walk this difficult journey. May GOD bless and keep you is our sincere prayer.



April 15 at 12:02 PM



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CH

Charles Hearn posted:

Barbara, Jean and I are so sorry to hear about Joe's passing. We will always remember our last visit together a few years ago when you and Joe were visiting Joe's family in Alexandria. When Joe called and told me he would be in Alexandria, we made arrangements to meet at Copeland's for lunch. The hour drive down there for Jean and I was well worth it because the reminiscing about our time together in Detroit, the discussions we had about Joe and I as fellow Southernites working together at Detroit Edison, Detroit Chapter SU Alumni meetings, and on and on made for a memorable and enjoyable afternoon. He will be missed. Our love and prayers are with you....Charles and Jean Hearn

April 14 at 9:07 AM

FJ

Frances H. James posted:

Barbara, You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. No amount of words can express the pain that you are going through, but we are sending you love and prayers and hope you are able to find strength during this time. I am so grateful that Ed and I had the opportunity to share with you and Joe in the last "Class of 1965" Peabody Reunion in Alexandria in 2015. We will never forget your kind generosity in helping us to obtain memories of the occasion. Ed and I wish you peace to bring you comfort, courage to face the days ahead, and loving memories to forever hold in your heart. Remember the words of I Thessalonians 4:13-18 and know that when the trumpet sounds, we shall see each other again. Lovingly, Fran and Ed James and Family Los Angeles, CA

April 13 at 7:19 AM



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Roberta Gamble shared an album called **Memories Album**.



April 12 at 2:15 PM



Brodick And Jeannette Hill April 12 at 5:48 PM

To Barbara and Family, 🍷 Brodick and I were fortunate to meet you and Joe in Dallas. It was indeed a pleasure and blessing to us. You were both very kind to us during our afternoon lunch. May God grant you and the family His Comfort, Peace and Strength. 🙏 We share this Word of God with you: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." - Romans 8:38-39. Brodick and Jeannette Hill♥



Roberta Gamble April 12 at 2:23 PM

Dinner at Perry's in the Woodlands



Roberta Gamble April 12 at 2:18 PM

2016 visit with the Gamble's in Woodlands, Tx



Roberta Gamble lit a candle in honor of Joe.

As The Flowers of the field With the fragrances they yield, Friendship grows Like a summer rose. (Even the wilderness and desert will rejoice... the dessert will blossom as the rose. Isaiah 35:1) Joe was our dear, dear friend and brother in Christ. We will miss his smile, quiet and gentle voice, and most certainly his commentaries on world affairs. He fought his illness with courage and dignity and now he has peace. His friendship has blessed our family throughout the years. On behalf of the Gamble and McNeese families, we extend our deepest sympathy to Barbara, Ryan, Kip, and the rest of the family. May our Father in Heaven comfort you as only He can. Ron/ Roberta Gamble & Melanie McNeese



April 12 at 2:12 PM



Roberta Gamble lit a candle in honor of Joe.



April 12 at 2:00 PM



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AN

Al Nelson posted:

To Barbara, Ryan, and Kip, As you know, Joe was my dear Troy neighbor, friend, and brother. With our wives, we shared many good times, memories (including President Obama's election), and eating sessions. He was dedicated to everything he did and someone of the utmost integrity. I will miss my brother, but ...I will miss him well! My memories are cherished and put a smile on my face. Live in peace, my brother, and thanks for being my friend for over 25 years. Al Nelson

April 12 at 6:36 AM

JP

John F Penn April 17 at 7:52 AM

Rip Sir ! Prayers to Larry family

FN

Faye And Al Nelson April 17 at 6:29 AM

To Barbara and Family, We pray for your strength and comfort as you mourn the loss of our dear friend Joe. We cherish the many wonderful memories of our family gatherings over the years and wish each of you the blessings of these memories and the comfort of God's love. Take good care Barbara and family, and to our friend and neighbor Joe, live in peace. Much Love, Faye and Al Nelson



Roberta Gamble shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

April 12 at 2:15 PM



2016 visit with The Gamble's The Woodlands, Tx



Roberta Gamble April 12 at 2:23 PM

Dinner at Perry's in the Woodlands



Roberta Gamble April 12 at 2:18 PM

2016 visit with the Gamble's in Woodlands, Tx



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Joe by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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