



## Larry Milton Saunders, LFD

August 3, 1949 - July 26, 2022

Mr. Larry Milton Saunders was born on August 3, 1949 in St. Augustine, Florida. His loving parents, Mamie and William Saunders, and his sister, Mary Saunders preceded him in death.

Larry entered the Alachua County Public School District as a curious first grader at A. Quinn Jones Elementary School and exited as a self-assured graduating senior from Lincoln High School, Class of 1967. He pursued his passion and dream of service in the funeral profession. He graduated from the Miami-Dade College School of Mortuary Science. He was both a Licensed Embalmer and Licensed Funeral Director.

Larry M. Saunders was a kind servant committed to his church, job, family and community. He knew that the real purpose of life is not just to be happy, but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, and to help others. This kind creature of God has left his fingerprints of service over this entire community; and like all fingerprints, his are truly one of a kind.

He leaves to mourn: a brother, Robert (Ruth) Saunders; nephews: Alvin Bell, Jason Saunders, and Robert S. Saunders, Jr.; nieces: Ashley Prim, Icela Saunders, and Robyn Saunders; godchildren: Karla Davis Jamison, Dinah Davis, and Christopher M. Chestnut; and a host of cousins and friends.

Visitation for Mr. Saunders will be Wednesday, August 3, 2022 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 630 NW 2nd Street, Gainesville, FL 32601.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 3:00 PM at Grace at Fort Clarke United Methodist Church, 9325 West Newberry Road, Gainesville, FL 32606, Rick Thompson, Pastor, with Rev. Erica Smith, Presiding, and Rev. Geraldine McClellan, Officiating. Interment will follow immediately in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Due to COVID, all in attendance are asked to please wear a facial covering.

Arrangements Entrusted to the Care of Chestnut Funeral Home. Cards may be sent to 18 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601. To order floral arrangements, please visit [www.chestnutfh.com/obituary/larrysaunders](http://www.chestnutfh.com/obituary/larrysaunders). Any questions may be directed to

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Obituary Wall*



**Chestnut Funeral Home** - March 14, 2024 at 10:57 AM

AB

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ A. Jerome Brown Funeral Home, LLC High Springs, FL  
*Alyce Brown Williams*  
*Amelia J. Brown*

**Amelia Brown** - September 22, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Yes Larry you are one of the best ,respectable , pleasant easily, friends ,neighbor, classmate,, 1 church and a good grounded friend...I have never heard you speak loud against anyone you were always respectable. And very effience  
*You will be truly MISSEd. Always your classmate .RIH.*

**Mary. Milligan** - September 22, 2022 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ Q: How would you describe Larry to someone who had never met them?

A: Always willing to assist, very friendly and listen to the conversation talked about. Super family member to all. We will miss you cousin. Rest in peace with the lord forever. Your cousin Fred Martin, Tampa, Florida

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**Fred Martin** - September 22, 2022 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ Q: What 3 words best describe Larry and why?

A: Mr. Larry was a very soft spoken, kind and giving person. Our church Freedom United Methodist Church will greatly miss him., for his loving and giving spirit.

I will never forget him and what Mr. Larry did for me on my wedding Day.

My wedding day is May 4th, 2013, he drove the limousine himself. It was held at my church above, drove me to my reception place in Gainesville. Which was held at Williams Temple Banquet Hall.

When we arrived in the parking lot it started to rain, Mr. Larry held my train on my gown while my husband held the umbrella. I will always remember that moment for the rest of my life. Rest on my friend.

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**Eva McNeal-Allen** - September 22, 2022 at 12:00 AM

WL

“ Larry was the epitome of professionalism and dignity. Take your rest Larry, you served well. May God grant peace to this soldier who diligently served with grace and compassion...

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**Willie Lucas** - August 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Larry was one of the most peaceful person I've ever met his compassion and caring gentle ways were of such a comfort to myself and my family during the passing of our loved ones. His patience was amazing. Take your rest now Larry in your Heavenly home. You are truly missed our loss is Heaven's gain 🙏🙏🙏

Rosemary Lawson-Davis - August 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Beautiful Man, Sweet Spirit, Gracious Personality and Amazing Cake Baker!!! The World was blessed to have him. Heaven shall Welcome him HOME!!! The Pensacola, Florida Family prays HIS Comfort and Peace upon those who held him dear! 🙏💖



Alesia Macklin - August 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ You will truly be missed From Family of Belated Arnold Dorsey,LFD Gainesville,Fl

Ernestine Dorsey - August 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts Classmates forever

Linda Douglas-Mosby - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ Our heartfelt condolences. Cousin Larry brought so many gifts to our life. He will remain in our hearts always! Sending prayers, peace and comfort.

With Love, Ted & Sheila Saunders and Family - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Sent with admiration, love, and remembrance. Cousin Larry Saunders, LFD, brought so much joy to so many. He was a blessing, and we miss him!

Daryl Starke, Christell Starke, Michael Starke - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

YC

“ Please accept my most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.  
Love, Tia

Yasmin Tia Chestnut-Jones - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Thanks Larry Saunders for your dedicated and professional service not only to the Vinson and Moore families through the years but to Gainesville and the many surrounding communities you served. Rest In Peace, good and faithful servant. 🙏🙏🙏 Shirley Vinson Johnson The Vinson and Moore Families

Shirley Johnson - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Deepest sympathy from 13th st. Church of Christ highsprings,fl.  
Rest well dear friend.

Larry Darling - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ From the late Beulah Brown and family...your sweet smile and gentle spirit will never be forgotten. I know my mom will be receiving some the best pound cake ever made!

La'Portia Johnson - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Larry was a very kind and caring person. Anytime you needed help, he was always there to help. He will truly be missed. Bruce M. Smith, Attorney

Bruce M. Smith - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ May God bring you strength and peace during this difficult time. Cynthia Myers and Emmitt Bowles family.

Cynthia Myers - August 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Mr. Larry, you will be truly missed. By all of us at The Plant Shoppe Florist.

Betsy Gardner - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Larry will be missed. He was a gentle caring soul to all. 💎💎💎💎  
Rest in Heaven my love💔💔💔💔💔

Debbie Davis - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Larry Saunders, LFD brought so many gifts to our life. We will never forget him. Deepest sympathy to his family.

Roland and Joyce Daniels - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

TI

“ Larry Saunders, long term support and gifts to The Alachua County Charmettes and Gainesville Community will bring forever memories. Love and Prayers,

The Alachua County Chapter of The Charmettes, Inc. - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Cleve Sharpe, Leslie, Tami, & Debra sends our heartfelt condolences. May the Peace of the Lord be with you at this extremely difficult time.

Cleve Sharpe Family (Cleve, Leslie, Tami, & Debra) - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ A candle was lit for Larry Saunders,LFD.

Debbie Davis - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the great comforter for your hearts!

Brackie Rice and Ann Hurd - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Our warmest condolences, The Player Family

Anonymous - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

R(

“ Robert, Ruth and the Saunders family, Larry is rejoicing with our Lord and Savior. Cousin Mammie and heaven welcomed him 😊 We must Honor and Remember Larry, as we mourn his leaving, know that others mourn with us too. May God bless all of you. With our love ❤️ your Cousins The Watson Andrews Family Barbara and Ramoth



Ramoth and Barbara Andrews (Watson) - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ You are truly a family blessing. Rest in peace with our lord, Jesus forever.

Fred Martin & family - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ Alice Smith Kelsey lit a candle in memory of Larry Milton Saunders, LFD



Alice Smith Kelsey - August 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Cousin Larry will never be forgotten. The Bradleys/Williams of Jacksonville And Ft . Lauderdale

Antone Bradley - August 01, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *Mr Saunders was such a sweet respectful caring man my deepest sympathy and prayers goes out to his family and everyone he has touched in his life and to his chestnut family. JoAnn Williams*



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**Joann Williams** - August 01, 2022 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *Mr Larry was indeed a professional in his business. He was also my Frat Brother PHi Beta Sigma .Rest in peace Amen*

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**Pamela Snead** - July 31, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ After another scare of possible cancer invading my body I made an appointment at Chestnut Funeral Home to make my final arrangement. Who greeted me with a big smile? No other than Larry Saunders. I was very nervous and anxious. Larry comforted me and provided the assurance that everything was going to be alright. When I made the appointment I gave my birth name. Upon arrival, Larry referred to me by my nickname. I was surprised he knew me but why not? He has helped my family through many end of life situations. He was kind and thoughtful. As he guided me through this process he asked me about the music for my final arrangements. I told him that I was choosing the songs that I wanted but I wanted to sing them. Larry's eyes widened in amazement. I could see the confusion on his face. ( How can she sing if she is ceased?) I explained that I am going to have recorded music. His smile suddenly appeared again. I left Chestnut Funeral Home feeling confident that I could trust that Larry Saunders would make sure my family would not have anything to be concerned with for my final arrangements. While at the funeral home, Larry and I reminisced of the times he guided my family through other tough times....even going to Alabama to funeralize my loved one. I am truly grateful to have had the opportunity to meet and befriend Larry. My heart is heavy for his family and loved ones for now. I know weeping endures for a night but joy comes in the morning. I look forward to the morning joy when our paths will cross again in heavenly places, our eternal home. Larry will be greatly missed. Rest on Larry in the bosom of God 🕊️🕊️🕊️

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**Chronda "Cooke" Nicholas** - July 30, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ I will really miss Larry when ever I would go to the funeral home to visit I would always ask where was Larry staff would say he'll be down if he wasn't sitting at that desk waiting on my goodness will I miss him he had the kinda personality that could calm you down when you were worried, upset or my anxiety would be kicking in or tried to Larry would say okay let's see what we can do.so when I got the new that you had gotten your wings I said oh no not my Larry then I said pippy will be so happy you was coming home no long sad good byes.sleep well Larry and get your rest

Mary Thomas - July 30, 2022 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Thank you everyone especially myself.

Robyn wright - July 30, 2022 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Thank you Mr. Larry for the excellent and thoughtful service that you provided for so many years. You were truly dedicated to your job and your work is appreciated. Your kind and soothing voice had a way of making me feel comfortable and cared for whenever I encountered you. I'm sure that Chestnut staff and the community at large will miss your presence. To the family, God bless and keep each of you!



Paula Thomas - July 30, 2022 at 12:00 AM