



## Mr. John Leach

March 12, 1952 - June 26, 2019

John Walter Leach, 67 was called from labor to reward on June 26, 2019, in Lumberton, North Carolina. He was born in Lumberton, North Carolina on March 21, 1952, to the late Walter and Mae Ella Leach. He worked as a dispatcher and Police officer at the St. Pauls Police Department where he also was the 1st African American Officer. He also worked as a Deputy at the Robeson County Sheriff's Office and an Officer at Lumberton Police Department before retiring July 1, 2005. John completed 30 years in law enforcement, Achieving the rank of Master Police Officer. He also received many accolades and awards over his career. In addition to assisting on the sidelines for St. Pauls High School, John was an avid Softball player often traveling to participate in games and tournaments.

Known as "Big John", he had a larger-than-life personality and never met a stranger, he loved all people in general and having his family and friends around him. He was a "fixer" he could fix almost anything; he had a special love for auto repair. After retiring from the Lumberton Police Department, John worked part-time in Wal-Mart's Automotive Department, known to many as an amazing pit-master, John enjoyed cooking for family and friends. He used his culinary skills to volunteer at Relay for Life as a cook and many other fundraisers and events. Most of all he loved and enjoyed fishing and you could easily find him fishing.

He was preceded in death by the love of his life and wife of 32 years Jaqueline Leach, parents, Walter and Mae Ella Leach, and sister Mary Alice Baldwin.

Leach is survived by three sons and adopted son; Justin (Sierra) Leach of Fort Lauderdale, FL, Jarrett Leach of Saint Pauls ,NC, Mekhi Mclean of Fayetteville, NC, Adonis Williams of Parkton NC, brother James Leach of Lumberton NC, nieces; Marie and Sonya Baldwin of Lumberton, NC, nephew Jordan Leach, Fayetteville, grandchildren; Ja'Zirre and Ja'Leek Leach-Baldwin, Fayetteville NC, a host of aunts, cousins, and any close friends.

Services Entrusted to: Colvin Funeral Home, Lumberton, NC.



# Events

---

**JUL Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM**

**2**  
Colvin Funeral Home Chapel  
1904 Elizabethtown Road, Lumberton, NC, US, 28358

**JUL Funeral 11:00AM**

**3**  
Lumberton Sr. High School  
3901 Fayetteville Rd, Lumberton, NC, US

# Comments

---



“ An external video has been added.



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - July 02, 2019 at 02:13 PM

---



“ Many years ago, just after undergraduate school, I drove a tractor-trailer for a local company. John was on patrol at the Rocco Turkey plant, where I would deliver empty trailers several times each night. Every single night, I would get to sit in his car with him, and we would talk about life, health, family, and Jesus. He deposited in me MANY wisdom keys for success in my heart's desires, success in leaving a legacy worthwhile..... when it was my time to leave this earth. What an example he's made.... Although my soul feels incredibly wounded, my spirit feel incredibly happy, that John's enjoying his new glorified body, and not experiencing a thing but joy for evermore.

I miss you Big Fella! And, I will continue to allow your wisdom keys to live inside me, making me better each day. And I'll see you at the finish line when it's my turn.

Now.... I'm not sure how we gonna sneak our doughnuts and pickup trucks up there... but I'll work on that!

I LOVE YOU.....



E. Decarius Spells, Ph.D. - July 03, 2019 at 08:51 AM

---



“ Gwen Baggett lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Leach



**Gwen Baggett** - July 03, 2019 at 08:04 AM

---



“ Margaret Blanks lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Leach



**Margaret Blanks** - July 02, 2019 at 06:55 PM

---



“ D Currie lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Leach



**D Currie** - July 02, 2019 at 06:52 PM

---



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. John Leach.



July 02, 2019 at 03:48 PM

---



“ My condolences to the family. John will surely be missed. He loved his children, grands and fishing. May God comfort the family.



Fay Blanks - July 01, 2019 at 08:28 PM

---



“ Marylena McCrimmon lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Leach



Marylena McCrimmon - July 01, 2019 at 04:00 PM



“ John was my inspiration to become a police officer. As a 16 year old in Saint Pauls I would see John walking downtown twirling that nightstick, I thought that was the coolest thing to watch. Later I joined the Saint Pauls Police Department and John tried his best to teach me his technique but to no avail, I never became John Leach cool. I learned a lot from John and he was a mentor and a friend. Rest easy big man, I'll see you on the other side.

Sgt. Steve Sutton (Ret)

Lumberton PD

Steve - July 02, 2019 at 09:56 PM

---



“ Orsby And Patricia Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Leach



Orsby and Patricia lewis - July 01, 2019 at 01:00 PM

---



“ Minister Roslyn Richardson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Leach



Minister Roslyn Richardson - June 30, 2019 at 06:19 PM