



Mr. Donovan S. Small

April 29, 1952 - June 6, 2022

On Tuesday, April 29, 1952, Donovan St Claire Small, the first of three children, was born to the late Cyslin Elaine (McLaren) Small and Arnold Eustace Small in Savanna-La-Mar (commonly known as Sav-La-Mar or simply Sav) Westmoreland, Jamaica, West Indies. Donovan, aka: Joker, Rocky, Donni or The Don was always an avid reader throughout his life. He was also a lover of western shows/movies. Don was a soccer player in his youth as well.

In his early educational years he attended Wolmer's I in Kingston, Jamaica. He later migrated with his mother to the United States and lived at East 223rd St and White Plains Rd, Bronx, New York. While living in the Bronx, he attended Evander Childs High School. We use the word "attended" loosely because he could sit for and pass exams with minimal time spent in the classroom. After High School, he joined the US Army and served 3 plus years. Those of us who knew Donovan, know that we use the word "served" VERY loosely.

During those educational, military years, and in the neighborhood on White Plains Road, Don made many lifelong friends. Don went on to work for different Companies - the most significant being IBM where he worked for approximately 11 years, and then at Verizon for 23 years where he met more lifelong friends. He retired from Verizon in 2012.

On first meeting Donovan, you weren't too sure what to think about this man, whether it was during his dreadlock or post dreadlock days, no matter what

station one held in life, after getting to know him you realized you had an infectious love for him because you had the most loyal lifelong friend or neighbor you could ever imagine.

No matter what, Don was always going to be Don and trying to get him to change his mind once set was mission impossible. At age 34, Donovan, who was already big brother to 2 younger siblings, now became a father to his Blessed and beloved Brittany, which was a huge life changing moment for him. But his proudest and most life changing moment was becoming a grandfather, Grandad to Brayden, aka Twister.

During his later years, Don faced many challenges. He eventually decided to become a US citizen, gave up a vice or 2, and put a lot more faith in The Most High/in Father. He was thankful for what The Most High provided for him. Although we're not calling him a religious man, he was definitely a man of faith and was always thankful for what he survived/endured in his youth to be able to enjoy his 70th birthday this year. One of his common statements was: "I'm going to do this because I don't want to go to Hell."

Donovan's sudden passing from this world at 9:02 am on June 6, 2022 leaves his blessed and beloved daughter Brittany, Grandson Brayden, brother Colin, Sister Judy-Anne, Sister-in-law Sadie, Nephews Colin II and Jared, grandnieces Channing and Kennedy, grandnephews Colin III and Chancellor, a slew of 1st, 2nd and 3rd cousins, friends and family-friends.

Previous Events

Viewing

JUN 15. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel
2010 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Livestreaming

JUN 15. 5:00 PM (ET)

Facebook: Colvin Funeral Home and Crematory-Fayetteville & Lumberton
<https://www.facebook.com/ColvinFuneralHomeCORP/>

Service

JUN 15. 5:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel
2010 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Tribute Wall



“ Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Donovan S. Small



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - June 21, 2022 at 10:33 AM

RC

“ Hello, I had the pleasure of Donovan's friendship in the 1970's at IBM. I just thought of him today, 2025-06-14, and did a search. I found this link to recall his last name. I knew his father as well. Both such loving, spirited people. I am saddened to hear of his passing, but also so glad to have had a remembrance of him, from seemingly out of the blue, today. Rock steady, my friend. Love, Russell

Russell Campbell - June 15, 2025 at 02:56 AM

JG

“ I was a co-worker of Don as he was known by us at Verizon. He trained me as a new tech. He was a fun loving guy but also very knowledgeable. He taught me a lot and I owe him for being the technician that I am today. We remained in contact after he retired. I'm saddened by his loss and I send my condolences to his family. He would talk to me about his daughter and grandson, whom he loved very much. He will be dearly missed.

James Emmanuel Germain - December 01, 2022 at 09:51 AM



“ *Rest In Peace my brother you have lived and has touch my life and my Kids and you will be missed. We had Fun, laughter ,good times and bad times . Will always be in my Heart. RIP. Condolences to the Family Hope you have a Peace that passeth all understanding Be Blessed* 🙏🙏💙🙏🙏



Pauline Williams - June 15, 2022 at 04:43 PM



“ *Our deepest condolences to Donovan’s family. So sorry for your loss. It’s been many years since I had seen him. Donovan and I attended Evander Childs High school, at that time there were only 4 West Indian girls. We welcomed Donovan when he arrived, he looked out for us and helped to stop the bullying we were experiencing. His kindness and support was never forgotten. He later met and worked with my brother at the phone company in NY. He was highly regarded. May he rest in peace.*

Yvette Weekes (Scott) - June 15, 2022 at 04:35 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Donovan S. Small.*



June 15, 2022 at 11:21 AM

AM

“ *Condolences to Donovan’s Family. Heard accounts of how he stood up, for my younger sister and her friends, at Evander. Appreciate his courage. Prayers for your Peace 🙏 Andrea Munroe*

Andrea Munroe - June 15, 2022 at 12:26 AM