



Mr. Curtis Laster

February 12, 1966 - February 28, 2025

Mr. Curtis Laster, 59, of Peoria, IL, passed away on Friday, February 28, 2025, at 9:50 am at his residence.

Curtis was born on February 12, 1966 in Gautier, MS to Dorothy (Laster) Pittman and Elliott Jackson. Curtis married Leisa (Hamilton) Laster and to their union three children were raised. He later married Shenell Clopton Scruggs on August 11, 2018.

Curtis was a 1984 graduate of Pascagoula, High School where he excelled academically. He matriculated to Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, LA where he received his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1989. After graduation, Curtis worked for Mississippi Department of Transportation. He later moved to Peoria, IL working with Foth/Dailey Engineering. He currently worked at Terra Engineering as a Senior Project Civil Engineer. Curtis was a New Orleans Saints Football Fan and loved to watch Sci-Fi movies including Star Trek. Curtis enjoyed staying up on current events and news from around the world. He grew to love traveling and took his dream trip to Ghana in 2023.

Curtis leaves to cherish his most precious memory his loving and devoted wife, Shenell Laster of Peoria, IL; two sons, Curtis James Laster and Khalid Laster both of Garland, TX, one daughter, Hope Laster of Peoria, IL; two step-children, Dakwan Scruggs and Shayla Scruggs both of Peoria, IL; siblings,

David (Leticia James) Pittman and Mark Pittman both of Gautier, MS; Felicia (John) Young of Jacksonville, FL; Jack Jackson of Baton Rouge, LA, Karl Booker of Atlanta, GA and Kendrick Jackson of Pascagoula, MS; one granddaughter, Leia Jackson of Peoria, IL; his aunt, Cynthia (John) Richards of Collins, MS and uncles, Cyril (Jacquelyn) Laster of New Orleans, LA and Lawrence Laster of Sacramento, CA; a special cousin, Valerie McGee; and a host of other cousins, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by both parents.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at St. Paul Peoria Church, 114 W. Forest Hill, Peoria, IL, with a visitation one-hour prior beginning at 10 am. Rev. Dr. Deveraux Hubbard, Senior Pastor, will officiate. Curtis will be laid to rest at Franklin Cemetery at 1021 Old Spanish Trail, Gautier, MS.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements locally. Online condolences may be made at SimonsMortuary.com. Unity Funeral Home, 4900 Main Street. Moss Point, MS is handling funeral services in Mississippi.

Cemetery Details

Franklin Cemetery

1021 Old Spanish Trail
Gautier, MS 39553

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul Peoria
114 W. Forrest Hill Avenue
Peoria, IL 61604

Celebration of Life

MAR 8. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Paul Peoria
114 W. Forrest Hill Avenue
Peoria, IL 61604

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Curtis Laster* ”



Simons Mortuary - March 13, 2025 at 01:09 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Curtis Laster* ”



Simons Mortuary - March 06, 2025 at 07:29 PM



“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Curtis Laster* ”



Annette Lucy - March 14, 2025 at 10:06 PM

AK

“ I met Curtis in 2014 when I interned at Terra. He was very pleasant and kind to me. He and I stayed in contact after I moved back to the Chicago area after graduating. Curtis was a mentor, a friend and a brother. My kids and wife knew him by name and he always remembered to text my 2 boys on their birthdays. He also stopped by whenever he was in Chicago. He served as a mentor and always made himself available when I needed direction. I am so thankful to God for your friendship and mentorship. You will be missed!

Akwasi - March 08, 2025 at 12:11 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.



March 08, 2025 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ It was a blessing to surprise Curtis on Thanksgiving Day. He had no idea his New Orleans family was coming. Shenell kept it a secret ☐



Jacquelyn Laster - March 07, 2025 at 12:03 PM

MI

“ Sending thoughts and prayers to the Laster family. I got the privilege to work with Curtis a handful of times being in the Chicago office at TERRA but every time I worked and interacted with Curtis it was a pleasure. He was such a kind and genuine person. I am deeply saddened for this loss.

Michaella - March 06, 2025 at 05:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Curtis Laster.

March 06, 2025 at 10:28 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.



March 06, 2025 at 10:28 AM

JG

“ Curtis worked on the Lancaster Road Bridge project and a few other projects with us at the Peoria County Highway Department. I remember him as quiet, but a great engineer. I am sorry for your loss. Jeff Gilles

Jeff Gilles - March 06, 2025 at 09:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Curtis Laster.

March 05, 2025 at 07:51 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.*



March 05, 2025 at 07:51 AM



“ *Many thoughts and prayers for Curtis and his family this week, especially for his children. I worked with your Dad at Daily & Associates when he moved to Illinois. Us Midwestern engineers liked to hear his stories about the hazards he had on job before joining us, i.e. working in the swamp with alligators. Curtis was conscientious and great to have on the team. I had just been seeing him at some conventions recently, but he has continued to support our Hands Helping Haiti Clean Water Project up to this winter. His passing is much too soon, but his life on this planet was a blessing to many and leads to the promises of the next. Peace, Patrick Sloan*

Patrick G Sloan - March 04, 2025 at 07:12 PM



“ *Felicia and John Young purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.*



Felicia and John Young - March 04, 2025 at 05:00 PM

TL

“ *TERRA Engineering, Ltd purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.*



TERRA Engineering, Ltd - March 04, 2025 at 02:45 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.*



March 04, 2025 at 02:18 PM

RO

“ *Hi Family, This is Curtis, my roommate from Southern University. Curt was a beautiful soul. We talked about getting together soon, but time ran out. When we lived in the Senior Men's Dorm, Curt was the guy who always had toilet paper because D Ray and I would always forget to pick it up. He tracked the smallest details, which made life simple for us. I will miss you.*



Rodney - March 03, 2025 at 12:46 PM

SR

“ *Sadie Rhomberg purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Mr. Curtis Laster.*



Sadie Rhomberg - March 02, 2025 at 10:53 PM

RS

“ Curtis was a good hard working man. He had a great work ethic and a fun personality. He was so full of life. I loved being around him. Curtis was a strong Christian. He loved cars and car shows. He will be missed. His friend. Keith.

robert keith sherman - March 02, 2025 at 08:34 PM



“ Bertha Peters lit a candle in memory of Curtis Laster



Bertha Peters - March 02, 2025 at 04:36 PM

PH

“ Phillip E. Hickman lit a candle in memory of Curtis Laster



Phillip E. Hickman - March 02, 2025 at 10:06 AM

AC

“ Anna Clopton lit a candle in memory of Curtis Laster



Anna Clopton - March 02, 2025 at 12:35 AM