



## Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr.

October 12, 1945 - April 6, 2021

Mr. Willie James "Sonny" Crowder, 75, of Peoria, Illinois transitioned to his heavenly home at 6:38 am on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at OSF ST. Francis Medical Center.

Sonny, as he was affectionately known, was born on October 12, 1945 in Peoria, IL to proud parents, Willie Lawrence Crowder, Sr., and Johnie Mae (Brown) Crowder. He was educated in Peoria District 150 schools and was a 1965 graduate of Manual High School. Soon after graduation, Sonny joined the military. He was a decorated United States Army Veteran who Honorably served during the Vietnam Conflict from 1965-1967. During his service to his country, Sonny received the Purple Heart for his bravery; the National Defense Service Medal; and the Vietnam Service and Campaign Medals. He also received acknowledgement for him being a sharpshooter during his military service.

Sonny was a professional plumber; his career spanned over 50 years. He worked for the Peoria Housing Authority for many years and was an entrepreneur, owning his own Plumbing Company. He was a competitive fisherman; an avid gardener and a huntsman. He also was a collector and an enthusiast of classic cars and was a proud owner of a Mia 6. Sonny was very knowledgeable on a lot of topics. He was very kind and was a wonderful father. He had a great love and compassion for people and animals, especially his four dogs, Sasha, Rosco, Buddy and Angel.

Sonny leaves to cherish his most precious memories his loving and devoted

wife, Nadine (Fenderson) Crowder of Peoria, IL; his children, Alexis Crowder, Alisha Crowder, Casandra McLamb, Charles Morris, Jeramie Crowder, Keishana Riley, Keith Jones, Kendrick Riley, Melvin Crowder, Ranae Crowder, Sunyeal Martin, Tanya Worley and Willie L. Crowder, Jr.; two brothers, Sam Crowder of Bellville, IL and Stevon Crowder of Lufkin, Texas; four sisters, Barbara Marks, Josephine Kyle, Joyce (J.D) Hardin and Grace Crowder all of Peoria, IL; a host of grand, great grand and great-great grandchildren; and nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. A special thank you to Sonny's great nephew, Deandra Marks, for his compassionate care of his uncle and thanks to his son-in-law, Gary McLamb for his caregiving to Sonny. Sonny is preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Delores Crowder.

A funeral service will be held at 11 am on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church with a visitation beginning at 10 am. Pastor Cleveland Thomas, Sr., will officiate. Sonny will be laid to rest at Camp Butler National Cemetery, Springfield, IL.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](https://www.simonsmortuary.com). Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [simonsmortuary.com](https://www.simonsmortuary.com).

The service will be live streamed on Simons Mortuary's Website or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Simons-Mortuary-232095303487150> promptly AT THE TIME OF THE SERVICE.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, social distancing and attendance limits will be observed.

In accordance with the Illinois Department of Public Health, Funerals are limited to no more than 50% of the capacity of the church or less.

To be consistent with recommendations from the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), funeral home directors have been instructed and should follow CDC guidelines on gatherings, including those directly related to funerals, visitations, or graveside services. Funerals are limited to no more than 50% of the decedent's immediate family members.

\*In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we ask that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them).

\*It is our responsibility as a Funeral Directors, to do everything we can to advise families in order to honor our beloved Families and to keep everyone as safe as possible. The sanctuary can socially distance and seat 50% of the capacity of the church. All others will be able to flow through prior to beginning of the service.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

# Cemetery Details

## Camp Butler National Cemetery

5063 Camp Butler Road, RR1  
Springfield, IL 62707

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
413 W. John H. Gwynn Jr. Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Funeral Service

APR 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
413 W. John H. Gwynn Jr. Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr.*

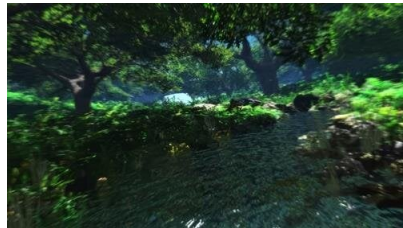


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**Simons Mortuary** - April 14, 2021 at 03:16 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr.*



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**Simons Mortuary** - April 13, 2021 at 03:31 PM



“ *Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr.*

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January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr.*

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January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM

DW

“ Sorry for your lost pray for family and friends in Jesus name amen  
rip in Jesus

Dorotha williams - April 17, 2021 at 07:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Burial at Camp Butler



Simons Mortuary - April 14, 2021 at 03:20 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the  
family of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..



April 14, 2021 at 03:22 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of  
Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..



April 14, 2021 at 03:13 AM

SB

“ Sending condolences to the family of Mr. Willie Sonny Crowder.  
Sydney Benemon Lufkin, Texas

Sydney Benemon - April 14, 2021 at 02:08 AM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for  
the family of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..



April 13, 2021 at 04:10 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased  
for the family of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..

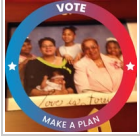


April 13, 2021 at 03:57 PM

LS

“ “Condolences” to the family of “ Sonny” Crowder, a remembrance in  
high school David Burns, Woody, and Sonny smoking big cigars in  
the back off the class room. When These three were together it was  
always a lot of mischievous 😊 going on we all had a great  
“childhood. “RIP” Sonny🕊️🕊️🕊️🕊️

Loretta Simpson - April 13, 2021 at 02:17 PM



“ *No words can describe how sorry I am for your loss*



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**Evelyn Tate-Clayton** - April 13, 2021 at 10:06 AM



“ *Tanya and Michael Worley and Clee Bailey purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..*



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**Tanya and Michael Worley and Clee Bailey** - April 12, 2021 at 04:56 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..*



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April 12, 2021 at 11:01 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie "Sonny" Crowder Jr..*



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April 09, 2021 at 12:35 PM