



## Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.

September 25, 1937 - March 18, 2020

Bro. Aaron Zachary (A.Z.) Cherry, Sr. was born September 25, 1937, in McDonough, GA to the late Ethel Glover Cherry the late James Cherry. He was the third born of five children. He married Lucy (Lois) Elizabeth McMichael on June 11, 1966. From this union four children were born.

Bro. A.Z. accepted Christ at an early age, and joined Bethlehem Baptist Church in Locust Grove, GA where he faithfully served in the Male Chorus, on the Finance Ministry, and on the Layman's Ministry. He was well known in the community and did not meet any strangers as he loved to socialize. He served his community as a member of the City Zoning Board for several years.

Bro. A.Z. attended Henry County Training School. He later became employed at Georgia Tech and Delta Airlines. In 1993, he retired from Delta Airlines after working there 28 years. His favorite pastime was playing checkers and joking around with friends "under the tree."

On March 18, 2020, Bro. A.Z. received his wings and departed this life at the age of 82. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ethel and James, his brothers, Clifford and Billy, and his sister, Elizabeth. As a husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, he leaves to cherish his memory a loving and devoted wife, Lucy (Lois); five children, Tina Cherry, Tracey Allen (Aveory), Aaron Z. Cherry, Jr., Dana Jarrells (Cory), and Sherrion Barlow (James); one sister, Marion Miller (A.W.); one sister-in-law, Gladys Rosser; eight grandchildren, Bralin and Ryanne Allen, Alex and Austun Cherry, Adasia Gibbs, Jory and Haleigh Jarrells, and Santrice Jones; and a

host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Following the recommendations of the CDC during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cherry Family will have a private homegoing service for Mr. A.Z. Cherry. The interment will be public and family and friends are asked to join the family on Tuesday, March 24th at 1:00 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

MAR **23**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home - McDonough Chapel  
300 Griffin Street  
McDonough, GA 30253  
(770) 957-4337  
info@wdlemonfuneralhome.com

## Interment

MAR **24**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Bethlehem Baptist Church  
643 Bethlehem Rd.  
Locust Grove, GA 30248

## Private Service

MAR **24** (ET)

Private Location

# Tribute Wall



“ *W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.*



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**W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home** - March 22, 2020 at 11:37 PM

SP

*AZ we just talked 3 weeks ago! Had I known that would be our last conversation, we would have talked longer. I have always enjoyed our conversations, from childhood to adulthood. You always make me laugh and I can mimmick you to a tee. The Cherry family has always been our extended family and will continue to be. Take your rest, you've touched a lot of lives here on earth. You will be missed.*

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**Standish Ponder** - March 24, 2020 at 11:03 AM

BS

“ *With tender sympathies we share (Rev Bruce & Aliska Smith Sr) share in the transition of our beloved friend Bro A. Z. Cherry We lift up his Spirit his wife children and his families as we all pass thru this most difficult season God bless you all*

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**Bruce Smith Sr** - March 26, 2020 at 09:02 AM

GM

“ Gail Solomon Manns lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



Gail Solomon Manns - March 25, 2020 at 01:08 PM

GM

Extending my sincerest condolence to the family! Praying for peace.

Gail Solomon Manns - March 25, 2020 at 01:11 PM

 Liv Smith

“ Mr. Cherry bka Daddy Cherry...I remember the very first time I met you and hearing you say my name, O-Livia. You said to me, that's a fancy name you got there. Smile...You loved to talk, you always had a story to tell and plenty of jokes too. Daddy Cherry you loved working in the yard, you loved vehicles and most of all you loved your family unconditionally. My fondest memory is me coming to the house with Tracey for the weekend while we were in college @ West Georgia & you helping me pick and load up on the pomegranates from your trees in the yard, (they still are my favorite). Thank you for treating me like one of your own children/daughters.

Unfortunately, I had not seen or talked to you in years, but I would ask Tracey about you often. Hearing people share their stories of you and watching the collage of pictures made me laugh, cry and tugged at my heart. You leave behind a legacy of love because of your smile, wisdom kind words and work ethic. Daddy Cherry, You've earned your crown now sir, rest peacefully and much love until we meet again. ❤️ Olivia Smith in New Carrollton, Maryland.



Liv Smith - March 25, 2020 at 01:27 AM

JS

“ We will miss you Mr. Cherry our thoughts in prayers are with your family.



Jeff and Stacey - March 24, 2020 at 07:15 PM

TF

“ The Dallas Family lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



The Dallas Family - March 24, 2020 at 07:13 PM

RS

“ I called him Z, don't know why but did. He always had a smile and I loved being around them. Good times and good food too! I helped him spoil Dana, lol. I even named my boys after him. Zachery and Aaron. I told him that I would and I did and I think he and Lois found that amazing. I should have stopped by the last time I was in McDonough. Lord told me and I said next time. I should have listened. It breaks my heart 😭  
Love y'all.

Robin Slaughter-Furr - March 24, 2020 at 03:56 PM

BM

Lois and family, I'm so very sorry for your lost, you are certainly in my prayers 💕

Barbara( Kimble) Moore - March 24, 2020 at 05:25 PM

JC

“ *Joelene Cherry lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.*



Joelene Cherry - March 24, 2020 at 01:20 PM

SK

“ *Uncle AZ you will truly be missed! I am forever grateful for the many years I spent with your family on Macon Street. I am also thankful that you got the opportunity to meet my family and share some laughs not too long ago! You will forever be in our hearts! Thank you for always making me laugh throughout the years!*

Sheneka Rosser King - March 24, 2020 at 12:21 PM

M(

“ *Mr. & Mrs LE Dantley (jenny) lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.*



mr.& mrs LE Dantley (jenny) - March 24, 2020 at 12:12 PM

CJ

“ *My family and I will miss you. I will miss the conversations we had every time I saw you. It seems I have known you all my life. You will truly be missed. My prayers are with the family. Love Always, C. C. Johnson and family.*

C. C. Johnson - March 24, 2020 at 12:04 PM

AR

“ Pops, as I have always called you...I am going to Miss you. Thank you for ALL the talks and laughs. You were like a father to me and my siblings. The "FAM" will miss you around the table blessing the food with your lonnngg prayers... it will not be the same. Rest now... we will see you on the other side.

Audrey Rosser-Thomas - March 24, 2020 at 10:09 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Family Tribute



W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home - March 23, 2020 at 11:26 PM

GM

AZ will definitely be missed by everyone!  
Rest In Heaven.  
Love, Rickey & Gail. ❤️🙏

Gail Solomon Manns - March 24, 2020 at 12:22 PM

FB

“ To the Entire Family,

*I was deeply saddened by the news of Mr. Cherry's passing. I remember when I first met Dana and her beautiful family at Bethlehem Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Cherry were truly the most welcoming, loving, and captivating married couple that I every met. My husband and I always and always will admire their union. Mr. Cherry had an ENORMOUS sense of humor that would light up a room and make your heart laugh. I recall when I was going through the most difficult time in my life, I had to have multiple surgeries. One Sunday, I guess Mr. Cherry could sense my troubling spirit. Instantly, he said, "Girl, what's wrong with you?" I surprisingly looked up and he said laughing, " There is nothing wrong with you, you are going to be alright, keep moving forward." and he was right, I am alright.. I have learned that laughter is good for the soul and sometimes you have to keep laughing to stop crying and Mr. Cherry was full of laughter.*

*To Mrs. Cherry, Dana and the entire family, I pray that you find peace, comfort and a cup of laughter to brighten your spirits. Mr. " A.Z." Cherry, you will truly be missed and I know that you are smiling and laughing up in heaven and proud of the beautiful legacy of laughter that you bestowed....Rest easy Mr. Cherry.*

*The Butler Family  
(Johnathan, Laci & Kids)*

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**Falacia Butler** - March 23, 2020 at 11:12 PM

AC

“ I've been putting this off for some time now because it hasn't truly struck me that my grandfather is gone. I love you with all my heart Grandpa. I have become the man today with your guidance and all the lessons you taught along the way. I am forever grateful to have grown up around a family oriented man and I hope to be half the man you were as I grow older. As the oldest grandchild I will make sure to continue your legacy and never forget to put the family first. It upsets me that you won't be with us physically at my graduation but I know you'll be there in spirit. The initials AZC mean a lot more to me now and I will do everything in my power to make sure this family continues to be great. I know you're watching over me and I will continue to make you proud. Love you OG forever.

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**Alexander Cherry** - March 23, 2020 at 08:48 PM

EB

“ I've known Deacon Cherry about one year and during that time, he has always been a humble and gentle man. His words always encourages a smile while warming my heart. I looked forward to our brief conversations after service. My wife and I both feel a great sense of loss but we know this is all an intricate part of the Lord's plan.

*Isaiah 57:1-2 ESV*

*The righteous man perishes, and no one lays it to heart; devout men are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous man is taken away from calamity; he enters into peace; they rest in their beds who walk in their uprightness.*

*Deacon Cherry Sr., enjoy the place that our Lord and Savior as made for you. Until we meet again on the other side.*

*Elton and NaQuinta Brown*

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**Elton Brown** - March 23, 2020 at 08:17 PM

MR

“ Our dear, sweet uncle Aaron....thank you for all the kindness, love, and support you have shown me over the years. You were one of the best people I've ever known. A devoted father and family man who always had a joke, a story, and a smile every time I saw you. Every time. Our hearts are broken but we know you are in a better place. May you Rest In Peace and Power.

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**Marjory Rosser** - March 23, 2020 at 05:06 PM

MM

“ Mr./Mrs.Terrance & Ree McCoy purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr..



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**Mr./Mrs.Terrance & Ree McCoy** - March 23, 2020 at 05:00 PM

TM

“ " May God be with your family through this time of sorrow. Deacon Cherry was always such a sweet and gentle soul. I will truly miss him.....such a good person.

Love always  
Terrance & Ree McCoy  
Fayetteville, Ga

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**Terrance & Ree McCoy** - March 23, 2020 at 04:50 PM

TT

“ Rest In Peace Mr. AZ. You treated me just like one of your own children when I visited your home with Tracey back in college. Just the other day, I was looking at my wedding video and saw you in the audience. Thank you for always being nice to me and my family. I'll truly miss your welcoming smile, warm embrace and words of encouragement. My condolences to The Cherry family.  
Love always, Tameka Tolbert

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**Tameka Tolbert** - March 23, 2020 at 04:00 PM

LR

“ Uncle Aaron was kind, generous and non judgmental among other things. He helped me become the person I am today and I will be forever grateful to him for that. I will miss him...

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**Lay Rosser** - March 23, 2020 at 02:21 PM

AJ

“ To My Dear Family,

*It is so hard to find the words to express what we actually feel in our hearts during life's difficult and unexpected moments like these. Yes, people say that death is inevitable; however, we can never prepare for it. Cousin AZ had THE MOST biggest and brightest spirit of anyone I knew. No matter when and where I saw him he would grab me, hug me, and say "hey Tonk Tonk" (his short version of Toni). My heart aches for sweet cousins Lois, Flip, Tina, Tracey, and Dana (my dear sister and classmate) and those precious grandbabies as they navigate this unimaginable and unexpected loss. Please know that your village is lifting you up and prayer and sending vibes of love as we continue to practice social distancing. This is certainly a challenge for me because I love to hug, visit, and whatever else it takes to show love and concern but God will certainly see you all through this season of grief and he will see the rest of us through these tumultuous times. God's presence is BIG enough to be everywhere at the same time and I am so glad He is omnipresent. May you all feel His strength and peace like never before.*

*My 95 year old grandmother Ruby recalls how she was peeking in the room when the midwife was bringing you into the world, and was run outside after she was caught. She feels a great sense of loss as she said she feels like you all were raised up together. I am sure that I say this on behalf of the James and Ruby Brown family, that we are here for you our dear family and are most certainly keeping you in prayer. Cousin AZ, you were a great family man and you loved YOUR people-ALL OF THEM. May you take your peaceful rest and we will speak of your lasting impacts on our lives upon our ever remembrance of you.*

*With Love,*

*Antoinette "Tonk Tonk" (Brown) Jackson & Family*

**Antoinette Jackson** - March 23, 2020 at 01:58 PM

RM

“ *Renea Moreland lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.*



**Renea Moreland** - March 23, 2020 at 10:08 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr..*



March 23, 2020 at 12:13 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr..*



March 22, 2020 at 07:20 PM

HJ

“ I love you grandpa!!!❤️ I’m going to miss you and I’m going to miss sitting in your chair and you saying,” ahhhh, get on up from my chair guh.” I love you, and me and Jory will do the best we can to take care of grandma. I thank you for being there and taking care of me for 13 years! I’m going to miss you and I’m going to miss you yelling at me for playing with your lighter. I love you and I’m glad that you are watching over us! Thank you for being the best grandpa that I could ever ask for!!!!!! I LOVE YOU!!!!!!❤️

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**haleigh jarrells** - March 22, 2020 at 06:48 PM

BA

“ I love you grandpa and will never forget the times Alex, Austun, & I spent with you. Every visit over the summer and each holiday. From fixing our bikes, helping you clean the church, riding around in the trunk of your Ford Ranger truck and laughing every time someone would end the prayer and you would have a joke or something to say to end prayer . You would joke with everyone. You were always in good spirits and never down which taught me over the years to smile, live my life being positive and treat everyone with love and support. I’m thankful to have been with you last Sunday one more time before you went to a better place and I am blessed to spend 20 years with you watching me grow into the man I am today. I’m at peace knowing you rested next to grandma and it is our turn to take care of her which I would be honored to do! We all miss you and God knows what he’s doing with everything going because the service would’ve been packed if not for Corona but the celebration will be x2 through the roof after this virus subsides! 🙏🙏🙏

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**Bralin Allen** - March 22, 2020 at 06:38 PM

CY

“ Cynthia lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



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**Cynthia** - March 22, 2020 at 06:31 PM

CY

*As far back as I can remember Cousin AZ always exhibited such a kind demeanor.*

*He was a kind man. I pray for his wife and children and family and friends that God comforts you all with His peace and love.*

*Cynthia (cousin)*

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**Cynthia** - March 22, 2020 at 06:34 PM

JJ

“ This is my second message to you grandpa. I just wanna thank you for being in my life for 15 years I never thought I would miss someone who smoked so much. I’m going to miss you paying me \$5 or less every time I do something for you that’s worth more than \$5, I’m going to miss my sister touching your soft hair, I’m going to miss you and grandma arguing every second of the day, I’m going to miss your whistling, I’m going to miss every thing about you. You the only person that has died so far I’m my life that has made me cry. I’m also going to miss your after prayers. Whenever we prayed you always had something else to thank god for, I’m going to miss you telling me and dad to do pointless things like pick up 1 stick in the backyard but if it’s one day I thing I’ve learned about you in my 15 years of living is that you cared about any and everybody. The night before you passed you where asking grandma if she had ate. Even to your last breath you where making sure people was ok. I’m your last 30 min of your life you even took the time to wave goodbye to one of the people next door. It’s almost like you knew the time was coming and just had to talk to one last person. Finally you decided to lay down both literally and spiritually. It’s going to take a while but I’ll recover from this. I will never forget you grandpa and I love you.

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**Jory Jarrells** - March 22, 2020 at 06:17 PM

LW

“ *"Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs. I am so sorry for your loss" Deepest Sympathy. Lois Wimberly and the Wimberly Family*



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**Lois Wimberly** - March 22, 2020 at 06:06 PM

TP

“ *Deepest condolences to the entire Cherry Family.  
May your strength be powered by your faith.*



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**Tasha Porter** - March 22, 2020 at 04:40 PM

CB

“ *From The Annie Colvin Family. We are sending our condolences to you. Mr AZ was a funny person especially when it came to Me (Connie) and mom. He would call me (Annie) and He would call my Mom (Connie) every time he saw us. He will be missed. You all take care one another and especially YOUR MOM and lean on God for Strength. Your family is in our hearts during this difficult time.*



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**Connie Barkley** - March 22, 2020 at 04:23 PM

MR

“ *My second dad has gone home! I miss him daily and all the conversations we had about nothing and everything. Aunt Lois - we will be there for you!!*

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**Michael Rosser** - March 22, 2020 at 03:58 PM

HA

“ *You were a loving, caring, and confident person. You had the best personality. I love you and always will. ❤️❤️*

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**haleigh** - March 22, 2020 at 03:16 PM

HA

“ I love you grandpa. ❤️❤️❤️

haleigh - March 22, 2020 at 03:13 PM

CJ

“ Mr. cherry was the best Father-In-Law a man could wish to have. He was always willing provide guidance to help me learn to love his baby girl better. During tough times he gave words of encouragement and words of love. I will miss our talks, his stories he would sharw and his willingness to listen (without judgement). He was truly a great father and most of all he was a great friend to me. I will never forget his life lessons he shared and the amazing love he gave. I love you and will truly miss you.

Cory Jarrells - March 22, 2020 at 01:51 PM

CE

“ Chiquita Crawford Edwards lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



Chiquita Crawford Edwards - March 22, 2020 at 01:50 PM

CE

*Praying that the love of God, the grace of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
Mother Annette Crawford and family*

Chiquita Crawford Edwards - March 22, 2020 at 01:56 PM



“ Elaine Brittenum purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr..



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**Elaine Brittenum** - March 22, 2020 at 01:03 PM

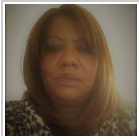
ES

“ Earlene Smith lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



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**Earlene Smith** - March 22, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to AZ's family. He will be sincerely missed.

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**Elaine Brittenum** - March 22, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr..



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March 22, 2020 at 08:57 AM

TJ

“ On behalf of the Johnson Family from Locust Grove we are sending our condolences and Love



Teresa Johnson - March 22, 2020 at 08:18 AM

CJ

“ Carlton & Debra Johnson lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



Carlton & Debra Johnson - March 22, 2020 at 05:02 AM

CJ

“ Always will remember A.Z. from our family reunions and the time he and Lois attended our wedding on 10-30-1999(Sat.) in McDonough, GA. He was so down-to-earth, kind, and friendly. The love of the Father, the compassion of the Son, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit abound abundantly upon the Cherry family during this time of the homegoing of A.Z.

*Infinite love and blessings,*

*Carlton & Debra Johnson  
Dallas, Georgia  
JesusChristMovement@gmail.com  
770-321-9960*

Carlton E. Johnson - March 22, 2020 at 04:57 AM

RA

“ I miss you so much Grandpa, and I just want to take the time out to say thank you for everything you did for me. Thank you for picking me up from school all those times, coming to grandparent's day, driving me and Grandmommy around, fixing our bikes every time we broke them, making me oatmeal for breakfast, letting me watch tv even though you wanted to watch the news, turning the air conditioning on during the summer (which you would never do), and most importantly always being there when I needed you. I'll never forget you calling me just to make sure Dad was still feeding me while Mom was out of town. I'm going to miss your phone calls and you always telling me to "shut up guh." I am so glad I came home two weeks ago and was able to drive you and Grandmommy around and make my final memories with you. Rest peacefully, I love you and don't worry about Grandmommy I will continue to take care of her in your absence.

--Ryanne

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**Ryanne Allen** - March 21, 2020 at 10:42 PM

GC

“ Gale, Leroy, & Children purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr..



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**Gale, Leroy, & Children** - March 21, 2020 at 02:58 PM

JJ

“ Love you grandpa ❤️

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**Jory Jarrells** - March 20, 2020 at 09:31 PM

PL

“ *Pastor Lacy and I remember Deacon Cherry with fondness. Our prayer is that you will find peace, comfort and understanding as you adjust to his transition from earth to heaven.*  
*Pastor Cleopatrck and First Lady Portia Lacy*

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**portia lacy** - March 20, 2020 at 08:36 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home** - March 20, 2020 at 05:43 PM

TF

“ *Aaron Z. Cherry is one of the finest men I have ever known. I will miss him so much.*  
*Lois I love you, and I love your children. I continue to pray for God's peace for the Cherry Family.*

*Much Love,*

*Tracey Foley*

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**Tracey Foley** - March 19, 2020 at 04:39 PM

CN

“ Cindy Neidlinger lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



cindy neidlinger - March 19, 2020 at 02:15 PM

NA

“ Nonia Amis lit a candle in memory of Aaron "A.Z." Cherry Sr.



Nonia amis - March 19, 2020 at 08:39 AM

NA

LOIS, TINA AND THE REST, I AM SO SORRY ABOUT AZ, HE WAS A GOOD MAN, AND A GOOD FRIEND TO MY LATE HUSBAN SUGA"

Nonia amis - March 19, 2020 at 08:43 AM

NA

Az will be missed by many, love u lois and children, rip az

Nonia amis - March 19, 2020 at 08:44 AM

SF

So sorry to hear of AZ's passing. He and my Daddy was buddies!! Sending my love to you Lois and the family.  
Love San

Sandra Franklin-Pye - March 19, 2020 at 06:30 PM

CN

*Lois, Tina, Tracey, Dana, and Little Aaron I cannot tell you how much we think of all of you daily but especially these past few days. My heart hurts for all of you Aaron was such a special man and loved by anyone and everyone that had the opportunity to know him, he was always happy smiling and always welcomed us to his home. He always teased us that he had 4 black children and 4 white children and I was so blessed to be one of those.*

*Lois and Aaron you all have been a part of our life for over 50 years and he will live in our hearts forever.*

*I hate this corona virus thing. I wish I could be there to give all of you the biggest hug ever. Although it's not possible right now as soon as this horrible thing passes Tracey and I will be there soon. Love and prayers to all.*

*Cindy Neidlinger*

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**cindy neidlinger** - March 23, 2020 at 12:04 PM

JC

*I was so shocked to hear about AZ's passing on, but I'm so happy for him; "what a way to go"! My thoughts and prayers are with you all; wish I could be there; but I will stay in touch. Love you.*

*Joelene Cherry*

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**Joelene Cherry** - March 24, 2020 at 01:13 PM