

In Loving Memory

Wendell Brown Sr.

Wendell Erskin Brown Sr., 81, peacefully passed on May 29, 2022. Wendell was born Nov. 12, 1940 in Luther, Okla. to Bennie Brown Sr. and Layola Dumas. In 1942 they came to Portland with two-year-old baby Wendell where he lived his whole life. He attended and graduated from Washington High School where he played the trumpet in the marching band and school band. Wendell married Thelma Unthank and had three daughters, Marsha, Lisa and Wendi, and later married Mary B. Kelly and had a son, Wendell Brown Jr. and a stepson Tony Holman.

Wendell worked at the Benson Hotel in the early 1960s as the head Maitre D in the renowned London Grill Restaurant. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Wendell owned and ran a very popular night club/ supper club, The Upstairs Lounge with two other partners, Allen Dobbins and James Britt. He went on to run a construction business and other small business ventures, and eventually went into the car salesman business at Coliseum Ford and later Ron Tonkin where he retired.



Wendell loved all sports, especially football and the Raiders). He loved music, dancing and having a good time with the kids and grandkids!

Wendell was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Mary B., ex-wife Thelma, sister Velva Jean Glen, brothers Sherman Brown Sr. and Leneld Brown, and cousins Raymond Barber, Sandra Dumas and Patricia Dumas.

Wendell's life and memories will be remembered by all;

including his children Marsha Jordan (Herbert), Lisa Brown, Wendi Brown, Wendell Brown Jr., and Anthony Holman (stepson); brother Bennie Brown Jr.; sister Bennie Mae Berryman; cousins, Joyce Brown (John) Barbra Dumas, and Rita Leftridge; grandchildren Andre Unthank, Jamartae Brown, Kendell, Josiah, Mahogany, Makai, Maria, Ziana and Anya; and nieces and nephews Shalaunda, Marc, Traci, Sherman Jr., Steve, Stan, Jennifer, and Kelly Barber.

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