



Leroy Nicholson

September 9, 1930 - August 11, 2025

Leroy Cheek Nicholson, departed this life as a Master tailor on August 11, 2025, at the age of Ninety-Four years. He was born in the Parktown community of Warren County, Warrenton, NC as the fifth child of six children to the late Samuel and Carrie Cheek Nicholson. Preceding him in death, his wife of 65 years, Jessietta Kelsor Nicholson and a daughter Ronica Nicholson Reid; three brothers, Samuel "Buster" Jr., Bernice and Wilbur "Bay" two sisters: Ruby Jones and Clare Hunt.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his daughter, Ruchena Kathy Nicholson (Robert) Fitzgerald and son Duke Cook; Grandchildren: Tracy T. Jenkins, Christopher Reese, Stephanie Chukwuemeka, Ronald L. "RC" Crews II, Shalita Nicholson, Cynthia "CeCe" Nicholson; 13 Great Grandchildren and 2 Great Great Grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. Special friend LaTanya Williams, and special friend, William "Billy" Stubblefield, and a host of other family and friends.

Leroy graduated from John R. Hawkins High School in Warrenton, NC and graduated in 1951 from North Carolina A&T college, in Greensboro, NC with a degree in Business (tailoring). Leroy was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War where he became an expert in the installation and repair of wired communications and switchboards all over Japan and in the combat zone of Korea. He received numerous service medals (Korean Service, Bronze Star, National Defense) before being honorably discharged in 1954.

Leroy came to Huntington in 1954 to work at George H. Wright Men's Store

and later at Robert Hall Men's Store for a period totaling 7 ½ years. He was later employed by Sears Roebuck as a master tailor for more than 30 years. Leroy also met Jessietta Kelsor, who was to become his wife in 1955. He was married to Jessietta Kelsor Nicholson (deceased) for 65 years.

Leroy was known throughout the City of Huntington and many parts of the surrounding area as a master in tailoring. He fitted and sewed for many distinguishing people, Mayors, Police chiefs, Pastors, owners of car dealerships. Leroy had a gift for meeting and talking with anyone and everyone and exhibiting his kind, gentle, easygoing, and outgoing heart. He is depicted in the Fairfield Mural on 8th Avenue as one of the legends of Huntington.

Leroy was truly a "one of a kind man". He will be forever loved, forever missed and forever remembered with the warmest thoughts. Some of his most enjoyable moments was spent with family and friends. He always had a hug and smile for everyone and there was no stranger that

Leroy did not meet. Leroy was affectionately known by his family as Dad, Granddaddy and Pop Po.

Leroy served as a Usher and President of the Usher Board for over 60 years and was a faithful member of the Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. He was a member of the Social Club; Owls/Revelers, VFW Post 1064; and spent the last Saturday of each month having breakfast with a group of Veterans (breakfast buddies) up until his passing.

A Home Going Service will be 12:00 P.M., Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Franklin Murphy Sr. officiating. Interment will follow at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens, Huntington, WV. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Ferrell-Chambers Funeral Home, Huntington, WV are entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.ferrell-chambersfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
915 8th Ave
Huntington, WV 25701-2805
(304) 525-9387

Home Going

AUG 23. 12:00 PM (ET)

Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
915 8th Ave
Huntington, WV 25701-2805
(304) 525-9387

Interment

AUG 23 (ET)

Forest Lawn Memory Gardens
2124 Enslow Ave, Huntington, WV 25701
Huntington, WV

Tribute Wall



“ Please accept our prayers and condolences at the passing of our long-time family friend, Mr. Nicholson. He was my grandfather's best friend and, on one occasion, took Helen and I to locate his gravesite, which, naturally, he did. The man had a memory like a steel trap!

Not only did I go to high school with Kathy, but the family lived across the street from my grandmother, so they were a part of the fabric of my life from an early age. My personal friendship with him began when I joined him as a salesman at Sears and Roebuck during the late 1970s. I said goodbye to him when I left Sears in 1979.

When I returned to Huntington in 2021, he was one of the first people I sought out. I had heard that he was, at 90, still practicing as a master tailor. In no time, he became my go-to for alterations. Soon, I was bringing Helen's clothes to him as well. And, over the too-short time of our renewed friendship, I got to briefly reconnect with Mrs. Jessie, shared warm conversations with him, viewed pictures of his exploits, awards, and family, took him on a couple of Sunday drives, and got to KNOW him as the truly remarkable man he was.

I am so grateful for the nearly 50 years that he was a part of my life. And I am grateful that he, Helen, and I were able to spend quality time together to expand and deepen our friendship. He was a special man that possessed a deep reservoir of humanity. We will miss him dearly.

*Love,
Cicero M. Fain, III and Helen Zublic-Fain*

Cicero Fain - August 23, 2025 at 10:56 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Leroy Nicholson.



August 21, 2025 at 01:43 PM



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

August 21, 2025 at 01:43 PM



“ My deepest sincere prayers and condolences to the family and friends !!!

HANEEF M ABDULLAH DALE STURKEY) - August 18, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of Mr. Nicholson. A lifelong neighbor and friend of our family. Remember, when Mr. Nicholson was in the backyard and saw one of us outside, he would holler across the yard..there's my girl. He never forgot any of our names. Kathy and Duke, have comfort in knowing, he is now with Mrs. Jessie! Keeping the family in prayer during this difficult time. Rene, Tammy and Tara Jackson



Tara Jackson - August 14, 2025 at 04:33 AM

AM

“ I remember him as a little girl, Great Grand mthr was his neighbor for years on 10th Ave. He was a total gentleman then and now. I am sending Condolences to family from the Mabry's Family. RWG

Annette K Mabry - August 14, 2025 at 01:02 AM

YA

Annette, I am a great-niece from Columbus, Ohio and I remember my uncle the same. He was the kindest, most generous gentleman. On behalf of our family I thank you for your kind words and sharing your memories of our loved one. 🤔💕

Yvette Marie Allen - August 19, 2025 at 03:35 PM

FM

“ A proud veteran who was a kind, sweet and humble gentleman. He used to tailor my brother's suits. Always had a calm demeanor and smile. He lived a full beautiful life. He will be greatly missed. Blessings to Kathy and Duke. Felicia.



Felicia Montgomery - August 13, 2025 at 09:17 AM

RE

My uncle Leroy the last of the Riley's Uncle I love my uncle Leroy, and my last aunt Jessie 😞 I was there baby setter, for Ronnie and Kathy my uncle Leroy would let you know that 😊 I will miss his voice we talk on the phone doing special time. I know I will see you again because To be Absent from the Body is is to be Present with the Lord. Until then I will miss you. Your Niece Rebecca

RebeccaShaw - August 16, 2025 at 01:15 PM



LEROY WAS MY UNCLE I WILL MISS CALLING HIM ABOUT BIRTHDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Inga Atwell - August 19, 2025 at 12:59 PM