

Obituary

Damon Myron Gardner was born on June 30, 1956 in Detroit, Michigan, to the late Byron and Minnie Gardner. He was the seventh of eight children. He had four siblings that preceded him in death: two sisters, Ollie B. Gardner-Boyd and Linda Lamar Gardner; and two brothers, Arvin and Garrick Juan Gardner.

Damon grew up in the 12th Street Area of Detroit. He attended the DPS school systems. Damon loved old school musical groups like the Temptations. He also loved to sing. Damon, his brother Marvin, and close friend Keith (William Collins) started a group called The Ultimate Ovations in the 1970s. They recorded several records and performed locally and at venues across the nation, bringing a sense of ultimate ovation to those who heard them perform.

“*Damon was dedicated to his family and known affectionately as ‘The Debator.’*”

Damon often reminisced about his musical career. He was known to listen to The Ultimate Ovations music while sitting in his room or driving in his car. Damon was an avid spectator of sports. He especially loved football and the Detroit Lions. Damon worshiped with the I AM church community. He met and married Cheryl Brooks while attending church.

Damon was dedicated to his family. He showed a special type of love for them all. He loved to visit his siblings and get on their last nerves. He was known as the “Debator.” He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great nephews and nieces. He would take them to neighborhood stores, the park, and church. Damon became a second father to his great-niece Jammes Jones.

On February 17, 2026, the Lord decided that our beloved Damon’s earthly duties were complete. He now rests in the Arms of the Lord.

To cherish his memory he leaves:

His wife: Cheryl Gardner

Children: Damon Brown (Annette), Tameka Jenkins

Grandchildren: Daehjaneal Brown-Mitchell, Elijah Brown, Devonte Reid, Demar Reid, Joseph McGee

Brothers: Boyd (Kathy) Gardner, Marvin Gardner

Sisters: Roxie Gardner, Elana Horn

Special great-niece: Jammes Jones

Special great-greatniece/nephews: Rashad

Regular, Riley Regular, Rakyah Harris

Uncle: John Kincaid

And a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.