



Wayne John Populis

January 24, 2026

Wayne John (Big Daddy) Populis a native of Edgard, LA and a resident of New Orleans, LA. entered into his Master's hand on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at the age of 70. He leaves to cherish his memories, his children Deonne Mercadel (Allan), Wayne Boston, and Carlton Coleman. Three grandchildren, Allan Mercadel, Jr., Ny'Lah Mercadel, and Nevaeh Mercadel. His siblings, Walter Populis, Jr. (Annie Mae), Michael Populis (Dianna), and Jill Darensbourg (Carey). One stepbrother, Orlando Populist and two stepsisters, Stacia Populist Lewis (Wilbert) and Shemica Populist (Terrence). His stepmother, Selma Populist. Seven aunts, three uncles, and one great uncle. Wayne is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents Luverda Favorite Perkins and Walter Populis, Sr. And stepfather, Delma Perkins. One sister, Julie Perkins and two brothers, Calvin and Darren Populis. Relatives, friends of the family, also pastors, officers, and members of Greater Mount Carmel Baptist Church are invited to attend his Funeral Service at Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 3721 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans, LA. 70117 on Saturday, January 31, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Visitation begins at 8:00 a.m. Interment: Mount Oliver Mausoleum, 4000 Norman Mayer Avenue, New Orleans, LA. Rev. Jonathan Smith, Pastor, officiating. Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Avenue. Please visit www.rhodesfuneral.com to sign the guestbook.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet Cemetery

4000 Norman Mayer Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70122

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 31. 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
3721 North Claiborne Ave
New Orleans, LA

Funeral Service

JAN 31. 10:00 AM (CT)

Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
3721 North Claiborne Ave
New Orleans, LA

Tribute Wall

TR

“ *I rode on Mr. Wayne's Zulu float! He was an endearing man. I'm glad he is at peace. My condolences to all who cherished him.* ”

Tania Roubion - February 02 at 11:00 AM



“ *Sending love and prayers to you and family. May your father forever rest in heavenly peace.* ”

Ernelle Spriggs - January 30 at 08:07 AM

PS

“ *May the cherished memories of Wayne, bring you comfort in this time of sorrow. My deepest sympathies.* ”

Patrick Smith - January 29 at 09:26 AM