



Wayne Seals

January 6, 1946 - May 16, 2021

Leonard Wayne Seals, 75, transitioned to eternal life on Sunday, May 16, 2021. Wayne, as he was affectionately called by family and friends, was born on January 6, 1946, in Higginsville, Missouri. He was the tenth child of ten children born to Emanuel Francis and Johnnie Nadine Seals.

Wayne spent his childhood years in Higginsville, where he attended St. James A.M.E. Church and loved to participate in church plays. He used to follow his older brothers and sister to the Douglass School, and he was so cute and well-mannered that the teachers let him stay. He spent much of his early childhood years in Blackburn, MO, with his beloved "Uncle Buddy", who taught him much of what he knew about cars and other automobiles. Wayne has passed that love of cars to his grandson, Marcus Smith.

He was educated in the Higginsville public school system. Shortly after his high school graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps (1963-1969). He was very proud of the high security level he attained during his tenure at the Pentagon. He dedicated his life to public service and in addition to the U.S. Marine Corps, he served as a U.S. Marshal; worked at the U.S. Postal Service; and subsequently moved from Kansas City, MO to Chicago where he joined the Chicago Police Department. He worked many years with the K-9 unit, spent time as a plainclothesman, and worked with the Vice-Squad before retiring in 1996.

In retirement, Wayne resided primarily in Blackburn. He lived in a home that had been owned by his paternal great-aunt. He was an avid gardener and

sportsman. He was handy with tools and refurbished and maintained "Uncle Buddy's" home in Blackburn. He loved to ride his custom-built Harley-Davidson motorcycle and belonged to The Zodiac Motorcycle Club in Higginsville. He was very proud of the many civic and community activities of the club.

He also loved to entertain family and friends. When you visited Wayne, you could be sure to have enjoyed a BBQ dinner or fish fry, and you would not leave Blackburn without vegetables from his garden and fruit from his trees. In Blackburn, Wayne was Treasurer of the local American Legion. He sometimes officiated at the weekly Bingo games. In Higginsville, he was a member of the Juneteenth Committee and participated in the upkeep and maintenance of the Mt. Muncie Cemetery. In his later years, he lived in the family home in Higginsville until his death.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents and six siblings, Emanuel Clinton, Robert Kedrick, Rebecca Jane, Howard Eugene, William Harold and Claudette. He is survived by two brothers, John Bradford and George Edward; and one sister, Sandra LouAnn (Clifton) - They are already missing the "little brother". He is also survived by five children; Kenneth (Donna), Carmen (Charles), Kimberley, Sterling (Melanie), and Nicole (Joe); thirteen grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, and his caretaker and niece, Joni Nadine Seals. Four to Five generations of nephews, nieces and cousins are left to cherish the memories of "Uncle Wayne" and miss his support, encouragement and mentorship.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at Salem United Church of Christ in Higginsville. A funeral service will follow at 12:30 PM with Bishop William Thompson officiating. Burial will be held in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery with full military honors. Memorials may be made out to the Blackburn, MO American Legion.

Casket bearers: The Zodiac Motorcycle Club. Honorary casket bearers: Michael Drawhorn, Roger Lewis, Jordan Seals, David Seigfried, Marcus Smith, Marcus Underwood.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **26.** 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Salem United Church of Christ
1500 N Main St.
Higginsville, MO 64037
salemucc@ctcis.net
<http://www.salemucchigginsville.org>

Funeral Service

MAY **26.** 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM (CT)

Salem United Church of Christ
1500 N Main St.
Higginsville, MO 64037
salemucc@ctcis.net
<http://www.salemucchigginsville.org>

Repast

MAY **26.** 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Benton Hall
1806 Walnut St.
Higginsville, MO 64037

Tribute Wall



“ *Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aeterni. Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever. Thank you Leonard for your service to this nation. U.S. Marine Corps, Vietnam Era.*



Harry Simpson - March 08, 2024 at 01:35 PM



“ *Wayne Seals*

October 22, 2023 at 02:42 PM



“ *Wayne Seals*

October 07, 2023 at 11:48 AM



“ *Wayne Seals*

October 06, 2023 at 07:00 AM



“ *Wayne Seals*

January 31, 2023 at 02:49 AM



“ I remember many fun times in Chicago with Wayne and his wife Barbara. Other times (not so fond), I would be driving along, minding my own business at the speed limit, and a police car would race up behind me, lights flashing, siren going. A loudspeaker would blare "pull over NOW". I would pull over, shaking, and wondering what in the world I had done. In my side view mirror, I would then see Wayne grinning, walking up to my car. I would fuss at him, fuming, He would just laugh it off, promising not to do it again. And then, of course, he would do it again. Miss you and love you, Wayne, Fern Nelson

Fern Nelson - June 02, 2021 at 06:21 PM

MS

“ 1 file added to the album Leonard W. Seals funeral



Marshall Stewart Sr. - May 28, 2021 at 12:51 PM

WM

I would be remiss if I didn't mention how blessed I was to witness the way he was a Grandfather to his grandchildren. He mentored the boys and loved on the girls. No matter what kind of relationship he had with his children, you could always see the love. They were blessed to have him as Father.

Wanda Woods, Melanie's mother - June 10, 2021 at 07:19 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wayne Seals.*



May 25, 2021 at 12:37 PM



“ *James O Gilford purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Wayne Seals.*



James O Gilford - May 25, 2021 at 11:28 AM

MI

“ I remember his big smile, his big laugh and those big glasses. I remember those baggy police pants and the gun that hung off his hip like he was a cowboy from the old west. I remember the way he used to joyously greet me as: "Hey Junior." You see, I'm Michael Jr. And, Wayne was my father's police partner when I was a young boy. To my young eyes, he was my father's battle partner - and the guy who kept my father safe in those dangerous Chicago streets. But Wayne was also much more. He was a friend to our family, and a friend to me. He never waived on lending us his helping hand by sharing his gift of making anything mechanical work, no matter how broken it seemed. And when I came of age as a man - after years of him fixing my old teenager-owned cars - he lent me his gift of comradery through smelt fishing, great stories and (more than a little) whisky :-) as part of the brotherhood of men. What a great Man Wayne was. He made a difference in my life.

-Michael Drawhorn Jr.

Michael - May 24, 2021 at 11:56 PM

MJ

“ I will miss you Wayne.

Martin Johnson

Martin Johnson - May 24, 2021 at 04:50 PM

SW

Wayne and I grew up together and we are the same age for know. My prayers goes out to the family. RIP WAYNE❤️

Shirley J Woods-Jackson - May 25, 2021 at 12:15 PM

MS

He was my partner, friend and big Brother! I will truly miss him.

Michael Drawhorn Sr - May 30, 2021 at 04:01 PM

JJ

“ There were two favorite topics we loved to discuss--canine training and motorcycles. He was very knowledgeable on both. Wayne would give me suggestions after watching my dogs during a demonstration while attending a couple of Family Reunions in Higginsville. We would talk about his Harley and his travels. We never got a chance to ride our bikes together but I will be thinking of him when I travel down the Interstate on my bike. Our family will miss you cousin Wayne.

Janice Johnson

Janice Johnson - May 24, 2021 at 04:45 PM

CK

“ When I was in high school Wayne would often walk to school with my brother and I. A nice memory of a nice guy. My sympathy to his family.

cheryl kelly - May 24, 2021 at 02:39 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Wayne Seals.



May 24, 2021 at 01:10 PM

“ *Lafayette County Juneteenth Foundation
214 West 18th Street
Higginsville, MO 64037*

May 24, 2020

TO THE FAMILY OF MR. LEONARD WAYNE SEALS.

The Lafayette County Juneteenth Foundation sends our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to all of you at the passing of WAYNE, your beloved one and our friend.

The Lafayette County Juneteenth Celebrations began in 2005. We know that Wayne attended many celebrations and served as a board member. He enjoyed helping with planning fundraisers, being the parade supervisor along with the support of the Zodiac Club members leading out on their motorcycles.

Our most recent celebration was held on in June 2019. As a board member, he supported the committee in many ways, especially organizing a fish fry and by displaying phenomenal artwork that had been created by his sister and brother.

If you were not a student of African American history and you were trying to update Wayne Seals on something, you would soon learn that he knew a lot. You would want to sit down to listen. Wayne talked about historical facts regarding cemeteries where his family is buried. He kept local and current event newspaper articles, photos, paintings from Saline, Lafayette and surrounding counties on black Americans during segregation, WW II, Korean and Vietnam Wars, educational achievements, national and worldwide news. His excitement and spirit to convey his knowledge of Slavery to Freedom was especially important and he fulfilled that purpose to educate his community by supporting and participating in the annual Juneteenth Celebrations.

May Wayne's loving light and "heart of gold" continue to shine through the many fingerprints that he left on others' hearts. We pray that the stories told to you from the many people who knew him be comforting to your soul. May his life, his "unstoppable" spirit, leadership, and service be a legacy of love, comfort, and direction for family and friends.

Sorrowfully and gratefully submitted,

*Arron B. Haynes, chairperson
Lafayette County Juneteenth Foundation*

Lafayette County Foundation Board Members: Deborah May, vice chairperson; Linda G. Smith, secretary-treasurer, Julia Hunter, Sheila Lee, Ronald Miller Fred, Smith, James Watkins, Everett Williams, Evelyn Trigg, and our faithful volunteers and partners.

"LET IT BE KNOWN THAT LAFAYETTE COUNTY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS WERE IMPORTANT TO LEONARD WAYNE SEALS."

*"Endurance pierces marble."
African Proverb*

*"If you want to go quickly, go alone,
If you want to go far, go together."
African Proverb*

Linda G.Smith - May 24, 2021 at 12:13 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wayne Seals.*



May 24, 2021 at 11:56 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wayne Seals.*



May 23, 2021 at 01:38 PM



“ *Wanda Woods purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Wayne Seals.*



Wanda Woods - May 22, 2021 at 06:15 PM



“ *I worked with Wayne in the Canine Unit back in the 80's. Wayne was a great guy and a very good Police Officer! I read his obituary and it sounds like he had a wonderful, full life. It was my pleasure to know him. I am sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathy to your family.*

*Mary Milam
Sergeant, Retired CPD
Gainesville, GA*

Mary Milam - May 22, 2021 at 02:00 PM

SF

“ So sorry for your lost. May God watch over you and take care of you.



Sherry Elmore and family - May 21, 2021 at 10:09 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Wayne Seals.



May 21, 2021 at 10:06 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Wayne Seals.



May 21, 2021 at 03:32 PM

PH

“ So sorry to hear of your loss, prayer to all! Dennis and patsy Hartwig!

Patsy M Hartwig - May 20, 2021 at 06:57 PM

RK

“ Wayne managed to keep us at the Legion post in stitches many times after our weekly bingo session with his stories of his career on the Chicago Police Force. Robert (Bob) Kurth, post adjutant at Blackburn.

Robert P. Kurth - May 20, 2021 at 04:21 PM