

**WILLIAM L. REEL JR.
“LITTLE ROACH” “LEE” “JR”**

DOB 07-17-77

DOD 06-10-09

FREE BIRD VANNERS OF VA.



REEL, William L.

Warhorse "Little Roach/Lee" Jr., blessed our lives on July 17, 1977 and left us on June 10,



2009 to go to his heavenly home after a lifelong battle with heart disease. He was predeceased by his

maternal grandfather, Chief Curtis L. Warhorse Custalow Sr.; paternal grandparents, William E. and Mary F. Reel; two uncles, Marvin I. Custalow Sr. and Johnny Reel; and a beloved friend, Bonnie Faison. Lee is survived by his parents, William L. "Roach Coach," Sr. and Veronica "Ronnie/Mama Roach" Custalow Reel; sister, Victoria Wah-Wah-Tassee Prince; husband, Alvin; grandmother, Gertrude Minnie-Ha-Ha Custalow; uncles, Curtis Custalow Jr. and wife, Phyllis, and Michael Custalow Sr.; aunts, Denise Davis and Jackie Custalow; three nieces, Gabrielle Evening Star Prince, Casey Vernon and husband, Jason, Tracey O'Dell and husband, Shaun; great-niece, Nevaeh O'Dell; and great-nephew, Isaac Vernon. He is also survived by a host of family and friends who loved and will miss him. Lees' first years juggled between his cardiologists' office and the hospital. Even at such a young age, he kept a very strong outlook on life. He always had a smile for you even during the time when he was most ill.

As Lee got older I, his mom, was told by dad and doctor not to make him a cardiac "cripple"; to let him do regular boy stuff; so I cut one apron string! We watched him bowl (10 pin) and exceed in the YBA (Youth Bowling Association) at Sunset to roll a perfect 300 game, have a full page interview in the newspaper and become part of the first father-son to roll a perfect game in YBA/ABC in Virginia. Camping was another love in Lees' life. He was part of the Free Bird Vanners family and couldn't wait to go to van rallies, where camping was an all year affair. All rallies were great but he liked the Nationals, which he traveled with his dad as his "Navigator" to a multitude of states over the years. With this vast group of people, there was family love everywhere; from Canada to the East coast, to the West coast and to England. He had friends and love all around. Lee also loved NASCAR. Jeff Gordon, #24, was his favorite driver. He attended all RIR races until last year when he was to weak to attend. This never deterred him from going to the Eagles Club; watching it with friends, and discussing whose driver was the best! Lee was a loving and wonderful son, brother and friend. He sometimes had a dry humor and you had to look at him to see his great smile to know he was kidding. He loved his pets, Bull and Happy, and sometimes he called them Hard Headed and Piglet. He was a young man of only 31 years who had such a short life but lived it to its fullest. We will miss him!