

Michael R. Fortson, 42, of Buford, Ga., passed away on Thursday, July 19, 2007.

Mr. Fortson was born March 30, 1965, in Clayton, Ga. He was a 1984 graduate of Rabun County High School and was a former policeman with the City of Clayton Police Department. He was employed by the Georgia Department of Public Safety with the Executive Protection Unit of the Georgia State Patrol, providing security for Governor Sonny Perdue and the former Governor Roy Barnes. Mr. Fortson was also a part-time security officer for First Baptist Church of Atlanta.

He was a devoted husband, loving father, and a wonderful son and son-in-law.

He is survived by his wife of 16 years, Kathleen Cunningham Fortson; two sons, Maurice L. Williams and Michael T. Fortson, both of Buford; his parents, Willie and Hattie Fortson of Clayton, Ga.; two brothers, Mitchell Fortson of Cornelia, Ga., and Adrian Fortson; mother-in-law, Zelma Cunningham of Buford and the late Walter Cunningham; an aunt, Lillie Hall of Franklin; and numerous other relatives and friends.

A funeral service was held Monday, July 23, at 1 p.m., at Union Baptist Church in Buford, with Rev. Gregory Marshall and Rev. Dr. Kary Harris officiating.

Burial followed in Hillcrest Cemetery in Buford. The Georgia State Highway Patrol served as honor guard.

The family received friends Sunday, July 22, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Flanigan Funeral Home and Crematory in Buford.

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