



Vinton B. Turner, 76, of Ayer

January 9, 1950 - May 6, 2026

Ayer – Vinton Bradford Turner, 76, of Ayer, passed away on May 6, 2026 in Leominster Hospital.

He was born in Everett, MA on January 9, 1950 a son of the late Vincent and Maguerite (Blanchard) Turner.

Growing up in Cambridge, Vinton graduated from the Cambridge Rindge Technical School. He spent his career working for the Cambridge Housing Authority as the Lead Mechanic for 42 years until his retirement in 2016.

Vinton is survived by his wife Nancy A. (Baldelli) Basley; step daughter Amanda Basley-Richard of Georgia; two brothers Ronald Turner and Clifford Turner of Cambridge; three sisters, Claudia Owumi of Dorchester, Gloria Grady of Cambridge, and Juliet Turner of Somerville; many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Vinton's life will be held from 12: noon – 3:30 PM Saturday, May 23, 2026 at Frank's Steak House, 2310 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA.

The Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer is assisting the family with arrangements.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY **23**. 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)

Frank's Steak House
2310 Massachusetts Ave
Cambridge, MA 02140
(617) 661-0666

Tribute Wall

LT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Larry Turner - May 27 at 08:42 PM

JT

That is so beautiful

Juliet Turner - May 27 at 08:50 PM

MI

How lovely!

Min - May 28 at 06:13 PM

MI

“Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.”

Theodor Seuss Geisel

Min - May 28 at 06:16 PM

JT

“ Vinny your in my mind today.

Juliet Turner - May 27 at 08:12 PM

M(

“ Uncle Vinny, your incredible smile and gentle soul will be missed dearly. Sending comfort and prayers to the many loved ones you left behind. You are deeply missed and forever loved. Rest peacefully, knowing you made the world a brighter place through the kindness, warmth, and joy you shared with others.

Melissa Watson (Owumi) - May 25 at 10:24 PM

MI

Thank you Melissa.

Min - May 27 at 08:07 PM

MI

“ I was hoping to see Uncle again in the hospital for Mother's Day, but he unfortunately passed away before then.

The morning after I received the news, I was traveling through the grocery store and caught a glimpse of a Friendly's Ice Cream Sundae container and days later found myself eating under a poster advertising ice cream sundaes at yet another grocery store. Funny to me because I knew he was a practical joker and recalled him taking Larry & me to the Friendly's restaurant for ice cream sundaes as kids and saying we could get anything. (That was such a big deal!)

Then the other day, when I was walking around and, incidentally, came up on "Vinton Street" of all streets and all names!

Then lately, when I was sitting in the park and saw a bird fly onto the church steeple and cross and flew away just minutes after purchasing a cross pendant necklace to wear to his celebration of life.

"Historically, the steeple itself is a vertical architectural element designed to draw eyes toward the heavens."

Uncle was everything that everyone says that he was and so much more than that. And he was definitely the kind of person to stir you in the right direction.

Uncle Vinny, we keep the faith. You are sorely missed and forever alive in our hearts. Rest easy IJN.

MIN - May 24 at 02:50 PM

NR

Mindy, thanks for adding your thoughtful insights about Uncle Vin to this memorial page. Now is the time to express all the love we can.

Noel "Nole" Rochon - May 24 at 04:49 PM

JT

Malinda. He really was everything everyone says and more. I love the image of him still guiding you and playing his practical jokes. He is forever alive in our hearts, and he knew how much you loved him.

*Love,
Auntie Juliet*

Juliet F Turner - May 24 at 09:12 PM

MI



Min - May 25 at 07:15 AM

NR

“ Noel “Nole” Rochon

Vinnie stood tall, about 6' 5" I believe, tall not just physically but in other several other aspects. There's not enough I can say here to describe him adequately. Foremost to me he is a close valued friend, brother-in-law, brother-in-spirit. We consulted about many topics, practical and philosophical, and valued each other's views. Vinnie apparently came into this world already with an innate natural intelligence, kindness and compassion.

I have the memory of a camping trip I did with him to New Hampshire deep into a forested land owned by a friend of his named Jonathan.

During the time I was living in Cambridge, I heard about an incident when Vinnie defended himself and those with him when they were assaulted by some young bigots. I remember when years ago Vinnie rented a RV and road tripped with Nancy and came to visit me and my family in New Orleans.

Last time I saw Vinnie in person was in 2005 in Ayer, had baked salmon for dinner (he asked me what I wanted to eat) with him and Nancy and stayed overnight. On the drive back to Cambridge with him (he had to go to work that day) after other conversations I asked him, because I wanted to know, what he thought about religion and spirituality. What strongly resonated with him was the spiritual connection many indigenous peoples have through nature and the natural world to a Great Spirit. I told him that was compatible with my thinking. But looking back I can see that he also lived very much in sync with the 8 Christian Beatitudes.

Last virtual contact, thanks to Malinda, I had with him was via a video call when he was in the hospital. He wasn't able to talk much but we were able to see one another for the last time.

Last words he said to me were: "Take it easy".

And now my eyes water when I recall this because he was saying

*goodbye and leaving this world.
I hope my words convey some of my esteem for and immense
appreciation of him.*

Noel "Nole" Rochon - May 23 at 12:58 AM

JT

*Dear Noel,
Thank you from the bottom of my heart for these beautiful, profound
words about Vinnie. You captured his true spirit perfectly. He really was
a gentle giant with an innate intelligence and a kind soul. Your
memories of the camping trip, the road trip to New Orleans, and your
deep conversations about nature and spirituality brought so much
comfort to me. Vinnie valued your friendship and your mind so much.
Thank you for showing him such unconditional love and for honoring
his memory so beautifully. It means the world to me. I hope your
friendship doesn't end with Vinnie and continues on with the rest of the
family.
Your friend/Sister-in-law,
Juliet*

Juliet F Turner - May 24 at 06:21 AM

NR

*Thanks so much, Julie. I make an effort to do what I can. His loss is our
great shared loss but having known him is our tremendous gain.
Apparently we can't have one without the other. Time, distance or
disruption (you know) does not break the bond I have with you all.
Hope to see you when I do make another trip to New England.*

Noel "Nole" Rochon - May 24 at 04:39 PM

AO

*“ Rest in peace Uncle Vinnie. You lived a life full of love, happiness
and created so many wonderful memories. We love you dearly!*

Anthony Owumi - May 22 at 08:25 AM

MI

Thank you Anthony.

Min - May 27 at 08:08 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vinton B. Turner, 76, of Ayer.*



May 22 at 08:19 AM



“ *A Special Tribute from His Nephew
From Justin*

Uncle Vinnie, you was always consistent with the same thing. No matter how long it took, every time that you saw me, you always said the same thing: 'Do the right thing.' Always, no matter what time of day it was, you always watched me, see what I was doing. No matter what time or no matter what day I passed you, you always took the time to say do the right thing. To the point where I almost tried to avoid you a couple of times. It just fell on deaf ears. I always heard your words and put them in the back of my head, but I didn't do it at that time.

But I definitely appreciate it, Uncle Vinnie. You never talked about me. You never said bad things about anybody, Uncle Vinnie. Thank you for always being there, for checking in on me, and for being such a steady part of our family. You always had a smile on your face and a kind word to share. I'm going to miss your presence, your laughs, and the way you cared for all of us.

I'm going definitely miss you. I love you, Uncle Vinnie. Rest in peace, Uncle Vinnie

Justin

Juliet F Turner - May 19 at 04:04 PM

JT

“ Vinnie was a truly honorable man, a real man’s man. He always respected women, he never talked down about anybody, and he always had a smile on his face no matter what. He loved his dogs so much and took such good care of them.

He worked incredibly hard, pushing his way through getting his GED and then through the Peterson School to do good for himself. Over the years, he built beautiful friendships with so many people from housing, including his best friends Zina, Patrick, Two Phones, and many others.

He also shared a deeply close bond with his brother Ronnie. Vinnie called him all the time and loved to joke around, always teasing Ronnie about being a 'big shot.' They shared so many laughs together.

I am so proud of the man he was and the life he built.

Love always,
Your sister, Juliet

Juliet F Turner - May 18 at 05:45 PM

NR

Thank you Julie, for such a beautiful, colorful and concise description you painted of him.

I have known Vinnie for a good 57 years. Even though 50 of those years were 1500 miles away, he was never more than a phone call away. Both his life and now his loss are a huge impact on me. He deeply influenced me. He is a a very close friend forever!

Nole

Noel “Nole” Rochon - May 23 at 08:08 AM

NR

Juliet (Sis-in-law always),
Please refer back to my post. I commented on your lovely comment there and that’s where you can see it.

Your Bro-in-law always
Noel

Noel “Nole” Rochon - May 24 at 08:45 PM

PS

“ My deepest sympathy to Nancy, Amanda, Cliff & the rest of the Turner family. Vin was a great friend that I've had the pleasure to know for about 60 years! Considering him, Cliff & Ronnie my brothers. I will miss him, his laugh & his craziness, my whole life! Nancy, you had one of the few good men in this life & I know you took good care of him. And I also know firsthand how difficult it could be sometimes. Thank you for being so good to my friend. Vin, I will miss you forever. ❤️

Phyllis Sorrentino - May 15 at 10:05 PM

CH

“ My sincerest condolences Nancy. I will be forever thankful that you and Vinny stopped in around the holidays. It had been too long since we saw each other. Your Vinny will forever be remembered because he always told us that our grandchildren were too close to Main Street with their bikes he worried about them, the kids were good though. They stayed in their driveway on East Main Street, . It never hurt to remind them that Mr. Turner is watching and he will tell on you

Christine - May 12 at 03:34 PM