



Mr. Charles Russell Powell

December 16, 1944 - March 21, 2017

Charles Russell Powell, age 72, also known to many as "Ajax", passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Tuesday, March 21, 2017. He was born December 16, 1944 in Trenton, TN to William F. Powell and Rebecca Elder Powell. He was educated in the Rosenwald School System. Upon graduation he moved to Kalamazoo, MI and enlisted in the United States Navy (Vietnam Era).

After being honorably discharged from the Navy, he began to work for the Eckrich Meat Company. Charles left Eckrich to begin a career with the General Motors Corporation, ultimately retiring from the Lansing Assembly Plant as a Team Leader after 37 years of service. He was also a member of Local 652 and a former member of Local 488.

Charles joined Galilee Baptist Church under the leadership of former Pastor Rev. Dr. J. Louis Felton. He was a member of Central Lodge #10 of the Affiliated Free and Accepted Mason, Kalamazoo Chapter. He was also a member of the former American Legion Post 134.

Charles enjoyed playing Pinochle and other cards with his friends as well as gardening. He grew the best and the biggest tomatoes around!. He was a family man and his greatest joy was spending time with his children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Robert L. Powell; a sister Diane Powell and a very special brother-in-law, Calvin Howard.

He leaves to cherish his memory: 1 son, James (Gloria) Powell of Lansing, MI; 3 daughters, Kesha Powell of Kalamazoo, MI; Wachauna (Todd) Wittig of Canton, MI and Nikki Powell of Lansing, MI; 9 grandchildren; 2 sisters, Bobbie Herron of Milan, TN; Blondell Howard of Trenton, TN; 2 aunts and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cemetery Details

Fort Custer National Cemetery

15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

MAR 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell



Harper Funeral Home - March 25, 2017 at 09:05 AM

TS

What and awesome collage of pictures! RIP father-in-law.

Todd E Wittig Sr - March 25, 2017 at 10:11 AM

ME

Beautiful video memories, be blessed.

Marion Dance Erby and Willie Erby - March 25, 2017 at 10:40 AM



Beautiful. Thank you

Wachauna Powell Wittig - March 25, 2017 at 10:44 AM

FD

I live across the street from Charles. He would always call me on the phone when my car was parked on the wrong side of the street to remind me to move it. When I got no phone call last night and accidentally left my car on the wrong side of the street I knew something must be wrong. I'm so very sorry I'll miss Charles and send love and prayers to his family.

fran dwight - March 30, 2017 at 03:16 PM



“ *Mr. Charles Russell Powell*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mr. Charles Russell Powell*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *I work at the grocery store that Charles would visit 2 times a day lol and over the last 10 years we've become friends he will definitely be missed and we will miss you bringing us chicken 🙄 my thoughts and prayers are with the entire family now and in the coming weeks!!*



Christina Sanchez-smith - March 28, 2017 at 03:19 PM



“ *Mollie Peterson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Mollie Peterson - March 28, 2017 at 07:30 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles Russell Powell.*



March 27, 2017 at 04:41 PM

HS

“ *Our prayer are with the family. The Short Family Clarksville, Tn*



Hardie Doll Short - March 26, 2017 at 06:09 PM

D3

“ *Charles,*

Your service to the Nation and to your fellow veterans will never be forgotten. Thank you. Rest in Peace.

Respectfully,

Your fellow veterans at American Legion, Joseph B. Westnedge Post 36.

Don Gillespie, Adjutant Post 36 - March 26, 2017 at 08:37 AM

AL

“ *Alice lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Alice - March 25, 2017 at 09:28 PM

BJ

“ *Bari Brown Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Bari Brown Jr. - March 25, 2017 at 11:04 AM

ME

“ *Prayers for our fellow Trenton family, friend, love one. Beautiful loving video, thanks for sharing the memories, keep them always in your heart. Marion Dance Erby and Willie Dee Erby, Cedar Hill (Dallas), Tx*

Marion Dance Erby and Willie Erby - March 25, 2017 at 10:38 AM

DF

“ *Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Dallas Boards and family - March 25, 2017 at 07:58 AM

RF

“ *Royetta Fry-Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Royetta Fry-Walker - March 25, 2017 at 05:47 AM

GG

“ *Guenetta Gordon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Guenetta Gordon - March 24, 2017 at 09:10 PM

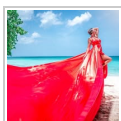
TP

“ *To James. Kesha. Chaun and Nikki, your dad loved you all very much and he would be very proud of the way you are working together to make his home going service a dignified and respectful celebration. To God be the glory!*



*I Love you all with my heart,
Grandma TeTe*

Theresa L Powell - March 24, 2017 at 12:43 PM



Love you too

Wachauna Powell Wittig - March 25, 2017 at 07:19 PM

PF

“ *PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



PATTERSON FAMILY - March 24, 2017 at 11:54 AM

RF

“ *Kesha and family, may God continue to be with you during this time. Always remember to trust in Him as He surely will see you thru your pain, love you and be blessed....Bird & family.*

Royetta Fry-Walker - March 24, 2017 at 05:24 AM

RF

“ *Royetta Fry-Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Charles Russell Powell*



Royetta Fry-Walker - March 24, 2017 at 05:17 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Charles Russell Powell.*

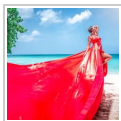


March 23, 2017 at 08:25 PM

AB

“ *So sorry to learn of the passing of my childhood friend...Condolences to his family and friends.*

Annie Jo Booth-Dunigan - March 23, 2017 at 04:31 PM



Thank you

Wachauna Powell Wittig - March 23, 2017 at 07:26 PM

CF

This was a good dude he helped me out a couple times in life while I was trying to figure out life have a peaceful journey Big Chuck

Charles fultz - March 23, 2017 at 09:10 PM

TS

My father-in-law was a good man, loved his kid's and grandchildren, I only knew him 2 years however I can say he was a real good man! RIP Charles

Todd E Wittig Sr - March 24, 2017 at 08:18 PM