



## Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.

February 2, 1959 - December 12, 2023

\*\*\*A FUNERAL SERVICE IN LOVING MEMORY FOR MR. CURTIS E. RAY, SR. WILL BE HELD FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 22, 2023, AT OUR FUNERAL HOME.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: PLEASE SEE FUNERAL SERVICE TIMES LISTED BELOW\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*MASKS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. WE WILL PROVIDE HAND SANITIZER WHEN ENTERING OUR BUILDING.

\*\*\*If you have any questions, please contact us at: (269) 342-1000

\*\*\*\*NOTE: The DVD Memorial Tribute will be available soon

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### THE OBITUARY

Curtis E. Ray Sr. made his transition from this life to be with the Lord on December 12, 2023. Curtis Ray was born in St. Louis Missouri on February 2, 1959. In the early 70's, Curtis moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan where he worked for the City of Kalamazoo for 10 years. He also was employed for 5 years at Borgess Hospital and was employed in various capacities throughout his life.

While in Kalamazoo, he met and later married Dianna LeFlore of Kalamazoo and to this union four children were born.

During his younger years, Curtis was in band called TKO where he was the lead singer. Curtis had a passion for music. The Whispers was his favorite band. He was known for emulating playing the drums, with his hands as the drumsticks and the patting of his thighs as the drums, in combination of his foot as the drum pedal. Oh, and let's not forget about the famous pointer finger that would go up and down because he was trying to teach you how to hit that note.

Curtis was highly skilled in karate where he obtained his black belt. He was also skilled in boxing where his hands were registered with the City of Kalamazoo. Curtis was heavily

involved in church, where he called Mt. Zion Baptist Church his church home,

Curtis enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. If you really knew "Curt", as his family and would call him, you definitely knew Curtis Ray Sr.

He leaves to cherish his memory his children, Markeyda LeFlore-Ray of Kalamazoo; Sharmieka Jackson of Columbia, Missouri; Nyiesha LeFlore-Ray, Shawn LeFlore-Ray, Natasha Givhan, Curtis Ray Jr., Andre Walker and Davontae Etheridge Ray all of Kalamazoo, Michigan; his only surviving brother, Angelo Ray of Kalamazoo; 17 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, uncles, extended family, and friends that loved him dearly.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Roberta Ray; younger brother, Tyrone Ray; grandparents, Lou Willie Mae Ray and Jesse Ray Sr.; a special aunt, Ora Lee and uncle Jessie Ray, along with his beloved Verna Taylor.

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing For Family & Friends

DEC **22**. 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel  
521 Douglas Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI

## A Service in Loving Memory

DEC **22**. 4:30 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel  
521 Douglas Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.



Harper Funeral Home - December 21, 2023 at 10:50 AM

DA

“ Doris Abbott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.



Doris Abbott - January 06, 2024 at 01:46 PM

JD

“ Jack Dunigan lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Jack Dunigan - December 23, 2023 at 05:54 PM

JS

“ James Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.



James Smith - December 22, 2023 at 11:34 AM

TR

“ My deepest condolences to the entire ray family, and my little brother Davontae Ray-Atkins

Travis Robinson - December 22, 2023 at 08:50 AM

TA

“ *Tanya Abbott sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.*



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**Tanya Abbott** - December 22, 2023 at 07:15 AM

PG

“ *Paulinr Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.*



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**Paulinr Gardner** - December 21, 2023 at 10:49 PM

PG

“ *Paulinr Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.*



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**Paulinr Gardner** - December 21, 2023 at 10:38 PM

PA

“ *Paula (Wilson) Armstrong lit a candle in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.*



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**Paula (Wilson) Armstrong** - December 21, 2023 at 10:18 AM

DW

“ *David & Laverne Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Curtis E. Ray Sr.*



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**David & Laverne Walker** - December 20, 2023 at 08:55 PM

RF

“ Reese Family lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Reese Family - December 20, 2023 at 03:51 AM

CB

“ Claudia Barbee lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Claudia Barbee - December 19, 2023 at 11:40 PM

JW

“ Jeanetta Walker



JW - December 18, 2023 at 08:49 PM

KD

“ Kevin Dunigan lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Kevin Dunigan - December 18, 2023 at 08:45 PM

ES

“ Ethel Smith lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Ethel (Jones) Smith - December 18, 2023 at 05:19 PM

CF

“ Charleston Family lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Charleston Family - December 18, 2023 at 04:28 PM

HF

“ Helen and Barbee family lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Helen Brooks and Barbee family - December 18, 2023 at 12:27 PM

LS

“ Lola Streeter lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Lola Streeter - December 17, 2023 at 04:50 PM

GF

“ Gaila & family lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



Gaila smith & family - December 16, 2023 at 11:27 PM

YR

“ Yvonne Reese sent a virtual gift in memory of Curtis Ray



Yvonne Heltzel Reese - December 16, 2023 at 10:23 PM

DB

“ Donald Barbee lit a candle in memory of Curtis Ray



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**Donald J Barbee** - December 16, 2023 at 09:07 AM