



Mr. Edward J. Carter

August 22, 1938 - April 26, 2019

****NOTE: Visitation, Funeral Service Times & Location Listed Below****

Please See "In Lieu of Flowers" Information Below Obituary*

Edward J. Carter was born on August 22, 1938 in Sweet Water, Alabama to the late Andrew J. Carter Sr. and Carrie Carter Adams. After graduating from Marengo High School, he began working for a medical supply company but shortly thereafter he was drafted into the United States Army.

Although Edward was drafted, he made a career out of the situation and served his country for 24 years. He retired from the army in 1985 at the rank of Sergeant Major (SGM). He is a Vietnam Veteran who has received numerous honors which include: The Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, The Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry/National Defense Service Medal and Army Ribbon. After he retired from the army, he immediately found his second career. Edward established a Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps (JROTC) program at Benton Harbor High School located in Benton Harbor, Michigan. He worked as an instructor for the JROTC program for 15 years before retiring again. He truly enjoyed teaching and mentoring the students which resulted in many of them enlisting in one of the United States Armed Forces. The students respected SGM Carter and

knew him to have a firm hand but a soft heart.

Edward was also an active member of First United Baptist Church where he served for many years as the chairman of the trustee board. He took extreme pride and care in ensuring the church was operating and comfortable for the members at all times. In addition, he was passionate about the youth in the church. This could be seen through his commitment to the First United Baptist Church Drill Team that he established.

Edward enjoyed fishing, working on home improvement projects, watching television, and spending time with his wife and children playing games. His greatest love was working on cars. He could always be found in the garage working on his car or one that belonged to family or friends.

Edward married Ida Ree King in 1964 and they were married 54 years at the time of his death. Edward and his dedicated military wife Ida, moved several times throughout his career before settling in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Edward was preceded in death by his parents Andrew Carter Sr. and Carrie Carter Adams; sisters, Etta Gills and Bonnie Harris.

Edward peacefully transitioned on April 26, 2019. He leaves to cherish his memory, a loving wife Ida Ree; four children; Alexandra Carter of Cincinnati, OH, Shalonda (Troy) Lewis of Chesterfield, VA, and Angela Bodley Carter of Ann Arbor, MI; three grandchildren; Jaquar Hodges, Anila Carter and Tyeia Lewis; one sibling; Andrew J. Carter Jr. of Jacksonville, FL. In addition, he leaves a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and his First United Baptist Church family.

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, please make a tribute donation in the memory of Edward

J. Carter to The Parkinson's Foundation at Parkinson.org

Use address below for acknowledgement card to be sent:

c/o Alexandra Carter
2527 Spindlehill Drive #1
Cincinnati, OH 45230

Cemetery Details

Ft. Custer National Cemetery

15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI 49012

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Visitation

MAY 6. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Baptist Church
821 S Burdick St
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 381-3996

A Service in Loving Memory

MAY 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Baptist Church
821 S Burdick St
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 381-3996

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter



Harper Funeral Home - May 04, 2019 at 10:41 PM

M1

My condolences for the family. You will be truly missed SGM Carter..

Marilyn Perry - Student 1991-1995 - May 06, 2019 at 06:55 AM

RM

SGM Carter, you were a great man of integrity and I am forever grateful for you teaching me many lessons about discipline. Strong hand but Soft heart. My condolences to the family. -Rashetta M.

Rashetta Meridy - May 06, 2019 at 10:26 AM

CJ

Great Leader, must say I learned alot from SGM Carter, Peterson, and Major Anderson...My love and prayers to SGM Family and Friends.

Cleve Smith Jr... 91-95

Cleve Smith Jr - June 07, 2019 at 07:46 PM



“ Mr. Edward J. Carter



October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mr. Edward J. Carter*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *He was my JROTC teacher at BHHS. He was a nice, but (service expected) stern man. He was a great teacher & will truly be missed!* 




Jaime Crum - May 07, 2019 at 07:36 AM



“ *Mr. Carter was a good man, I'm glad I had the opportunity to meet him. I was one of his first student in JROTC, he will be truly miss*

Lucretia Glaspy - May 06, 2019 at 10:20 PM



“ *Margrett Braddock lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Margrett Braddock - May 06, 2019 at 08:51 PM



“ *Glenn & Mary Charles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Glenn & Mary Charles - May 06, 2019 at 03:20 PM

SA

“ I was one of his students in JROTC and I had a son he told me not to let it get to me I didn't I always kept that with me my son is grown and I am grateful for his words he gave me. He will be missed.



Sandy - May 06, 2019 at 02:05 PM



“ SGM Carter has a big influence on my life as one of the students in Benton Harbor's JROTC program. I have forever being grateful for his teaching and friendship. He will definitely be missed. May God comfort his family. Charla Beck 1988 (former 1st LT).

Charla Beck - May 06, 2019 at 01:13 PM

JJ

“ SGM Carter was one of the best instructors I had. He was a nice man and he inspired us all to be great. Sorry to hear he is gone. Truly going to be missed. R.I.P. SGM



Joh'netta James - May 06, 2019 at 11:13 AM

JJ

“ Joh'netta James lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter



Joh'netta James - May 06, 2019 at 11:09 AM

TM

“ SGM Carter was so awesome! He was my teacher in high school. He called me Alphabet because if all the letters in my babe. He was one of the reasons I joined the Army. He was truly admirable and will be missed. My condolences to his wife and children.

Takayenna Myers-McGee - May 06, 2019 at 10:58 AM

LaTasha McGinnis

“ My condolences. RIH SGM Carter.



LaTasha McGinnis - May 06, 2019 at 10:27 AM

SC

“ Mother Carter, sorry for your loss of your husband. I will forever remember his leadership for the Drill team at First United Baptist Church. Love you much ❤️

Sherri Coulibaly - May 06, 2019 at 08:51 AM

Latoya Brooks

“ You were an awesome instructor and a great influence on my life's path. Thank you for all of your great advice and discipline. RIP SGM Carter



Latoya Brooks - May 06, 2019 at 08:03 AM

BG

“ *Brandy Gray lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Brandy Gray - May 06, 2019 at 08:02 AM

M1

“ *Marilyn Perry - Student 1991-1995 lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Marilyn Perry - Student 1991-1995 - May 06, 2019 at 06:57 AM

SA

“ *Mother Carter and The Entire Carter Family; we are so sorry for your loss and send our prayers and condolences. May our God of peace comfort your hearts. We will continue to lift you up in prayer! Love Larence and Sherry Anderson...*



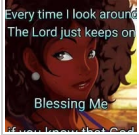
Sherry Anderson - May 06, 2019 at 06:35 AM

SA

“ *Sherry Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Sherry Anderson - May 06, 2019 at 06:34 AM



“ *Karen Tiggs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Karen Tiggs - May 05, 2019 at 11:07 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Harper Funeral Home - May 05, 2019 at 01:02 PM



“ *Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Lillie Cotton - May 02, 2019 at 11:02 PM



“ *Lorenzo HERBERT lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter*



Lorenzo HERBERT - May 02, 2019 at 03:29 PM

VS

“ Valerie Stegall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter



Valerie Stegall - May 01, 2019 at 12:37 PM

VO

“ Vivian Ollie-O'Neal lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter



Vivian Ollie-O'Neal - April 29, 2019 at 10:59 AM

GS

“ Gwendolyn Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward J. Carter



gwendolyn smith - April 29, 2019 at 10:08 AM