



Mr. Gerald T. Kemp

August 18, 1955 - December 9, 2016

Gerald Tyrone Kemp departed this life December 9, 2016 in Kalamazoo, MI. He was born August 18, 1955 the son of Llewellyn Johnson Kemp and Helen Mae Kemp in Albion, MI. He graduated from high school as an adult with a GED in Battle Creek, MI. He accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and loved the Lord dearly.

As he went through his medical challenge, Tyrone never once said, "Why me?" or blamed God. His strength (mind, body & spirit) was what God gave him as a gift. He loved singing to the Lord. His favorite songs were "Amazing Grace" and "God Keeps His Promises".

His Angel here on earth was his precious love and lady, Clara Jean Labarre. For the past 15 years, she was his best friend, care taker and partner. They did everything together and she loved him with all of her heart. Thank you so much, Jean (our loving sister, forever).

Tyrone was a Small Business Owner. He recycled metal, handled furniture moving, and was a collector of antiques. He also was an auto mechanic, a landscaper and was a bouncer at several establishment.

He was well-known in several communities: Albion, Battle Creek, and Kalamazoo. His special gift was helping less fortunate people by giving them

clothing, advise and assisted them with auto repair and moving them from place to place for practically nothing. He truly loved people and would greet everyone either by "Sis" or "T".

Some of his favorite saying were, "What's up, T"; "Savoir-Faire"; "Like a Fat"; "My Mellow"; "My, My, My, My"; "Den to wear"; "What you doing that for?"; "There you go" and "God keeps His Promises."

Tyrone loved to sing, especially with his brothers. He was very protective of his family and had unbelievable strength. He loved to fish and loved animals. His spirit was always up beat and was ready to tell a joke to bring a smile to someone's face and spirit.

Tyrone had a special loving bond with his brother, Johnny and his wife Katherine. They were business partners, inseparable and best of friends. His message to his family is to "Believe in the Lord, with all your heart" and always, "Be strong, because God keeps His promises".

He leaves to cherish his memories: one son, Marlon Atkinson; 2 daughters, Tyrice and Australia ("Leelee") Howell and their mother, Joyce Howell;; 3 grandchildren; one sister, Bernadine Lewis; 2 brothers, John H. (Katherine) Kemp and Harold E. (Denice) Kemp; 8 nieces; 10 nephews; one uncle, Calvin Kemp and a host of cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and older brothers, Delbert and Reggie Kemp.

The Kemp family has always been very close and loving to one another, because Daddy told us to, "Always stick together". Tyrone truly held up to his part as a loving brother and we will always be forever grateful.

Tyrone will truly be missed and will forever be in our hearts and minds. "Stay Strong, My Brother"

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

255 South Avenue
Battle Creek, MI

Previous Events

Family Hour

DEC 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Maranatha Original Church of God - Elect Lady Geraldine Richardson
400 Waubascon Road
Battle Creek, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

DEC 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Maranatha Original Church of God - Elect Lady Geraldine Richardson
400 Waubascon Road
Battle Creek, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp



Harper Funeral Home - December 17, 2016 at 08:51 PM



“ Mr. Gerald T. Kemp

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mr. Gerald T. Kemp

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

TW

“ THERE IS SO MUCH I COULD SAY, EVEN THOUGH THE TIMES WE HAD AS KIDS FLEW BY TYRONE, I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU AND HOW MUCH FUN WE HAD GROWING UP THERE ON COOPER STREET IN ALBION, MICHIGAN. I THANK THE LORD FOR THOSE TIMES I THINK ABOUT OFTEN. NOW YOU ARE WITH THE LORD, AND YOUR TIME WITH HIM WILL BE MUCH BETTER THAN HERE ON THE EARTH. THE 'WOODS' FAMILY WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU AND KEEP AND CHERISH THE TIMES WE HAD TOGETHER. TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM LORD THIS ONE IS A "GEM".

TAMARA WOODS, LORETTA WOODS, AND MARADO WOODS

TAMARA WOODS - October 04, 2017 at 01:04 AM



“ Saddened to find out nearly 4 months later that my "good" Friend/Brother Tyrone "T. K " has left this life on earth. Happy to know he will no longer suffer in silence. I will miss our early morning McDonald's joke sessions and his daily greetings...What up Sis., T!. Rest on my Friend.
Forever your Lil' Sis
Norine

N-DeedIt'sMe Wafford - April 05, 2017 at 03:47 PM

LI

“ Lindsay lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp



Lindsay - December 28, 2016 at 07:21 PM

EF

“ *Earline Fields lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp*



Earline Fields - December 28, 2016 at 05:20 PM

TS

“ *Tamila Stafford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp*



tamila Stafford - December 28, 2016 at 11:47 AM

TS

My McDonald's coffee memory indeed! I would come in and he would say "What up Sis?" He always had advise on my yard and gardening on what I needed to do! He was a great joyful man who talked to many to just acknowledge them on there day passing in McDonald. God bless prayers to family he was so kind. RIP

tamila Stafford - December 28, 2016 at 11:51 AM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp*



Karest Willis-Brown - December 20, 2016 at 04:27 PM

BC

“ Sending my condolences and love to the Kemp family.....May the Lord comfort and strengthen your hearts at such a time as this....so sorry for the loss of your dear brother, Tyrone....may you find comfort in knowing you were a special part of such a well-lived life. I will continue to lift the family in prayer....God is able and His will has been done.

Bernice M. Carter-Wyrick - December 19, 2016 at 04:49 PM

LJ

“ To the Kemp family. Ty was also known to me as "Savior Faire". He was a Good Brother and Man of the world. As you will miss him, so will I.
Lee Stuart Jr. AKA. Chocolate Chip. Former DJ of the radio station The Touch & Mr Presidents Restaurant & Lounge.

Lee Stuart Jr - December 19, 2016 at 03:10 PM



“ WITH LOVE RIP!!!
Wa'Faire



Elizabeth Tucker - December 18, 2016 at 02:57 PM



“ WOW! I JUST DON'T HAVE THE WORDS TO EXPRESS HOW I FEEL. BUT IMET YOU IN 1980 AND FROM THEN ON YOU WERE MY BROTHER. YOU GAVE ME THE SIDE KICK NAME WA'FAIRE. AND FROM THEN ON WE WERE BROTHER & SIS! TO TAUGHT ME HOW TO FISH, WE ALWAYS WOULD SING TOGETHER AND I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU. WHAT A JOY IT WAS TO KNOW A GENTLE PERSON LIKE YOU. MY SAVOIR'FAIRE!! REST IN PEACE AND MAY GOD STRENGTHEN THE KEMP FAMILY.



Elizabeth Tucker - December 18, 2016 at 02:21 PM

JD

We last saw TY at the downtown McDonald's! He jokingly teased us about our choice for breakfast. We exchanged pleasantries and wished each other a good day. A belated thanks to him for singing with John Kemp at the Ecumenical Senior Center's MLK program a couple of years ago. God Bless!

John & Carolyn Davis - December 20, 2016 at 05:29 AM

NH

“ *Nanette Culpepper Hickman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp*



Nanette Culpepper Hickman - December 18, 2016 at 01:48 PM

NH

“ I will miss T.y. soooo much. I often saw him at McDonald's and we would chat a minute or two. Savoir Fair is every where. My friend to the end, this is not goodbye, this is until we meet again 🗨️💕💕💕😭😭
😭👉👉

Nanette Culpepper Hickman - December 18, 2016 at 01:47 PM

DF

“ Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp



Dallas Boards and Family - December 18, 2016 at 09:18 AM

TR

“ Troy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp



Troy - December 18, 2016 at 08:49 AM

JD

“ From the fellows next door we give our heart felt condolences to the family of Gerald T Kemp. Tyrone as we called him was a good friend of ours we shall truly miss him his strength and encouraging conversation will always be in our memories of him God blesses

Jack Dunigan - December 17, 2016 at 09:45 AM

JD

“ Jack Dunigan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald T. Kemp



Jack Dunigan - December 17, 2016 at 09:36 AM

BB

“ Our Condolences being sent out to the Family of Tyrone. Tyrone had a way of touching many people with is Positiveness outlook of life, along with his words of wisdom. Rest in Heaven Tyrone, we will remember your words "Hey Sis" and the love you shared with us all. To Our cousin Marlon and the rest of the Family "We Love you... Thank you for sharing your loved one with us over the many years. In Jesus Name, Amen.



Birletta Bean-Hardeman - December 16, 2016 at 02:58 PM