



Mr. John Gray Jr.

August 18, 1933 - January 11, 2016

Mr. John Gray, Jr. went home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 11, 2016, peacefully. He was born August 18, 1933, the son of Sue Blair and John Gray, Sr. in Columbus, Mississippi. Raised as a hard working man, John relocated to Kalamazoo, MI, where he used his skills to become a construction worker, until his retirement.

John enjoyed playing cards, spending time with family and friends and getting "Fresh 'N' Clean. "Unc Grizzo", as his nieces and nephews called him, "Knew everything, everybody and was always right!"

He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Darlene Gray; 3 brothers, Patrick, Samuel and Charles; 1 sister, Lerie and son, Jeffrey Russell.

John leaves to cherish his memories: 1 sister, Lillie Richardson; 1 brother, Bennie Lewis-Gray; daughters, Cerese Bell, and Lisa (Dean) Chestnut both of Kalamazoo, MI; Lillie Gray of Mesa, AZ; sons, John Bell, Robert Gray, and Gerald Gray all of Kalamazoo, MI; John Gray Jr. of Mesa, AZ and Patrick Gray. He is also survived by 29 grandchildren; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great nephews; special friends (too many to name; a special niece, Carrie Richardson; god-children, Brittany (who he loved as his daughter), Ken Jackson, Sean Horton; longtime friend, Brenda (Rodger) Henry; and special brother-in-law, L.A. Richardson.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

1015 Gull Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **19**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

JAN **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.



Harper Funeral Home - January 17, 2016 at 06:24 PM



“ Mr. John Gray Jr.

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mr. John Gray Jr.

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ I am so sorry to see "Uncle John" has passed. Condolences and prayers to all of you.

Tonya Dean & Family



Tonya Dean - January 29, 2016 at 10:59 AM

WW

“ *Walter And Reva Woodard lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.*



Walter and Reva Woodard - January 19, 2016 at 10:23 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Harper Funeral Home - January 19, 2016 at 02:51 PM

BJ

“ *Bari Brown Jr lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.*



Bari Brown Jr - January 18, 2016 at 04:19 PM



“ 44 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Harper Funeral Home - January 17, 2016 at 06:15 PM

DB

“ *Dallas Boards lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.*



Dallas Boards - January 16, 2016 at 03:40 PM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.*



Karest Willis-Brown - January 15, 2016 at 07:09 PM



“ *Mignon Vincent lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.*



Mignon Vincent - January 15, 2016 at 03:15 PM



“ *I will miss your smile and the encouraging words you always had for me in the time of my troubles and sorrows. " I call you friend".*
Dianne "Hollin" Anderson

Dianne Anderson - January 14, 2016 at 05:00 PM



“ *Yvonne Heltzel lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.*



Yvonne Heltzel - January 13, 2016 at 07:34 AM

BJ

“ To My Day One, never imagined I'd be saying goodbye to my Father/Bestfriend. I'll always appreciate you accepting me as your own, for doing everything in your power to make sure I had the best life had to offer. I'll miss our Saturday morning dates at Poor Richards and Theo's and Stacys. Im going to miss sitting on the porch having long conversations and just being in your presence. I can only hope and pray that every little girl will experience the love of her Father like I have with you. Whenever I would give thanks unto the Lord, I always gave thanks for you, and even when it's all said and done I will continue to give thanks for you, because of you I am strong, loving and caring young woman. There will forever be a void in my life and ache in my heart, but you know what I'm okay with that because that's been your place for over 30 years and no one will ever fill that void. My tears are of sorrow today, but tomorrow will will be tears of joy because you are no longer suffering. I will continue to carry the memories of You and I in my heart, and when my little Girl grows up I'll continue to share how great of a man/father you were to me and many others. I Love You Mr. Gray and will Miss You dearly Mr. Gray..



Brittany Jackson - January 12, 2016 at 10:06 PM

PG

“ Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Gray Jr.



Pauline Gardner - January 12, 2016 at 08:45 PM

BH

“ *My dear friend you was there in my times of need and you was there in my times of joy and sorrow. Rest now my friend, the battles in life are over. You will forever be remembered and loved . Brenda Henry*



Brenda Henry - January 12, 2016 at 08:26 PM