



Mr. Theoplus "Ted" Williams, Sr.

February 26, 1917 - August 29, 2008

Mr. Theoplus ("Ted") Williams, Sr. went on to be with the Lord God, his Creator on August 29, 2008. He was born February 26, 1917, the son of Charlie and Eldora Allen-Williams, of Scotts, Arkansas. He received his education in Arkansas and in 1935 he and his brother, Bethany Williams "hoboed" their way to Michigan by train. Shortly after, he relocated to Lansing, Michigan and found work at the Novo Engine Foundry. While working for the Michigan State Highway Department, Brother Williams was inducted into the Army. After being honorably discharged from the 639th Ordnance Company of the United States Army, he returned to work for the Michigan Highway Department, out of Lansing Michigan. He later moved to Chicago Illinois, attended and completed the A and S Vocational Welding School, 1949. In 1957, he returned to Michigan and retired from the Kalamazoo Public School System in the late 70's as a Maintenance Supervisor out of North Eastern Junior High School. Mr. Theoplus ("Ted") Williams, Sr. was honored by the Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), on June 9, 2007, as World War II Veteran of the Year, at the age of 91. Brother Williams was one of the founding members and first Trustee of Pioneer Baptist Church, that was located on 908 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1965. He was instrumental in the merger of Pioneer Baptist Church with Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church. This union became THE First United Baptist Church, of Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1974. The congregation moved, soon after

from Gull Road to South Burdick and Vine. His parents Charlie and Eldora preceded him in death as did his sisters, Cora Lee, Louise Crucher, and Charlie Williams; and three brothers, Ila, Bethany and Theodore ("Man"). Also, a son, his first born, Theophilus Williams, Jr.'s homegoing was December 5, 2002. He retired as a Tin Smith in San Francisco, CA, and a Captain in the Michigan Army National Guard.

Mr. Theoplus ("Ted") Williams, Sr.'s wife of 67 years, Virginia, remains after his death, along with three sisters, Johnnie Williams and Essie Dean Beasley, of Lansing, Michigan, and Odessa Andrews, of Dayton, Ohio. He is also survived by these, his children: Odessa Kozetta West, of Bosque Farms, New Mexico; Carolyn Ann Charles, of DeWitt, Michigan, Wesley Milford, Shirley Marie and Gregory Charles Williams, all Kalamazoo, Michigan and Lionel Anthony Williams, of Coloma, Michigan. Mr. Williams departed this life a loving father to a host of grands and great-great-great grandchildren. He enjoyed and nurtured many devoted nephews and nieces. Not excluding any family member, the grandeur of the loyal friendships that Brother Williams acquired are innumerable. He left an awesome legacy for his children to follow.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 4. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home Inc.
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Service

SEP 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

First United Baptist Church
821 S Burdick Street
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Theoplus "Ted" Williams, Sr.*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mr. Theoplus "Ted" Williams, Sr.*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Ursula Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Theoplus "Ted" Williams, Sr.*



Ursula Williams - February 27, 2016 at 06:25 PM



“ *I love and miss you Grandpa*

Ursula

Ursula Williams - January 01, 2016 at 02:59 AM



“ *May your hearts be conforted at this time of loss is our prayer...##imported-begin##Mr & Mrs John Drain ,jr.##imported-end##*

September 05, 2008 at 11:37 AM



“ Shirley and family, we express our sympathy in the loss of a father, husband and friend. We had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Williams when we served at Allen Chapel AME Church in Kalamazoo. Sister Shirley has been a friend of ours since 1975. May God bless and comfort you at this time and may his peace, hope and love continue to comfort you in the days to come. Blessings.##imported-begin##Rev. Amos & Barbara Chester##imported-end##

September 04, 2008 at 06:30 PM



“ Ursula and Family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##TWC Credit/Collections Dept##imported-end##

September 04, 2008 at 10:11 AM