



Deacon Ricardo Holmes

December 20, 1951 - April 25, 2012

Ricardo “Rick” Holmes, made his transition peacefully at the age of 60 on April 25, 2012 at 1:05p.m. at the Bronson Methodist Hospital with his family and his deacon brothers at his side.

Rick, the oldest of five siblings, was born on December 20, 1951 to the union of Glinda and William Holmes in Chicago, IL. Rick, who had a strong work ethic, started working at the age of 5 with his maternal uncles at the family business, Robinson Dairy Products. At the age of 15, he began working at his paternal Uncle Al’s business, Mac Foods, as a grocery clerk and was later trained as a butcher. He graduated from Harlan High School in 1970. At the urging of his Uncle Veodis, Rick enlisted in the Army in 1971 where he was trained to be a meat inspector. After receiving his discharge from the Army, he began working at the U.S.D.A. until he retired on June 2, 2010 after 37 years. While at the U.S.D.A., Rick received a number of awards for outstanding achievement and for providing a high quality of service.

Rick married the love of his life, Gwendolyn Cotton, on August 17, 1974 and shortly thereafter they moved to Kalamazoo, MI where Rick joined and was baptized at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor J. Louis Felton. While at Galilee, he became a member of the Angelic Choir. He served as president of the choir and also served as a member of the Trustee Board until he left to join First United Baptist Church under the

leadership of Pastor Lenzy E. Bell. While at First United, Rick became an ordained Deacon. He served as chairman of the Deacon's Board for a number of years. He was outgoing and loved to travel and teaching the Word as well as talking about the Word of God. He taught Sunday School, served as the moderator for business meetings and co-leader of the Men's Fellowship Ministry. He also received special recognition from the Senior Usher Board and visited the sick and shut-in. He was always willing to serve wherever he was needed. He truly loved his church and his pastor.

Rick's mother, Glinda Holmes-Stovall, father, William Holmes, brother, Darryl Holmes, maternal grandparents, Velma and Milton Robinson, paternal grandparents, Rosetta and William H. Johnson, stepbrother, William Stovall, Jr., and great nephew, Ricardo N. Frazier, Jr., have all preceded him in death. Rick also shared a special bond with his mother-in-law, Martha Ann Cotton, who recently preceded him in death.

Rick leaves to cherish his memories his lovely and devoted wife, Gwen; daughter, Nikia (Rashann) Coleman of Winston-Salem, NC; son, Darryl; two grandsons: Bryce and Rashann; two granddaughters: Aislynn and Amaya; step-father: William Stovall; two sisters: Phyllis Holmes-Davis and Glinda (Phil) Holmes-Hayes; and one brother: William (Beverly) Holmes, all of Chicago; five sisters-in-law: Georgia Cotton of Lansing, IL, Burnie Tabb and Sylvia Cotton of Kalamazoo, MI, Dorothy Hersey of Lewisville, TX, and Rose Mary (Roosevelt) Cotton-Brown of San Diego, CA; three brothers-in-law: James (Marilyn) Cotton of Alsip, IL, Greg (Lillie) Cotton of Kalamazoo, MI, and Lamont Cotton of Houston, TX; four uncles: Roy Robinson, Donald (Gertrude) Robinson, Ronald Robinson, and Everett Robinson and one very special aunt: Irma Johnson-Whitehead, all of Chicago; and a very special friend: Randy Sweet of Kalamazoo, MI; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cemetery Details

Ft. Custer National Cemetery (Military Honors)

15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI 49012

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home, Inc.
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 342-1000
info@harperfuneral.com
<https://www.harperfuneral.com>

Visitation

MAY 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church
1216 North Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Service

MAY 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church
1216 North Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Deacon Ricardo Holmes



Harper Funeral Home - April 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Deacon Ricardo Holmes

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Deacon Ricardo Holmes

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Larence And Sherry Anderson lit a candle in memory of Deacon Ricardo Holmes



Larence and Sherry Anderson - May 04, 2012 at 11:05 PM

SR

“ I will be praying for all of you and there in spirit. Sheila Robinson



Sheila Robinson - May 04, 2012 at 04:56 PM

PT

“ Patricia Thomas lit a candle in memory of Deacon Ricardo Holmes



Patricia Thomas - May 04, 2012 at 10:30 AM

JH

“ Sending my condolences to the Holmes's Family. Uncle Rick was the true meaning of a hard working man and a Godly man. Take ur rest unc because you needed it. Another God's Child gone home.

Jaleecia GeeGee Harris - May 02, 2012 at 08:25 PM

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“ The Robinson/McClinton have lost a precious jewel of a family member. You will be missed and I will always remember you as a living testimony of God's power to keep us in our storms of life. Family be blessed and continue to have faith for God will bring us through.



CAROL, AL, TANISHA

Lavada CAROL Allen (cousin) - May 02, 2012 at 09:04 AM

AC

“ *Angee Davis Of Angee's Cakes lit a candle in memory of Deacon Ricardo Holmes*



Angee Davis of Angee's Cakes - April 30, 2012 at 10:59 AM

PR

“ *Love you Uncle Rick, thank you for being so supportive of my children and I. Thank you for believing in God so much that our family saw nothing but that light on and in you. Great times are ahead and the family is going to forever have you in our memory, now gone ahead and give granny and all of those other family members that we have lost along the way a big kiss and a hug from all of us. Love you always Pamesha*

Pamesha D. Robinson - April 30, 2012 at 09:25 AM

QH

“ *Qiana Holmes-Hughes lit a candle in memory of Deacon Ricardo Holmes*



Qiana Holmes-Hughes - April 30, 2012 at 07:22 AM