



Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.

September 23, 1952 - December 20, 2021

****NOTE: Private Graveside Services In Loving Memory For the family of Mr. Willie Edward Dean, Sr. will be held on Monday, January 3, 2022.**** Please See the Obituary, DVD Tribute & Leave Words of Comfort Below To The Family****

THE OBITUARY

Mr. Willie Edward Dean Sr., affectionately known as “Ed” went home to be with the Lord on Monday, December 20, 2021 during his stay at Select Specialty Hospital in Battle Creek, MI. Ed was born September 23, 1952, to Isaac and R. Mae Dean in Greenville, Mississippi. Willie confessed his faith in Christ at an early age and was baptized at Shady Grove Baptist Church in Greenville, MS under Rev. Johnson.

Ed set an example for his family by being one of the hardest working men you could meet. He could fix anything you brought to him. He continued sharpening his skills by obtaining his auto body repair license from Kalamazoo Valley Community College. He was proud to be the owner of Dean’s Auto Body Shop where he continued his craft of painting cars for over 20 years. While working at General Motors he earned his certification as a Journeyman Millwright. He continued to exceed in the workforce until he retired from Western Michigan University.

He enjoyed listening to the blues, barbecuing, traveling, driving fast cars, and giving kids nick names. He loved his family unconditionally. His great grand dolls as he called them; Lauren, London, Leigha, and Alaina made his world go round. Although Ed was loved by many, he had a core of friends (too many to mention) that he looked forward to talking to daily. He leaves a legacy of love, friendships, and an affectionate smile.

He is preceded in death by both his parents; Mr. James Collins Sr. who was a father figure to him and all his siblings; Shirley Ballard the mother of all his children; a special uncle M.C. White; 2 brothers-in-law Terry McPherson and Willie Campbell; and Mr. Leroy White, Jr. his Godfather whom he held near and dear to his heart.

Ed will be forever cherished by his 3 children, Tonya Dean and Willie Dean, Jr. of Kalamazoo, MI; Takiyah Dean of Greenville, MS; Two extra sons Kevin Glass and William Glass; 10 grandchildren; and 5 great grandchildren; 3 sisters Gail McPherson, Lenore Dean Campbell, and Charmie (Carlos) Collins-Gardner; 2 brothers Terry Dean, and James (Tonya) Collins III; Godson Randy Ford; one special Aunt Mrs. Kate Armstead all of Kalamazoo, MI; Godmother Clara White of Chicago, IL; a host of cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery (North)

1717 Drake Road
Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Private Graveside Services In Loving Memory

JAN 3. 1:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery (North)
1717 Drake Road
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.



Harper Funeral Home - January 02, 2022 at 05:45 PM

TF

Condolences~Prayer's to Dean family

The Richardson Family - January 02, 2022 at 07:48 PM

WF

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of Ed. You all are in our thoughts and prayers.
The Fields Family

Wendy Fields - January 03, 2022 at 11:52 AM

TD

So beautiful Dad you will always be missed 🦋🦋🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️

Takiyah Dean - January 05, 2022 at 08:41 AM



“ Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

AW

“ *Andrew Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Andrew Wilkerson - February 28, 2022 at 08:23 PM

DT

“ *Denise Turner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Denise Turner - January 21, 2022 at 01:57 PM

RL

“ *Ramona Lumpkin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Ramona Lumpkin - January 15, 2022 at 02:31 PM

RL

“ *My condolences to the family. Peace be still.*



Ramona Lumpkin - January 15, 2022 at 02:31 PM

RL

“ *Ramona Lumpkin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Ramona Lumpkin - January 15, 2022 at 02:30 PM

RW

“ *R Ann Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



R Ann Williams - January 15, 2022 at 10:36 AM

 Fred Lawrence

“ *Fred Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Fred Lawrence - January 10, 2022 at 07:42 PM

RL

“ *Ramona Lumpkin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Ramona Lumpkin - January 07, 2022 at 01:24 PM

JR

“ *My condolences to the family of Mr. Willie Edward Dean Sr.*

Janie Reed - January 05, 2022 at 10:26 PM

LW

“ *Laverne Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Laverne Walker - January 04, 2022 at 10:53 AM

JC

“ *Jermaine Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Jermaine Clark - January 03, 2022 at 06:20 PM

JM

“ *Prayers are with Tonya and the family, very sorry for your loss. It was an honor to have served Mr. Dean.*

James Madden - January 03, 2022 at 10:33 AM

KM

“ *Kim Marshall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



kim marshall - January 02, 2022 at 11:13 PM

KG

“ Karen Gray lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.



Karen Gray - January 02, 2022 at 08:31 PM

LF

“ Larry Bell And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.



Larry Bell and family - January 02, 2022 at 09:54 AM

CB

“ I have known Willie for quite sometime. I always took care of him whenever he came to Borgess. We became good friends. Always made him laugh. RIP Willie. You fought a good fight, God bless you on your journey. Carrol T BLAIR,

Carrol T. Blair - January 02, 2022 at 06:50 AM

DM

“ Sending our condolences to the family, we will keep you all lifted up in prayer.

Donald and Danna Mitchell



Danna Mitchell - January 01, 2022 at 07:05 PM

CG

“ *Condolences to the family.*

Cordell/Brenda Gardner - January 01, 2022 at 03:28 PM

JS

“ *My Sincere Condolences to my family 🙏🙏 Prayer's going up and Blessings coming down Love Y'all*

Jennifer Dean Snell - January 01, 2022 at 12:55 PM

SW

“ *Selena Walker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Selena Walker - December 31, 2021 at 10:22 PM

EF

“ *My Condolences to the Dean Family I will keep you in my prayers God bless you all RIP Ed*



Earline Fields - December 31, 2021 at 08:37 PM

DF

“ *Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Dallas Boards and family - December 31, 2021 at 07:23 PM

JC

“ Jerry And Judy Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.



Jerry and Judy Clark - December 31, 2021 at 10:09 AM

TM

“ My condolence to the family. Mr. Willie Will truly be missed.



Tina Johnson Menser - December 31, 2021 at 09:42 AM

LA

“ He was my best friend even though I had not seen him for years we talked by phone for the last two years he was sick but never lost his faith in God. Rest in piece my friend.

Larry Adams - December 31, 2021 at 06:29 AM

SJ

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family, of my dear cousin, Ed, as they loosen the grip on his earthly home. His kindness, thoughtfulness, genuineness and laughter will forever be remembered, as he toiled through years of pain. I pray God's strength, peace and comfort to love ones he left behind. In the eyes, of our late cousin, Isaac Jones, Jr., he will always be his twin. Cousins: Sandra, Pauline, Tracy, Melba Joy.

Sandra Jones-Boyd - December 31, 2021 at 02:32 AM

CE

“ *Reginald, Cynthia and Demetria Barnes always felt as if Dean was family. We have many memories of his visits to our Clay St home in Greenville. Eating hot tamales was always on our agenda. We will surely miss our phone conversations with him.*

Cynthia Barnes Eiland - December 30, 2021 at 10:44 PM

LA

“ *Hello family
I am so sorry for the loss of your father, brother, uncle, and cousin. I pray the The Holy Spirit will Comfort you all and bring Peace and restore your Joy. Ed was kind and funny with his infectious laugh. He fixed on my car back in the day and made sure I was back on the road. God bless and give him rest In Jesus Name.*

Lorraine Abbott - December 30, 2021 at 09:13 PM

LA

“ *Lorraine Abbott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.*



Lorraine Abbott - December 30, 2021 at 09:04 PM

SH

“ You will truly be missed, I spent 18 years of my life with you, some of the best years of my life, 16 of those years Married. You were a hard working man, a Sweet,Heart, with a great sense of humor, and you were a wonderful companion, we worked together to have a nice home and we did. You were a good role model to my two son's, Kevin, and Will, and my best friend, throughout life. I will miss you. I am sending my Condolences to his children and family who meant the World to him.

Sheila Howell - December 30, 2021 at 07:18 PM

TF

“ The Richardson Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.



The Richardson Family - December 30, 2021 at 06:47 PM

TF

“ The Richardson Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie Edward Dean `Sr.



The Richardson Family - December 30, 2021 at 06:41 PM