



Mr. Willie Howard Gordon

June 25, 1927 - June 15, 2016

Mr. Willie Howard Gordon, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, entered his eternal rest peacefully on June 15, 2016 at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan, surrounded by his family and friends..

Howard, as most knew him, was born on July 25, 1927 in Brookhaven, Mississippi, the eldest son of 12 children born to Ruby Gill and George Gordon, Sr. He attended Alexander High School in Brookhaven, Mississippi, but left in the 10th grade to help take care of his family.

He was a dedicated family man who early on had visions of a better life living in the North, so he moved to Michigan. He later had help in having his siblings brought to live closer to him, so he could take care of them. While in Michigan, he assisted his aunt Ollie in running a boarding home for several years.

Willie professed his faith in Christ at an early age, and was a member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. He spent most of his time as a dedicated servant of the Lord, with a heart for helping others.

Willie met Demetris Bailey and they were married in 1951.

He decided to enlist in the United States Army during the Korean War at the

same time as his brother, George Jr., to ensure his brother wouldn't be alone.

While in Korea, he received several honors: a Commendation Medal, Korean Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, United National Service Medal, Korean Services Ribbon, W/2 and Bronze Service Stars. He was very proud of his accomplishments. Howard was employed by the State of Michigan, at the Kalamazoo Regional Psychiatric Hospital for 30 years, until retirement. He also was employed with the Yellow Cab Company, transporting people by cab for several years.

Socially, Willie was a very outgoing person. If he didn't know you, he would know a family member of yours or someone close to you. Willie loved family gatherings, traveling and giving to others. He was the "glue" that kept our family together, and will be greatly missed by all who know and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Demetris Gordon; 2 children, Caroline Baker and Verdall Burnett; 5 brothers, George Jr., Leroy, Robert, James Lee and Henry Dale; 5 sisters, Remell, Mary Helen, Georgia May, Marilyn Rose and Sarah.

Willie was survived by 2 daughters, Veronica Ann Crenshaw (Christopher), and Joyce Burnett; 2 sons, Tommie Brown and Bernis Howard Gordon (Tashika); and 1 sister, Emma Powell of all of Kalamazoo, MI; 25 grandchildren; over 43 grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other extended family in Mississippi, Ohio, Georgia, Arizona, Texas and Michigan. Also, special friend, Barbara Givhan.

Cemetery Details

Fort Custer National Cemetery

15501 Dickman Road
Augusta, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 28. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Mt Zion Baptist Church
120 Roberson Street
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

JUN 28. 11:30 AM (ET)

Mt Zion Baptist Church
120 Roberson Street
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Harper Funeral Home - June 25, 2016 at 06:37 PM



“ Mr. Willie Howard Gordon

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mr. Willie Howard Gordon

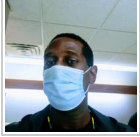
October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Sending heartfelt condolences to the family. May the Lord provide strengthen and uplift each of you during this difficult time.



Karla Smith and Family - June 28, 2016 at 06:36 AM



“ *I light a candle to my Uncle Howard Gregory and Susan LaMarseillaise.*



Gregory LaMarseillaise - June 27, 2016 at 09:55 PM

DS

“ *Denise & Sean Scott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Denise & Sean Scott - June 27, 2016 at 07:53 AM

AS

“ *Alma Snell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Alma Snell - June 27, 2016 at 12:12 AM

CW

“ *Colette Woods lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Colette Woods - June 26, 2016 at 07:59 PM

LN

“ *Lisa Osborne, love you uncle Howard!!*



Lisa, Mr Howard niece. - June 24, 2016 at 10:45 PM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Karest Willis-Brown - June 24, 2016 at 04:20 PM

HB

“ *HAL & JANET BUCHANAN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



HAL & JANET BUCHANAN - June 24, 2016 at 11:54 AM

CG

“ *Curtis G Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Curtis G Gardner - June 24, 2016 at 08:46 AM

CH

“ Cheri lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Cheri - June 24, 2016 at 05:49 AM

CH

“ Cheri sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Cheri - June 24, 2016 at 05:46 AM

CH

“ Cheri lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Cheri - June 24, 2016 at 05:44 AM

CH

“ Cheri lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Cheri - June 24, 2016 at 05:43 AM

CG

“ *Cheri Gordon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Cheri gordon - June 24, 2016 at 05:41 AM

CH

“ *Cheri lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Cheri - June 23, 2016 at 02:10 PM

CH

“ *I'm not going to say goodbye but I'm going to remember you and all that you have done I will not forget your smile. I love you uncle and I'm proud say you were a great uncle to me you will be missed by all love you and happy journey into the kingdom of heaven cheri*

Cheri - June 23, 2016 at 02:08 PM

GG

“ *Guenetta Gordon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon*



Guenetta Gordon - June 23, 2016 at 10:44 AM

GB

“ Great Niece, Angela Bailey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Great Niece, Angela Bailey - June 22, 2016 at 11:47 AM

AB

Uncle Howard will be missed!
Love
His Great Niece, Angela Bailey

Angela Bailey - June 22, 2016 at 11:48 AM

TF

“ THE PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



THE PATTERSON FAMILY - June 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM

TF

“ Sorry to hear about Mr. Howard 🙁🙁



The Galloway Family - June 20, 2016 at 04:20 PM

AM

“ Alfred Ray And JoAnn Marcilous lit a candle
in memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



Alfred Ray and JoAnn Marcilous - June 19, 2016 at 11:09 AM

PG

“ Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Willie Howard Gordon



Pauline Gardner - June 18, 2016 at 07:07 AM

FH

“ Frank And HelenBrooks lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Willie Howard Gordon



frank and HelenBrooks - June 17, 2016 at 08:47 PM

JE

“ Jo Ann Embrey lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Willie Howard Gordon



Jo Ann Embrey - June 17, 2016 at 08:44 PM