



Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.

February 2, 2022

Claude Verbal Sr. (age 79) passed away peacefully at his home in Fountain Hills, AZ on February 2nd, 2022, surrounded by his family. Claude was born in North Carolina, the son of the late Sidney and Gladys Verbal. He received a Mechanical Engineering Degree from North Carolina State University (in Raleigh NC) and later attended Wayne State and the University of Michigan for graduate studies. Claude spent much of his corporate career with General Motors where he retired as an Executive.

In 1996, Claude became the 1st African American President elect of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) International. In that capacity he traveled extensively around the world representing the organization in 24-countries and throughout North America. He ended his professional work career as Chief Operating Officer with Wesley International Industries.

Claude was a proud lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and volunteering was an important part of his life. He served as a member of many boards including: the Flint Institute of Music; the Flint Community Development Foundation; Hurley Medical Center; Bishop International Airport and he was appointed (by the Governor) to the Michigan Technological University Board. He also served with many civic and philanthropic organizations including: the Inner-City Lions Club; the Conference of United Methodist Men (Detroit – Past President); President of the Men’s Club (Fountain Hills); and Friends of the Fountain Hills Library.

Claude leaves to cherish his memories: loving wife of 50-years Dorothy, sons Randall Talifarro/Verbal, Claude Verbal II, Dru Verbal and daughter Andrea (Randall) Carson. He also leaves sisters Dorothy Artist, Betty Verbal, Anne Bryant; Brother Mark Verbal; 9-grandchildren (Ramone, Roland, Brandon, Terrance, Lamont, Rachel, Leah, Nyles and Trinity), 6-great grandchildren (Danielle, Ramona, Nehemiah, Nadae, Josiah, and Zoey), and many nieces and nephews, He was preceded in death by his oldest son Robin (Felicia) and grandson Dante, 2-brothers Sidney and John and 1-sister Pauline.

His family would like to thank his many friends and neighbors for their support along with the Virginia Piper Cancer Center and Hospice of the Valley for their care. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Virginia Piper Cancer Center or Hospice of the Valley (Scottsdale AZ).

Due to Covid considerations, a brief Zoom Memorial presentation and conversation will take place on Saturday February 19th, 2022, 1PM AZ Time (11 AM EST) to celebrate and commemorate the life of Claude Verbal Sr. A more formal private tribute, for family and close friends, will be planned at a later date.

The following link is provided for the Zoom Memorial:

Topic: In Memory of Claude Verbal

Time: Feb 19, 2022 01:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9336828315>

Meeting ID: 933 682 8315

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,9336828315# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,9336828315# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 933 682 8315

Tribute Wall

AB

“ Claude and I met each other in 1960-62 at NC State College, now University. He and some his friends lived in Watauga Dormitory. We all became friends and went to some of his Raleigh friends houses on nights and weekends. Claude would cut my hair and other students hair just like a professional barber. He was always ambitious and learned in everything he did. Not having much money at the time i was appreciative of him. I wish his family the best and congratulate them on raising such a great son.

Art Beveridge - October 11, 2025 at 11:05 AM



“ Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM

PW

“ Dorothy, Randy & Dru keeping you all in prayer during this time.
Love and miss you all
Love Pam Williams

Pam Williams - February 18, 2022 at 12:16 AM

SD

“ Samuel And Cora Dixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Samuel and Cora Dixon - February 17, 2022 at 09:28 PM

VR

“ Verma Rosborough sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Verma Rosborough - February 16, 2022 at 12:10 PM

AG

“ Alvin Gayden lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Alvin Gayden - February 16, 2022 at 10:26 AM

BM

“ Barbara McKeown lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Barbara McKeown - February 15, 2022 at 08:15 PM

GP

“ Gloria Proby lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Gloria Proby - February 15, 2022 at 02:22 AM

ET

“ *Ernelle Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Ernelle Taylor - February 14, 2022 at 09:36 AM

GC

“ *During his tenure as a member of the Flint Library Board of Trustees, Mr. Verbal’s quiet, strong leadership was invaluable. The Public Library’s transition from a asset of the Flint Community Schools to an independent institution was a complicated, lengthy process, and we were so fortunate to have had Mr. Verbal’s steady hand. He was always gracious and considerate of others. My sincere condolences to his family and friends who mourn his passing.*

Gloria Coles - February 13, 2022 at 09:06 PM

CT

“ *CHARLES THOMPSON lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



CHARLES THOMPSON - February 13, 2022 at 03:52 PM

RF

“ Ray Furlow lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Ray Furlow - February 12, 2022 at 09:34 PM

BS

“ Benita Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Benita Smith - February 11, 2022 at 07:08 PM

JJ

“ Jovita Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Jovita Johnson - February 11, 2022 at 04:18 PM

CB

“ Cassandra Burks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Cassandra Burks - February 11, 2022 at 12:36 PM

VN

“ *Veronica Nickens lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Veronica Nickens - February 11, 2022 at 03:55 AM

MT

“ *Outstanding man.*



Michael Thompson - February 11, 2022 at 02:08 AM

BK

“ *Brenda Kimble lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Brenda Kimble - February 10, 2022 at 04:45 PM

DQ

“ *Deacon Bill R. Quarles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Deacon Bill R. Quarles - February 10, 2022 at 11:23 AM

LM

“ *Lanita Murray Marion lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Lanita Murray Marion - February 10, 2022 at 09:33 AM

AS

“ *Mr. Claude Verbal was always a 1st class gentleman. We were members of the Flint Inner City Lions Club. Condolences and Prayers for his family.*

Anthony F. Alexander Sr. - February 10, 2022 at 08:54 AM

CD

“ *So very sorry to have heard of the passing of of Claude and I uplift you in passionate prayer and thoughts*



Cheryl Price Dickson - February 10, 2022 at 08:49 AM

SM

“ *Sharon Mixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Sharon Mixon - February 10, 2022 at 07:50 AM

JL

“ *Jill Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Jill Lewis - February 10, 2022 at 07:17 AM

JJ

“ *Our condolences and prayers*



Jovita Johnson - February 10, 2022 at 04:47 AM

IG

“ *Ira Gilbert sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Ira Gilbert - February 10, 2022 at 03:25 AM

SS

“ *Sorry to hear of Claude's passing I worked with him many years ago at GM. Always had a kind word. Prayers to his family.*



Sophia Staples - February 10, 2022 at 01:42 AM

LR

“ *With Love and Sympathy To the Family. Our Prayers Are With You*



Lorene Randall - February 09, 2022 at 11:59 PM

GS

“ *My sincerest condolences to the Verbal family and may you receive the prayers of those who love you all dearly.* 🙏💜



Gloria Scruggs - February 09, 2022 at 11:36 PM

GS

“ *Gloria Scruggs sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Gloria Scruggs - February 09, 2022 at 11:33 PM

CK

“ *Claudette Kennedy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Claudette Kennedy - February 09, 2022 at 11:08 PM

AD

“ AC Dumas sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



AC Dumas - February 09, 2022 at 08:43 PM

AD

“ My sincerest thoughts and prayers are with the entire family during their time of bereavement!



AC Dumas - February 09, 2022 at 08:42 PM

TN

“ Tanya Neely sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.



Tanya Neely - February 09, 2022 at 07:33 PM

TG

“ Sadden to hear of the transition of Mr. Claude Verbel. Outstanding man, he'll be missed. Praying for the family.



Terry Gates - February 09, 2022 at 02:58 PM

DW

“ *Dandre' & Freda Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Claude Verbal Sr.*



Dandre' & Freda Williams - February 09, 2022 at 02:45 PM