



Mr. Gary Therone Collier

November 13, 1947 - May 31, 2015

Collier, Mr. Gary Therone – Age 67, passed away Sunday, May 31, 2015 in Ocho Rio, Jamaica. Family hour 10 a.m. Saturday, June 13, 2015 at Five Fold Ministry Christian Center, 8041 N. McKinley Rd., Flushing, MI, with funeral service commencing at 11 a.m. Pastor Juanita Crump officiating. Interment Sunset Hills Association, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10 a.m. Saturday. Mr. Collier will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 1 p.m. – 8 p.m., with family present from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Thursday. Mr. Collier will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 N. Perry St., Pontiac, MI 48342, and may be viewed from 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. Friday.

Gary was born on November 13, 1947 in Flint Michigan to the union of Ralphene and Ralph Collier. He graduated from Central High School in Flint and matriculated to Tennessee State University where he remained for a year before returning to Flint Michigan to work for General Motors Corporation. At an early age Gary was introduced to and developed a relationship with Christ while attending Sunday School at Bethlehem Temple of the Apostolic Faith. He was drafted into the U.S. Army on November 23, 1967 and honorably discharged on September 9, 1969. Gary was deployed to combat in Vietnam and received several medals including the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, 2 Overseas Bars, Expert

Badge (Pistol .45), and Marksman Badge (M-14).

Soon after his return from Vietnam, Gary met the love of his life, Cassandra Lynn Beck in 1971 and they were joined in holy matrimony on July 27, 1974 in Detroit Michigan. In the early years of their marriage, Gary returned to college at Wayne State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications. After graduation, he was a conscientious employee at various companies including National Cash Register (NCR), and Electronic Data Systems (EDS)/Hewlett Packard (HP). As a highly effective business manager, Gary was respected by his employees, peers and superiors, alike. He retired from HP in June 2011 after twenty-seven years. Gary frequently spoke with pride of his long and successful career. However, after he retired, he told everyone how this was the best time of his life.

Gary had a lifelong love of music and a beautiful bass singing voice. He sang with an R & B group in the 1970's and performed at venues around Detroit including the famous 20 Grand Ballroom. Among his favorite hobbies was collecting a massive catalog of music covering many genres and eras. A regular highlight of family gatherings was the family Temptations singing group where Gary performed Melvin Franklin's parts.

Gary was an avid sports fan, especially football and basketball. He also enjoyed drawing, reading, and spending quality time with friends and family. He was most proud of the home he and his wife built and often, could be found working to create a beautifully landscaped yard and cultivating his roses. Of all of Gary's favorite pastimes, he most enjoyed travelling the world with his wife. Gary's favorite cities outside of the United States were, Barcelona Spain and Paris France. But, he also, particularly enjoyed Bangkok, Thailand; Cairo, Egypt; Rome, Italy and all of the Hawaiian islands. Along with his wife, he had a great love of the turquoise waters of the Caribbean sea and enjoyed many hours snorkeling and swimming all over the

Caribbean islands including Jamaica where they returned often.

Gary was a man of faith who loved his family. He was a loyal friend, and mentor to many youth with whom he enjoyed sharing his personal philosophy of how to live a fulfilling life. Gary wanted to see them do well, live right and be successful. He was a man of integrity, love and truth.

Mr. Gary Therone Collier leaves to cherish his memory the love of his life, his wife, Cassandra, brother Bradley Collier (Carol), sister, Judge Tracy Collier-Nix, brother Edward Townsend, step-mother, Eula Collier, a special uncle Raymond Wilson; a host of loving cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, friends and a special God-daughter, Courtnie.

Mr. Gary Therone Collier was preceded in death by his mother, Ralphone Collier, father Ralph Collier, stepfather, Roger B. Townsend, brothers Jeffrey Harris and Craig Townsend, mother-in-law and father-in-law, Martha and Albert Jackson, and several loving aunts, uncles and other family members.

The family would like to express special thanks to Pastors Juanita Crump and Herbert Crump, the Five Fold Ministry family, friends Lawrence and Val Moon of the Lawrence Moon Funeral Home; the Morrison Family; Ann Marie Gouth-Pryce , General Manager and her staff at Jewel Dunns River Resort, Jamaica, W.I. , Cynthia Brazier and the numerous friends and family who have stepped up with an outpouring of love and support.

WHEN I MUST LEAVE YOU

When I must leave you for a little while
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you through the years,
But start out bravely with a gallant smile;

And for my sake and in my name
Live on and do all things the same,
Feed not your loneliness on empty days
But fill each waking hour in useful ways
Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near,
And never, never be afraid to die,
For I am waiting for you in the sky!

Cemetery Details

Sunset Hills Association

G-4413 Flushing Rd.
Flint, MI

Previous Events

Family Present

JUN 11. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.
Flint, MI 48505
(810) 789-MOON (6666)
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

Public Viewing

JUN 11. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.
Flint, MI 48505
(810) 789-MOON (6666)
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

Public Viewing

JUN 12. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, Inc., Pontiac
268 N. Perry Street
Pontiac, MI 48342-2346
(248) 758-1913
lemoonfhpontiac@gmail.com
<https://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhomepontiac.com>

Family hour

JUN 13. 10:00 AM (ET)

Five Fold Ministry Christian Center
8041 N McKinley Rd.
Flushing, MI 48433

Service

JUN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Five Fold Ministry Christian Center
8041 N McKinley Rd.
Flushing, MI 48433

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Gary Therone Collier*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Shirley Cochran - Motherly Intercession lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Shirley Cochran - Motherly Intercession - June 16, 2015 at 05:26 AM



“ *I am so saddened by this news. I just learned of Gary's passing this afternoon through a mutual HP co-worker. I had the distinct pleasure of working with Gary. He was an outstanding leader and an even better person. Always willing to help and did it with a kind word and his ever present smile. My deepest condolences to his family and friends. His upbeat personality, booming voice and contagious laughter will not soon be forgotten. Prayers to his loved ones for strength and peace. Heaven gained one special angel. Kathy O.*

kathy ogurek - June 15, 2015 at 12:53 PM



“ *Veronica Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Veronica Davis - June 12, 2015 at 11:10 PM

TB

“ Tonya L. Battle sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier



Tonya L. Battle - June 12, 2015 at 08:21 PM



“ Although I never had a chance to meet either one of you my aunt and your next door neighbor Vergie always talk about you two and how sweet you were to others and each other . I keep you in my prayers everyday. I just want to say to you Mrs Collier may the Lord give you strength until you and your husband meet again and you will never be apart. My sincere condolence. Charoletta Sanford (your neighbor as well)

Charoletta Sanford - June 12, 2015 at 07:06 PM

LM

“ CASSANDRA, YOU HAVE MY DEEPEST HEART FELT SYMPATHY IN THE LOSS OF YOUR HUSBAND. I WILL KEEP YOU IN MY PRAYERS. YOUR DDS FAMILY LOVES YOU!!! LOVE LOLITA MARKS

LOLITA MARKS - June 12, 2015 at 01:04 PM

KN

“ To Cassandra: Gary was my big brother. He and his family treated me like I was a member of the family. I will miss him and you and the family have my deepest and sincerest condolences. Gary the the best man I knew next to my father. He will be deeply missed.

Keith J. Norman - June 12, 2015 at 01:04 PM

TB

“ *Toni M. Barnes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Toni M. Barnes - June 12, 2015 at 11:22 AM

TB

Gary T. Collier and Cassandra are my dearest friends for the past 43 years (50 years for Cassandra). When Gary went back home, it began a new era in my life and I don't know how its going to play out, but I know absolutely nothing will be the same, again. Love you both with all my heart.

Toni (Gary's 'other' sister)

Toni M. Barnes - June 12, 2015 at 11:26 AM

CG

“ *Carline (Morrison) Gist lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Carline (Morrison) Gist - June 11, 2015 at 10:17 PM

JD

“ *Cassandra, we just heard. Please accept our condolences. We only met Gary briefly but we were so fortunate to meet him. We were touched by his intelligence, warmth and compassion. We feel deeply for your loss.*

John and Cindi DeSpelder

John DeSpelder - June 11, 2015 at 05:39 PM

TE

“ *Cassandra, My deepest sympathy and condolences. It's crazy Gary been around so long, when I was younger I always thought he was my older cousin and not you. Many great conversations....and him and that camera...Love you guys.*

Terrence Ellery - June 11, 2015 at 11:19 AM

JR

“ *Cassandra,*

We extend our sympathy and prayers to you and the entire family. May The Lord keep and sustain you. Your precious memories of Gary and a life well-lived will comfort you!

Maurice & Juanita Wells



Juanita Ross-Wells - June 11, 2015 at 08:17 AM

DB

“ *For several years, Gary led much of our communications efforts for our EDS division. He also influenced our messaging for the Financial Group. He is a valued colleague and friend. We certainly miss his leadership, his good sense and especially his friendship.*

Dan Butler - June 11, 2015 at 08:08 AM

JK

“ *Jesse & Dorothy Kirksey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Jesse & Dorothy Kirksey - June 10, 2015 at 10:30 PM

KM

“ *Kim Morrison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Kim Morrison - June 10, 2015 at 07:56 PM

KR

“ *Kalimah Rahman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Kalimah Rahman - June 10, 2015 at 05:38 PM

 Shelly Brotherton

“ *Gary was one of the kindest managers I ever worked for and with while at EDS. My deepest sympathies go out to Gary's entire family at this time of tragic loss. I am very grateful for the times we had together while working in a professional environment. I have the most amazing memories tucked away for safe keeping, including the time he hosted my 20-year anniversary party. Rest In Peace, Gary T. Collier. I will keep you in my heart where the other special people are. God must have needed another angel.*

Shelly Brotherton - June 10, 2015 at 04:20 PM

KO

Well said Shelly.... Gary was the best.

kathy ogurek - June 15, 2015 at 12:55 PM

EM

“ *Emmogene Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Emmogene Moore - June 10, 2015 at 07:30 AM

SL

“ *Hello Sandra. Sean (Lyles) & I are so sorry to hear of Gary passing away. I know that Sean had met him before but, I(Jocelyn) had never met him and had an opportunity to meet him at the family reunion last year. It was a pleasure meeting him and you. The two of you were so nice to us. We had such a wonderful time and were looking forward to the next famiy reunion. All I know is that God can heal all wounds. His mercy is sufficient. You will be forever in our prayers and I pray that God keeps you during this delicate time. I'd like to share a few pictures that I took of the two of you on the black and white day at the reunion. You too were dressed so sharpe. We love you so much and please take comfort in knowing to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.*



Sean and Jocelyn Lyles - June 09, 2015 at 07:50 PM

KM

*There are no words to express my sadness I always looked up and had a great deal of respect for you and Gary and the relationship you had as a locing couple .I know God will comfort your heart and give you peace until you meet again .Love you San
Kim*

Kim Morrison - June 10, 2015 at 07:46 PM

KM

*words cannot express the sadness I feel for the loss of Gary .I have always had such respect for your relationship and the example of a loving couple that you showed me through the years I am grateful for the many warm wonderful days we spent having family time with you and Gary I pray that God will give you the strength to know that all is well and peace will be your .companion until you meet again I love you
San
Kim*

Kim Morrison - June 10, 2015 at 07:54 PM

DB

Cassandra, God Bless your soul and stay prayerful. Gary will always be in my memories. You and your family will always be in my prayers.

Dr. Sharon Bland-Brady

Dr. Sharon Bland-Brady - June 12, 2015 at 03:54 PM

TB

“ *Tonya L. Battle lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier*



Tonya L. Battle - June 09, 2015 at 11:57 AM

CH

“ *Fear not; stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will work for you today -Exodus 14 : 13 Gary was the best brother n law ever. He will truly be missed. Love you much Cassandra and praying for all our family. Cheryl D. Harris*

Cheryl D. Harris - June 09, 2015 at 09:55 AM

CH

“ Cheryl D. Harris sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gary Therone Collier



Cheryl D. Harris - June 09, 2015 at 09:48 AM

NF

“ May God's grace and strength be sufficient enough to carry you through anything! Prayers for all.



Nita Stevenson-Lasvegas family - June 07, 2015 at 10:46 PM

SB

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Shelly Brotherton - June 06, 2015 at 12:23 PM

NF

Beautiful pic of the happy couple enjoying life!

Nita Stevenson-Lasvegas family - June 07, 2015 at 05:29 PM

CH

Great pic of 2 beautiful person always enjoying their lives, love you all, sis Cheryl

Cheryl D. Harris - June 09, 2015 at 09:58 AM

GG

Doing what they loved to do.... Praying for my Cousin Cassandra.

Glennie Gaines - June 11, 2015 at 10:15 AM

BS

“ *As a former co-worker at EDS/HP, I can say without a doubt that our friend, Gary, is now in the presence of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. My prayer is that you, Gary's family and close friends, will be aware of the presence of Jesus with you now. Only Jesus can bring comfort and heal the broken hearted. I do not know the circumstances around Gary's passing, but I do hurt with you. Gary was a man of integrity and faithfulness. I so enjoyed working with him, and just small chats in his office. He has touched many lives in a positive way. I know that he loved his family dearly. And I am sure that his desire for you, and us all, would be to fulfill God's plan for each of our lives. Peace, wisdom, strength and many blessings to you at this time and in the days ahead! - Bonnie Straight*

Bonnie Straight - June 04, 2015 at 12:19 PM

NF

*To Gary's wife Cassandra, family, friends-you all have my deepest condolences during this difficult time. Cherish his memory by focusing on all his good deeds. Gary will truly be missed by so many and I know he would want each of you to live your life to the fullest. God will bless the rest!
Blessings family and friends!!!!*

Nita Stevenson-Lasvegas family - June 07, 2015 at 05:26 PM

JG

“ *Praying for the family*

Julia Gamble - June 03, 2015 at 10:20 PM

CT

“ *The dash between or birth and death may be small but carries a lot. Gary's dash was full of life, wisdom, knowledge, and just a good person.*

You will be missed in a big way. That deep voice will forever live on!

Blessing,

Cedric Townsel

Cedric Townsel - June 03, 2015 at 12:46 PM