



Mr. Gary Payne

January 1, 1951 - September 21, 2024

PAYNE, Mr. Gary - Age 73, passed away Sunday, September 22, 2024 at his residence. Family hour 10:00 AM Saturday, October 5, 2024 at First Trinity Baptist Church, 1226 Beach St., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM. Pastor James C. Fair, officiating. Interment Evergreen Cemetery, G-3415 E. Hill Rd., Grand Blanc, MI. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Saturday, October 5, 2024. Mr. Payne will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed Friday, October 4, 2024 from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Gary Lyn Payne, the only son born to Addie Eutrilla (Jones) and Lawson Lyn Payne transitioned at home surrounded by family on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024, after bravely enduring a long battle with metastasized prostate cancer. He was 73.

Gary, the second baby born on January 1, 1951, in Charleston, West Virginia, was the fourth of five siblings. He moved to Detroit with his parents and younger sister, "Cissy", when he was 16 years old as part of the Great Migration. Gary graduated from Northwestern High School in 1968 and began college at Eastern Michigan University later that year. During his first day on campus, he saw and met the love of his life, Beverley. They dated throughout college and married on August 4, 1973.

"Making her laugh, making her smile, making her happy was my purpose," Gary said. Their romance and his love for Beverley were known to all and served as a shining example to his children. Gary and Beverley had three daughters, Tamika, Crystal, and Ashley.. No matter how old they were, they

continued to call him “Daddy.” He became “Papa” upon the birth of his first grandson, Vic in 2013. DJ and Aby soon followed in 2015 and 2017. He loved his grandchildren, and they shared a special bond with their Papa.

Gary joined the local phone company – now AT&T – in 1975, and quickly became known as “Mr. Telephone man” (a.k.a. GLPhone). He was proud of his work and loved connecting with people. He shared stories with anyone who would listen (or not), pointing out various telephone boxes and poles around the area. Despite retiring 35 years later, he continued to regale friends and family with all those stories!

Gary was a dedicated member of First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church. He served as part of the security ministry, male chorus, and community outreach ministry, helping weekly with water drives for Flint.

Gary loved his family, and with his wife, they created a home that welcomed all; filled with laughter, joy, family and friends. He immaculately cared for his home—he was known to dedicate an entire Saturday to mowing the lawn with precise lines with music in the background. Gary would mow the front yard, then nap, trim the hedges, then nap, pick up the apples, then nap, mow the backyard, then nap, trim the fruit trees, then nap.

Holidays were always boisterous and loving; Gary typically ended the evening napping in his La-Z-Boy (remote under hand). He instilled the importance of family and taught his daughters to remain close no matter life's obstacles. Gary's extroverted nature created a space for those around him to feel accepted, seen, and loved. He had the ability to converse with anyone; often to the chagrin of his impatient family. He enjoyed socializing with lifelong friends. From going to the movies with Larry Reynolds to hanging at the lake for fishing trips with Lloyd Brackins—though he rarely fished.

Gary loved to travel, from family summer road trips to visit relatives to international travel with Beverley after they retired. They cruised with friends around the world and even visited Tamika and Kim while they lived in Sierra Leone, West Africa and later Tamika in Geneva, Switzerland. Gary loved music, frequenting live music concerts and jazz clubs in New York.

While Daddy to his girls, he was a father figure to many more, including Ricardo (Steve) Lewin and Michael Green. He held a special place in his heart for his wife's family; including aunt Marjorie "Polly" Walters who was a consistent presence as he raised his family and "cousin" Rose Harris.

He was preceded in death by his soulmate Beverley Natalee (Allen) Payne. His parents Addie Eutrilla (Jones) and Lawson Lyn Payne and his older sister Sharon "Nookie" (Woodson) Brown.

Gary is survived by his three daughters Tamika Danette (Kimberly S. Johnson) Payne, Crystal Lynn Douglas, Ashley Nicole (Victor Alan Jr.) Young; three grandchildren Victor Alan Young III 'Vic', Daron L. Douglas Jr. "DJ", and Autumn Beverley Young "Aby". He is survived by three sisters Seretha "Susie" (Woodson) Saunders, Judith (Woodson) Hilliard, and Catherine "Cissy" Payne. He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

G-3415 E. Hill Rd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Previous Events

Viewing

OCT 4. 12:00 PM - 6:00 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>

Family hour

OCT 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church
1226 Beach Street
Flint, MI 48502

Funeral Service

OCT 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church
1226 Beach Street
Flint, MI 48502

Tribute Wall

JG

“ Jeanette Grady sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Jeanette Grady - October 05, 2024 at 12:36 AM

WF

“ Wiley J Stocker & Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Gary Payne.



Wiley J Stocker & Family - October 04, 2024 at 11:37 AM

DW

“ Derrek & Regina Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Derrek & Regina Williams - October 04, 2024 at 11:31 AM

AC

“ Sorry for you loss! Gary and Beverly were great friend and wonderful people. Prayers to the family

Alfred Cook - October 04, 2024 at 07:05 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. Gary Payne.*



October 03, 2024 at 12:53 PM



“ *My condolences and prayers to the Payne and Walter Family.*



Verna M. Cobb - October 03, 2024 at 10:20 AM



“ *Pat Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Pat Moore - October 02, 2024 at 07:33 PM



“ *Gary was the volunteer baseball coach for my son Brandon & Nephew Demitri when they were little fellas. He left a lasting impression. He loved his girls and Bev. Our condolences to the family. The Boles Family*



Kathy Boles - October 02, 2024 at 05:13 PM



“ *The Rose Garden Heart is actually from Katie, Maisha, TJ, TK, Torchio, Ronnae, & Sarah. Everyone wouldn't fit in the allotted space.*

Sarah Neff - October 02, 2024 at 03:36 PM



“ ... *TK, Torchio, Ronnae, & Sarah purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Mr. Gary Payne.*



... **TK, Torchio, Ronnae, & Sarah** - October 02, 2024 at 03:30 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Mr. Gary Payne.*



October 02, 2024 at 01:20 PM



“ *Keith & Joniese Lawrence purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Gary Payne.*



Keith & Joniese Lawrence - October 01, 2024 at 06:08 PM



“ *Sending my condolences to this beautiful family.* ”



Martha Kennedy - October 01, 2024 at 03:11 PM



“ *Wallace, Theren, Ian Elliott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne* ”



Wallace, Theren, Ian Elliott - October 01, 2024 at 05:35 AM



“ *Praying for the family Speedway Family Gary was one of our favorites customer* ❤️ ”



Lecrisha Dremeall Jackson - September 30, 2024 at 07:37 PM



“ *Tanya Jefferson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne* ”



Tanya Jefferson - September 30, 2024 at 04:47 PM

GS

“ Our families go back to my dear Aunt Mavis, bestie to my Aunt Frances, mom to dear Beverly. So much love, laughter, wisdom and tears over the years. To Gary, who used to set up the phone bank for the UNCF telethon. He was serious about keeping the lines running smoothly, but then would keep us laughing with his stories. I spoke with him since my big sis passed, and he was forever proud of his girls and grands & spending adventures with them. He was a great guy, committed to his work, his beautiful wife and family, with enormous faith. May he rest in eternal peace.



Gloria Scruggs - September 30, 2024 at 08:26 AM

RE

“ Rhonda Etherly sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Rhonda Etherly - September 27, 2024 at 06:26 AM

MM

“ Mother Milhouse lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Mother Milhouse - September 26, 2024 at 03:51 PM

VS

“ Vera Styles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Vera Styles - September 26, 2024 at 11:45 AM

DJ

“ Debbie Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Debbie Jackson - September 26, 2024 at 09:52 AM

TB

“ Tom And Linda Belford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Tom and Linda Belford - September 26, 2024 at 08:59 AM

JG

“ Jeanette Grady lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Jeanette Grady - September 25, 2024 at 10:26 PM

AF

“ Arthur Burns And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Arthur Burns and family - September 25, 2024 at 07:07 PM

AF

“ Arthur Burns And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Arthur Burns and family - September 25, 2024 at 07:05 PM

KB

“ Kim Baines lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Kim Baines - September 25, 2024 at 10:14 AM

S"

“ Special "K" lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Special "K" - September 25, 2024 at 09:19 AM

MT

“ *Marshall & Bev Tolbert sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Marshall & Bev Tolbert - September 25, 2024 at 08:30 AM

KS

“ *Katie STEWART lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Katie STEWART - September 24, 2024 at 09:44 PM

BH

“ *Beatrice Horton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Beatrice Horton - September 24, 2024 at 04:26 PM

MW

“ *So sadden by the passing of a good friend. Whenever we met I could always count on a pleasant "Hello" and a pleasant smile. I will miss him.*
Margaret Williams

Margaret Williams - September 24, 2024 at 03:01 PM

SM

“ Sharon Mixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Sharon Mixon - September 24, 2024 at 10:56 AM

JR

“ John And Tujunana Reaves lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



John and Tujunana Reaves - September 24, 2024 at 05:34 AM

DQ

“ Deacon Bill & Ruthy Quarles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Deacon Bill & Ruthy Quarles - September 23, 2024 at 01:26 PM

TW

“ Theresa Wesley&Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne



Theresa Wesley&Family - September 23, 2024 at 01:22 PM

PW

“ *Pam Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Pam Williams - September 23, 2024 at 10:12 AM

VB

“ *Vanessa, Lloyd, Kameron, and Kellen Brackins*



Vanessa Brackins - September 23, 2024 at 10:05 AM

VB

“ *Vanessa Brackins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Vanessa Brackins - September 23, 2024 at 10:03 AM

TF

“ *The Fields Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



The Fields Family - September 22, 2024 at 08:20 PM



“ *F lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



F - September 22, 2024 at 08:19 PM



“ *Russell & Diane Kirksey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Russell & Diane Kirksey - September 22, 2024 at 05:19 PM



“ *Vanessa and Lloyd Brackins
Kameron and Kellen Brackins*



Vanessa Brackins - September 22, 2024 at 04:51 PM



“ *Driskell Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Driskell Family - September 22, 2024 at 03:06 PM

TS

“ *Trina Stewart lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Payne*



Trina Stewart - September 22, 2024 at 11:33 AM

TF

“ *My sincere condolences to the entire Payne family. May God continue to bless and keep you at this most difficult time.*



Tamika French - September 22, 2024 at 10:01 AM