



## Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.

August 28, 1934 - August 14, 2023

AYTES, Deacon Howard Jr. - Age 88, passed away Monday, August 14, 2023 at Hurley Medical Center. Deacon Aytes will lie in state at Foss Avenue Missionary Baptist Church, 1159 E. Foss Ave., and may be viewed Tuesday, August 22, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM with a memorial service commencing at 12:00 PM. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery, G4200 Belford Rd., Holly, MI.

### LEGACY OF LIFE:

Deacon Howard Lorenzo Aytes Jr., was born on 08/28/1934 to Howard & Annie Louise (Turner)

Aytes Sr., in DeLand, Florida. Deacon Aytes, a pillar of strength, faith and service passed away

on August 14, 2023, at the age of 88. His life was a testament to his unwavering dedication to

family, church, community, and his country. Having served in the United States Air Force with

honor, Howard's commitment to service extended into his civilian life. For over 50 years, he

found solace and friendship within the walls of Foss Avenue Baptist Church, where his faith was

steadfast and his presence uplifting. Howard was married to Annie Vester Aytes for 53 years. As

a diehard Michigan fan (GO BLUE!!!), devoted Detroit Tigers and Detroit Lions fan, you could catch him watching every game no matter how good or bad the teams were doing. He leaves behind a legacy of love through his family as well as a community touched by his kindness.

#### FAMILY TO CARRY ON THE LEGACY:

3 Daughters: Natalie (Kelvin Sr.) Robinson, Julie Young, and DeShawn Berry

2 Sons: Lorenzo Aytes, Douglas Flakes

1 Special son: Robert Young Jr.

16 Grandchildren: Shlita Young, Derrell Aytes, DeLonzo Aytes, Robyn Young, Kelvin (Teosha)

Robinson II, Robert Young III, Alexander Robinson Sr., Carrington Lowe, Blake Aytes, Lauren

Aytes, DeManuel Berry, DeeAnn Berry, DeOnna Berry, Amber May, Aaron May, and Sareeta

(Shelton) M c Lean

2 Special Granddaughters: Rolonda Williams and DaKirra Simpkins

6 Great-Grandchildren: Kelvin Robinson III, Novah Robinson, Kacey Robinson, Alexander

Robinson Jr., Patience Robinson and Nathan M c Lean

1 Special Great-Granddaughter: Bradley Knox

1 Sister: Annette (George) Weaver

1 Brother: Tommy Aytes

4 Nieces: Denise Aytes, D'Andrea Aytes, Iymani Aytes, Monique Weaver

3 Cousins: Linda (Roy) M c Gee, Betty Wilder, Ruth Lopes

4 Sisters-in-laws: Grace Aytes, Vivian Cunningham, Alice Cunningham, and Annie Pearl Gillespie

1 Brother-in-law: Willie (JoAnn) Cunningham

EXTENDED FAMILY INCLUDING SPECIAL FRIENDS:

Rod (Leonia) Green, Alby Winfrey, Frank Jackson, and Denise Lengyel

REUNITED WITH THOSE BEFORE HIM:

Annie Aytes whom he was married to for 53 years, his parents and 3 brothers

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

AUG **22**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Foss Ave. Baptist Church  
1159 E. Foss Ave.  
Flint, MI 48505

## Memorial Service

AUG **22**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Foss Ave. Baptist Church  
1159 E. Foss Ave.  
Flint, MI 48505

# Tribute Wall



“ Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ ORA CARTER lit a candle in memory of Howard Aytes Jr.



ORA CARTER - August 25, 2023 at 11:17 PM



“ Kim Carpenter lit a candle in memory of Howard Aytes Jr.



Kim E. Carpenter - August 24, 2023 at 07:04 PM



“ Cheryl Adkins lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Cheryl Adkins - August 23, 2023 at 05:33 PM

EW

“ *Elder Charles Woods lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Elder Charles Woods** - August 23, 2023 at 12:21 PM

IH

“ *To The Aytes Family:*

*May God continue to Bless You & Keep his Loving Arms around each of you.*



*Bro. Aytes will truly be missed at Foss Avenue Baptist Church. I'm gonna miss him singing: "This Old Ship Of Zion"*

*Bro. Aytes, Thank You for the Hugs every Sunday. Thank You for the Encouraging Words you had for me every Sunday. Thank You for the Phone Calls you made checking on Mother and you always asked about Me!!!!💖*

*Rest In Paradise In the Arms of the Angel's who Carried You!!!!💙*

*Blessings,  
Mother Herron & Ivy Herron*

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**Ivy Herron** - August 23, 2023 at 12:25 AM

SC

“ *Sandra Cabine lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Sandra Cabine** - August 22, 2023 at 07:18 PM

KC

“ *Kenneth Cunningham lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Kenneth Cunningham** - August 22, 2023 at 09:51 AM

MM

“ *Mayrene C McGruder lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Mayrene C McGruder** - August 22, 2023 at 09:46 AM

MS

“ To the family and friends of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.  
We send our Condolences. We will continue to keep you in our PRAYERS.GOD BLESS.

Benny & Mae Vern Spence  
April Harris  
Katina Woods & Monty Jr.

Marietta GA.



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**Mae Vern Spence** - August 22, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ Praying for the Family



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**Carolyn Mayo** - August 21, 2023 at 10:17 PM

AB

“ Angela Blanks lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



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**Angela Blanks** - August 21, 2023 at 05:49 PM

J)

“ James & Sharon Owensby (Arizona ) lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



James & Sharon Owensby (Arizona ) - August 21, 2023 at 05:45 PM

DB

“ David And Anna Blake lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



David and Anna Blake - August 21, 2023 at 04:47 PM

TC

“ Mr.Aytes was a very nice man...the neighborhood dad...I always saw him at my mom and dad's church...Foss Ave..prayers for the family...

Teresa Copeny - August 21, 2023 at 11:41 AM

FM

“ Frank & Hazel Miller lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Frank & Hazel Miller - August 20, 2023 at 03:47 PM

DM

“ *David Martin lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



david martin - August 19, 2023 at 06:46 PM

JB

“ *James And Debra Brown lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



James and Debra Brown - August 19, 2023 at 12:11 PM

JB

“ *James & Debra Brown lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



James & Debra Brown - August 19, 2023 at 12:09 PM

HB

“ *Natalie (Kelvin) Robinson and family.  
You have my condolences. You're in my prayers 🙏.  
Helen Brooks. Kalamazoo, Mi*



Helen Brooks - August 19, 2023 at 11:53 AM

GA

“ *Sending prayers and condolences in the passing of your loved one 🙏🙏🙏*



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**Glenda Alexander** - August 18, 2023 at 10:41 PM

CN

“ *Camiya Nicholson lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Camiya Nicholson** - August 18, 2023 at 05:26 PM

BT

“ *Barbara Taylor lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Barbara Taylor** - August 18, 2023 at 04:44 PM

VH

“ *Valerie Humphries lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Valerie Humphries** - August 18, 2023 at 05:56 AM

SE

“ Natalie, Julie and the entire family ~ you are in my thoughts and prayers.  
May God comfort you during this difficult time.  
🙏



Shirley Edwards-Jackson - August 18, 2023 at 12:45 AM

LE

“ The Lewis family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Howard Aytes Jr.



LEWIS - August 17, 2023 at 11:58 PM

AJ

“ Abby Johnson lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Abby Johnson - August 17, 2023 at 11:53 PM

GS

“ Gwendolyn Sims lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Gwendolyn Sims - August 17, 2023 at 11:18 PM

TA

“ Tonya Crayton-LaGrone (Flint Academy) lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Tonya Crayton-LaGrone (Flint Academy) - August 17, 2023 at 10:26 PM

DS

“ Debora Stitt lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Debora Stitt - August 17, 2023 at 09:13 PM

LD

“ La Jean Duncan lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



La Jean Duncan - August 17, 2023 at 08:03 PM

HW

“ To the Aytes Family, we were saddened to learn of the passing of Bro. Howard Aytes. He was a godly man who loved the Lord, his family and his church. He always greeted you with a smile, a firm handshake and a kind word. His presence will be missed here on earth, but he will never be forgotten.

Herbert and Linda Winfrey - August 17, 2023 at 04:56 PM

RG

“ Praying for the Aytes family.



Rhea and Roy Greer - August 17, 2023 at 01:00 PM

JD

“ Jean Durrett lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Jean Durrett - August 17, 2023 at 12:28 PM

RT

“ Rose Topps lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Rose Topps - August 17, 2023 at 12:24 PM

AA

“ Anthony Alexander lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Anthony Alexander - August 17, 2023 at 09:02 AM

GQ

“ Gladys Quarles lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Gladys Quarles - August 17, 2023 at 04:18 AM

VT

“ Praying for you all.



Vatina Topps-Reynolds - August 17, 2023 at 03:23 AM

SL

“ Sandra Lewis lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Sandra Lewis - August 16, 2023 at 11:22 PM

CB

“ Carolyn Buckley lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Carolyn Buckley - August 16, 2023 at 09:58 PM

IG

“ *Ida Gibson lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



Ida Gibson - August 16, 2023 at 09:33 PM



“ *Vildred V Austin lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



Vildred V Austin - August 16, 2023 at 09:26 PM

LS

“ *Howard Yates Jr., A pillar of our congregation who was committed to whatever task he was associated with at F.A.B.C., his presence will be missed. Sincerely Emmett, Laverne and the Smiley Family.*

Laverne Smiley - August 16, 2023 at 07:06 PM

WH

“ *Wanda Harrison lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



Wanda Harrison - August 16, 2023 at 06:48 PM

KB

“ We are so sorry to hear of Bro. Aytes’ transition. We loved him and he loved us. He was a kind and caring man. He would always talk so proudly about his family. His spirit will live on in each one of you. Hell hath no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. We love you Aytes family and we will lift you all up in our prayers. Love, Jim & Kathy Boles and Family.



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**Kathy Boles** - August 16, 2023 at 06:29 PM

WM

“ Warren & Annette Marks lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



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**Warren & Annette Marks** - August 16, 2023 at 06:07 PM

JB

“ James And Lisa Blakley sent a virtual gift in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



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**James and Lisa Blakley** - August 16, 2023 at 04:16 PM

DJ

“ Bro. Aytes will be missed by so many who crossed his path, he had the kindest heart and the most trustworthy disposition that made you feel so comforted. We will miss him beyond words because when you thought of Foss Avenue you thought of him and his knowledge and wisdom and his way of using he spoken word was so amazing. To my Family he was more then a person we knew we thought of him as a part of our Family and was like a God Father to us all. We will miss you our Dear Friend but the many memories over the years will live on in our hearts. We know we will see you again in paradise because you have gained your reward. The Jones-Family

Debra Jones-McConnell - August 16, 2023 at 02:59 PM

RR

“ Praying for the family

Rev. Fred Robinson - August 16, 2023 at 02:26 PM

AW

“ Anita WiseWilliams lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Anita WiseWilliams - August 16, 2023 at 11:41 AM

GS

“ Gene And Vivian Stuart lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Gene and Vivian Stuart - August 16, 2023 at 10:15 AM

EC

“ *Our Sincere Condolences to the Aytes Family. Deacon Aytes was a Praying dedicated teacher of God's Word, and lived the life he taught about. We the Foss Avenue MBC Family, will miss him greatly. I considered him a good friend and brother. May he RIH 🙏💙*



**Evangelist-Dr. Carolyn Davis & Children** - August 16, 2023 at 09:55 AM

AF

“ *ARCHIE LE FLORE lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



**ARCHIE LE FLORE** - August 16, 2023 at 09:41 AM

CT

“ *Cynthia Tipton lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



**Cynthia Tipton** - August 16, 2023 at 09:21 AM

JC

“ *James Sandra Crawford lit a candle in memory of Howard Aytes Jr.*



**James and Sandra Crawford** - August 16, 2023 at 09:05 AM

TF

“ Thank God for the gift of memory so Deacon Aytes can always be with us.



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**The Eddie McGhee Family** - August 16, 2023 at 09:03 AM

HC

“ Hazel Carter lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



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**Hazel Carter** - August 16, 2023 at 06:04 AM

AB

“ Angela Blanks lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



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**Angela Blanks** - August 16, 2023 at 02:55 AM

TA

“ To my family, with God as your guide..trusting in His Will and His Way, you'll get through this. May, your beloved father's legacy, live on..in you, on you, and through you (All.) Remembering, your dad's strength, passion, peace and his love..for his, Savior and God as, his guide..ponder on those things, and you too, will find great peace, joy, unspeakable joy!! Knowing, to be absent from, his body, he's now..in the presence, with our, Lord. May the grace of God, give you (all) comfort & the strength needed, during this time. With, hear felt sympathy..Sincerely, Re-Re and the entire, Anthony family. ❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏🙏



Teresa Anthony-Johnson - August 15, 2023 at 11:56 PM

JS

“ Jacqueline Scott lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.



Jacqueline Scott - August 15, 2023 at 09:53 PM

LH

“ Bro. Aytes was such a kind Christian man. Whenever I would see him, he would always ask, how's the boys. He never said a harsh word. Heaven gained another angel. Take your rest. Job well done.



Larry and Shirley Henderson - August 15, 2023 at 07:47 PM

NB

“ *Neysa Hodges Burns lit a candle in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Neysa Hodges Burns** - August 15, 2023 at 07:07 PM

MG

“ *Marshall Green sent a virtual gift in memory of Deacon Howard Aytes Jr.*



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**Marshall Green** - August 15, 2023 at 04:46 PM

RY

“ *Rose Young sent a virtual gift in memory of Howard Aytes*



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**Rose Young** - August 15, 2023 at 10:49 AM

SM

“ *Bro. Aytes was one of a kind. He was a prolific orator and a phenomenal writer and historian!! He put his hand to the plow and he served with dignity and honor. Well done though good and faithful servant-take your rest. Sharon Mitchell & Family*

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**SHARON MITCHELL** - August 15, 2023 at 10:29 AM