



Mr. James Eli Drake

December 15, 1933 - November 29, 2013

DRAKE, Mr. James Eli – Age 79, passed away Friday, November 29, 2013 at Hurley Medical Center. Family hour 10:30a.m. Saturday, December 7, 2013 at Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle, 930 E. Myrtle Ave., with funeral service at 11a.m. Interment Sunset Hills Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:30a.m. Saturday. Mr. Drake will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 12p.m.-8p.m Friday, with the family present from 4p.m.-8p.m. Mr. Drake will only be viewed at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made In C/O James Eli Drake to the Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter, 25200 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 100, Southfield, MI 48033.

James Eli Drake was born December 15, 1933 in DeKalb, MS, Kemper County, to John R. Donn and Vanilla Parks. He was preceded in death by both parents as well as brothers Willie Drake, Al Joe (Spare) Drake and Lamar Drake.

He attended Little Rock High School in DeKalb, MS. He accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal savior at an early age. After high school, he enlisted in the United States Army and served his country. Following his tour of duty, he settled in Flint, MI, where he met his wife Susie. They married in

1956. He was employed by Flint Chevrolet Truck and Bus for 35 years and was a member of UAW Local 598. He was a proud and faithful member of Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle where he served as the Chief of the Security Ministry until his health failed. He loved “piddling” outdoors, where his lawn and garden were his masterpieces. James loved spending time with his family—especially “them gals”. He enjoyed driving, often traveling across the country to visit his sister Essie in St. Louis, or relatives at family reunions, or his daughters in many places. James faithfully cared for his wife Susie as her health began to fail and was her rock until he became ill earlier this year. He can be best remembered for his calm demeanor, his humor, and telling everybody to “settle down”.

James leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 57 years, Susie K. Drake (Tolbert), three daughters, Carmen Katrina Drake of Flint, MI; Deirdre Candice Drake of Toronto, ON Canada; and Kendra Danielle Drake of Dallas, TX; Two grandchildren, Keiran Jaymes Drake of Dallas, TX and Kennedy Arie Drake of Flint, MI; sister, Essie Lee Marzette of Magnolia, TX; niece, Delinda Sue Stuckey (Marzette) of Magnolia, TX; very close cousins Syvira Anderson, Johnnie Mae Drake, Gloria Dean Kirkland, Ora Lee Germany, Heartha Drake and Dalmer Lee Drake—as well as others in the Slaughter, Nichols, Greer, Alexander and Hackney families; sisters in law Gladys Hill and Princella Jackson, Goddaughters Versie Roland and Reginda “Gale” Little, and their mom—his best friend Ola Clemons; his other “kids”--Michael Johnson, Gail Keith, Daphne Keith, La Tonya Keith and Pamela Lewis (Keith), and a host of other relatives and friends.

James was also preceded in death by his dear Aunt and Uncle Johnnie and Gladys Anderson, who raised him, and his best friends, Verlie and Carrie Keith.

The family would like to express special thanks to Ms. Texanner Burkette, who

James lovingly referred to as “Ms. Dukette”, Pastor Carlos D. Williams, Johnetta Prosser, Derrick Coney, Bertha Moses, Denise Lewis, The Hurley Medical Center ER team, his physicians, the Dayton Street and Marianne Drive neighbors and the entire Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle family.

Cemetery Details

River Rest Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.
Flint, MI 48504

Previous Events

Public Viewing

DEC 6. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Family Present

DEC 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Family hour

DEC 7. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle
930 E. Myrtle Ave.
Flint, MI 48505

Celebration of Life Service

DEC 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle
930 E. Myrtle Ave.
Flint, MI 48505

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. James Eli Drake*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Vicky Kilgore lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



vicky kilgore - December 06, 2013 at 05:18 PM



“ *Deidre and Family,*

We send our deepest condolences. The heart has its own memory and we hope that in your father's memory you will discover the rich legacy he has left you and find comfort. God Bless and may time speed your healing .

*With heartfelt thoughts,
Tangee and Darwin*

Tangee Gibson - December 06, 2013 at 02:09 PM



“ *Marilyn Twine lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Marilyn Twine - December 06, 2013 at 01:39 PM

CB

“ *Carmen & entire Drake Family, you have my deepest sympathy in the transition of your loved one. Give all your burdens to the Lord, He'll carry them for you. God Bless & strengthen you now, & always. Prayerfully, Cherry Brown & Family*

Cherry Brown - December 06, 2013 at 01:02 PM

TE

“ *Offer of comfort to the Drake Family during this time. Love you all. Be strong!*

-Terry B.



Terry - December 06, 2013 at 09:43 AM

TE

“ *Terry lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Terry - December 06, 2013 at 09:38 AM

OH

“ *Odessa Hearn lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Odessa Hearn - December 06, 2013 at 09:22 AM

OH

Carmen, my heart is so sadden at this moment. I just found out yesterday. I extend sincere prayers to you and your family in your time of breavement. Sis. Drake, Dee, Kendra and Carmen, grandchildren and other family members, I love you all. I pray for your strength and your faith in God that he will comfort each of you and give you strenght to endure. Believe me when I say, the grief will always be there, and it does get easier to bear. Just hold on to the memories - it really does help us to endure. May God Bless each of you.

Odessa Hearn - December 06, 2013 at 09:28 AM



“ *Sheila Boyd lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Sheila Boyd - December 05, 2013 at 08:45 PM

LS

“ *Deirdre and family,*

Please know that your family is in our thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time.

BMO Financial Group (HR Department)

Lori Smith - December 05, 2013 at 10:43 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. James Eli Drake.*



December 05, 2013 at 10:39 AM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. James Eli Drake.*



December 05, 2013 at 09:15 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to you and your family Deirdre, during this difficult time.*

Louise & Dave - December 05, 2013 at 08:41 AM



“ *The entire metropolitan SIM Ministry will surely miss our friend and fellow security member (chief) we loved him and his cool smile. Continuous prayer for the family*

cynthia turner - December 05, 2013 at 04:07 AM



“ *Drake Family you have my deepest sympathy*



Eddie Brown Family - December 05, 2013 at 12:24 AM



“ *Carmen and family I am so sorry for you lost. I am prayer for you and your family.*

michelle Brock - December 04, 2013 at 07:39 PM

CN

“ I would like to send my condolences to the family. When our love ones dies, it's very painful. But the Bible talks about doing away with this pain at Rev21:4. All's the Bible promises that we will see our love ones again at John5:28,29. May the God of comfort, comfort your family at this time.

concerned neighbor - December 04, 2013 at 07:02 PM

BM

“ You fought a good fight Chief, God saw you were tired and called you home. I'm sure going to miss you. I'm glad your family have such wonderful memories of you to last them forever. R.I.H.



Bertha Moses - December 04, 2013 at 05:32 PM

GL

“ Gina Lee lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Gina Lee - December 04, 2013 at 02:13 PM

DZ

“ Daniel Zoldos lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Daniel Zoldos - December 04, 2013 at 09:39 AM

PS

“ *Peggy Stribling lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Peggy Stribling - December 03, 2013 at 04:17 PM

SL

“ *Deirdre - Thinking of you and your family during this difficult time.*

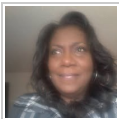
Stephanie L - December 03, 2013 at 09:32 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Antionette Green-Chapman - December 02, 2013 at 09:23 PM



In memory of Mr. Drake, my prayers are with you Carman, Dee Dee, and Kendra, God Bless you.

Antionette Green-Chapman - December 02, 2013 at 09:29 PM

GG

“ *Grace Green lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Grace Green - December 02, 2013 at 09:13 PM

JG

“ *Janice Green-Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*




Janice Green-Williams - December 02, 2013 at 09:11 PM

SO

“ *My deepest condolences to The Drake family. You're in the hearts and prayers of many who love you!*

Sophia - December 02, 2013 at 07:38 PM


Beverly
Gamble

“ *Beverly Gamble lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Beverly Gamble - December 02, 2013 at 07:04 PM

LE

“ *Lenore lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Lenore - December 02, 2013 at 07:04 PM

LB

“ *Lynne B. lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Lynne B. - December 02, 2013 at 11:38 AM

GT

“ *My sincere condolences Deirdre to you and your family at this time.*



Glen T. - December 02, 2013 at 10:56 AM

MB

“ *Marietta Bottero lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Marietta Bottero - December 02, 2013 at 09:01 AM

GL

“ *Grace Lam lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake*



Grace Lam - December 02, 2013 at 08:12 AM

NE

“ I offer to the Family, my sincere condolences. May God's love guide you during this time of sorrow and may you find comfort in his care. And please be assured that Almighty God, the "hearer of prayer" promises to "swallow up death forever and wipe the tears from all faces" (Isaiah 25:8).



Neighbor - December 02, 2013 at 06:20 AM

AP

“ Alvin & Doretha Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Alvin & Doretha Phillips - December 01, 2013 at 11:15 PM

LI

“ We would like to send our condolence to the entire Drake Family! Please know we are praying for you during this time! Love Lisa Drake-Charleston & Family . (from "Detroit")!

Lisa - December 01, 2013 at 03:17 PM

SD

“ To the entire Drake Family, words cannot express the sympathy we have for your family. We will truly miss his smile and the kindness he's always shown to the "Detroit Drakes"! We will truly keep everyone in our prayers.

Love Sharon A. Drake-Lawrence & Family

Sharon A. Drake-Lawrence - December 01, 2013 at 02:08 PM

PL

“ Pamela Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



pamela lewis - December 01, 2013 at 12:47 PM

PK

The love you lavished on us J.D., will last forever and a day... We have so many great memories to hold on to, and I'm so thankful that you were my Dad! I have so many tears, even though I know you would tell me to straighten that up now. FAMILY, I love each and everyone of you, and together we will make it!

pamela keith - December 01, 2013 at 12:57 PM

JB

“ Jacqueline Bridges lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Jacqueline Bridges - December 01, 2013 at 12:13 PM

JB

Carmen & family I'm sadden to hear of the passing of your loved one....you all are in my thoughts & prayers..!!

Jacqueline Bridges - December 01, 2013 at 12:14 PM

DS

“ Deidre Spight~Woodson lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Deidre Spight~Woodson - November 30, 2013 at 10:27 PM

DS

Carmen your "Other Family" are sad to hear of the passing of your Dad. We pray GOD'S strength and peace for you and your Family. We know that "Absent from the body Present with The LORD." Love you much, Mrs. Spight, Connie, Deidre, and Maya

Deidre Spight~Woodson - November 30, 2013 at 10:31 PM

JK

“ Jesse & Dorothy Kirksey lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Jesse & Dorothy Kirksey - November 30, 2013 at 04:42 PM

JK

Our prayers & condolences go out to the Drake family. May the Lord bless & keep you at this time and always.

Jesse / Dorothy Kirksey - November 30, 2013 at 04:45 PM

ND

“ Nickola Harvey Dent lit a candle in memory of Mr. James Eli Drake



Nickola Harvey Dent - November 30, 2013 at 04:35 PM



Praying for you and your family.To GOD be the glory.Love You

Iris J. Hare - December 01, 2013 at 04:34 PM