



## Mr. John Wesley Ringo

March 20, 1926 - August 10, 2022

RINGO, Mr. John Wesley - Age 96, passed away Wednesday, August 10, 2022 in Columbus, OH. Family hour 10:00 AM Monday, August 22, 2022 at New Community Baptist Church, 1375 Lavender Ave., with funeral services commencing at 11:00 AM. Elder Frederick Ringo, officiating. Interment Flint Memorial Park, G=9506 N. Dort Hwy., Mt. Morris, MI. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Monday. Mr. Ringo will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Sunday.

John W. Ringo was born March 27, 1926 and passed August 10, 2022. His life was filled with joy and triumph as he navigated through the Jim Crow south and established a magnificent life for himself and his family in Flint, Michigan.

Despite the hill he had to climb and the obstacles to overcome, John Wesley Ringo found a way to rise anyway. He impacted so many lives during his 96 years including, his classmates at Cobb High School in Anniston, Alabama, comrades in the Military, lifelong friends at Talladega College, colleagues at General Motors, and most importantly, his family with our mom Eugenia Sargent-Ringo.

As soon as he turned eighteen during his senior year of high school he was swept off to fight in WWII so quickly he was not able to complete his last year.

While serving in the United States Navy he was met with a hostile environment. Despite that he was able to make friends with, and positively impact the lives of his black and white counterparts during his service as a medic. He completed basic training in Great lakes, Ill, then served as a medic at the United States Naval Hospital in San Diego, California.

After being honorably discharged in New York, NY, John gravitated towards Harlem where he associated with another charismatic black man, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell. Congressman Powell appointed John to West Point and he was the first black man from the state of Alabama to earn that distinction.

His next ambition was influenced by his experience at the Naval hospital in San Diego. John aspired to be a doctor, so he went to Talladega College in Alabama, and majored in biology and minored in physics. John was a very suave dresser with a charismatic swag that made people gravitate to him. He was trained to dress respectfully at Talladega College. The men there were required to wear suits every day to class.

John was a great provider for his family. He ran the family real estate and tax service businesses on top of his job at General Motors. John was very involved in the civil rights movement, he even spent time with Dr. King.

With the mother of his first child, Mary Reed he blessed the world with Joseph Von Ringo. John married Earlene Smith and two children were born from that marriage, Derrick and Kim. John met the love and the light of his world Eugenia Sargent and the two married in the late 1950's. From their irreplaceable love they brought Karl, Fredrick, Donnel, Charles, and Norma into the world. After the loss of Eugenia he married Lorean Johnson Ringo.

He was a man with great charm, who made many connections throughout his

life's journey and built a lasting legacy with his beloved children. We thank God for the father he was, here is an example of the type of father he was.

“Every Sunday prior to attending church we had family prayer before church. Although it was our mom's rule, daddy was the enforcer, he made sure we were all there and participated by singing, but he really couldn't sing, but he was trying his best.

Although we traveled to Birmingham and his hometown, Anniston, Alabama every year we explored other places too. Daddy took us on fun, educational family trips every year. We zoomed out of Michigan with a Starcraft pop up camper tied to the back of a hog ( aka cadillac) and visited relatives in Chicago, St.Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Los Angeles with a stop at Disneyland down to San Diego and into Mexico. The next year we did the east coast, New York, Washington DC and the following year down the middle of the country. He made sure we had a geography, history and cultural lesson sponsored by him every year. He continued that tradition with his grandchildren, taking them on educational trips as well.

John taught his children lessons about community service and being a good citizen, he led by example. He served as the President of Barks Street Block Club for many years. He was also a Member of the Breneen Senior Center. There, he shared stories, broke bread and hung out with other seniors from the south side of Flint. When the center was in danger of losing funding, John helped with the plan to save the center and was very helpful in getting the 501-C distinction to keep the funding.

He was also a faithful member of the Macedonia Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan. His tenure lasted starting in the late 1950's and into the new millennium. There he served on the Senior Usher board and the District, State

and National Laymen's group, a community outreach arm of the church. Also known as Ringo, he was an athlete, in his younger days he ran track, boxed and his exposure to golf from the age of twelve made him a champion amateur golfer. Ringo loved spending time and competing in golf tournaments with the Vehicle City Golf Club.

John was preceded in death by his parents Wesley Ringo and Marie Groce - Ringo, loving wife Eugenia Ringo, brother Willie B. Ringo, his loving sister, Mary Lee Radney (William) and son Joseph Von Ringo

He leaves to cherish his memory, former wife Lorean Ringo, his children, Derrick, Kim(Stanley) both from Anniston, AL, Karl Ringo, Flint, MI, Frederick (Jacqueline) Lexington, KY, Norma (Jerome) Columbus, OH, Donell (Helena) Chesapeake, VA, and Charles, Cincinnati, OH; Nephew Carl Ringo (Belinda), Atlanta, GA Grandchildren: Trina, Amber, John Paul, Keiyada, Yolanda, Krishon, Alana, Johnathan, Victoria, Breanna, Sheena, Darnell, Lilia, Caleb

17 Great Grandchildren and 2 Great-Great Grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and dear friends.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow' I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much' Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief' Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift up your heart and share with me – God wanted me now, God set me free.

We will always carry his memory in our hearts.



# Cemetery Details

## Flint Memorial Park Cemetery

G-9506 N. Dort Hwy.  
Mt. Morris, MI 48458

# Previous Events

## Viewing

**AUG 21.** 10:00 AM - 4:00 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

**AUG 22.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

New Community Baptist Church  
1375 Lavender Ave.  
Flint, MI 48504

## Funeral Service

---

AUG **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Community Baptist Church  
1375 Lavender Ave.  
Flint, MI 48504

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. John Wesley Ringo*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Monica Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



**Monica Nelson** - September 06, 2022 at 01:19 AM



“ *Bernadette Woods Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



**Bernadette Woods Jackson** - September 01, 2022 at 01:35 PM



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



**AC Dumas** - August 25, 2022 at 10:19 PM

KR

“ *God bless...the entire family....Such a Honorable...Man 🙏*



Karen Russell-Woods - August 22, 2022 at 06:56 PM

AO

“ *My condolences to Karl and Mr. Ringo family. Sending hugs*



Alvina Owens - August 22, 2022 at 07:30 AM

DE

“ *Mr. John Wingo amazed me each time he came to visit or I visited him. He was so intelligent and had great stories to tell. When he came to Cleveland for the HBCU fair, he loved Sharing memories of Talladega and I loved hearing his stories and life experiences Cousin Wingo will be missed. Love you.*

Dessie - August 22, 2022 at 06:09 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. John Wesley Ringo.*



August 22, 2022 at 01:45 AM

AJ

“ Carl, Norma, Fred, Charles and Donnell: The love and guidance given to you by your father John Wedley lives with each of you. Be steadfast and appreciative of the work he did to ensure your capacity to succeed in life. May Cousin John REST In Peace.  
Love you, Cousin Arnett

Arnett Jones - August 20, 2022 at 01:01 PM

IN

“ Iseral And Verdell Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo



Iseral and Verdell Nelson - August 20, 2022 at 09:31 AM

PC

“ Pamela Diana Cook lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo



Pamela Diana Cook - August 20, 2022 at 09:30 AM

KB

“ Kim Buckner sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo



Kim Buckner - August 19, 2022 at 05:18 PM



“ Sadden to hear of the transition of Ringo.  
Always enjoyed playing golf with him.  
Praying for the family 🙏



Terry Gates - August 19, 2022 at 12:46 PM



“ Mary (Keels) Wilkes lit a candle in memory of  
Mr. John Wesley Ringo



Mary (Keels) Wilkes - August 19, 2022 at 09:16 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Mr. John Wesley Ringo.



August 18, 2022 at 05:03 PM



“ Charles Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr.  
John Wesley Ringo



Charles Williams - August 18, 2022 at 03:28 PM

PV

“ Our condolences to the John Ringo Family. Carl, Fred, Norma, Donnell & Charles may the Lord be with you through this grieving moment. The Lionel/Mary Verdun Family: Linda Gibson, Paula, Morris & Blake Verdun.



Paula Verdun - August 18, 2022 at 12:35 PM

CJ

“ Mr. John Ringo, always had a pleasant smile on his face, and offered encouraging words. I loved to hear him talk because he had such a distinctive voice. I had the pleasure of knowing him during the time of my membership at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.



Cherie Johnson - August 18, 2022 at 11:39 AM

NM

My husband and I met dear Mr. John W. Ringo at his dear daughter Norma (Jerome) Richards home here in Columbus, OH around 2016. We found Mr. Ringo so Amazing and Wonderful. We enjoyed a few dinners and such with him at Norma and Jerome's! A Navy Man himself, my husband Leon and I received Joy and insight from this well travelled and intelligent athletic gentleman! We even attended his Grand birthday party at Polaris Mall, and Met his grown children. I often asked Norma about her handsome and fascinating father and even witnessed him at the gym over age 90 walking on the treadmill, almost doing better than Norma and Me! Mr. Ringo, Sr. will most definitely be missed! Our condolences to his family! He was the mark of a Champion in our eyes!

Natasha and Leon McDougle - August 21, 2022 at 08:16 PM

JB

“ *JOHN BUTLER lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**JOHN BUTLER** - August 18, 2022 at 08:38 AM

KM

“ *Kimit J Murphy lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Kimit J Murphy** - August 18, 2022 at 12:44 AM

WP

“ *Wildeane Payne sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Wildeane Payne** - August 17, 2022 at 06:23 PM

MT

“ *Ms.Cleopatra Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Ms.Cleopatra Thompson** - August 17, 2022 at 05:08 PM

DB

“ *Dr. Avon, Paula, Jacqueline Burns lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



-----  
**Dr. Avon, Paula, Jacqueline Burns** - August 17, 2022 at 05:00 PM

KR

*Thank you Avon, Paula and Jacqueline for your thoughtfulness!*

-----  
**Karl Ringo** - August 18, 2022 at 03:36 PM

KW

“ *Kathy White lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



-----  
**kathy white** - August 17, 2022 at 01:55 PM

BS

“ *My condolences to the family in the loss of your dear loved one. Mr. Ringo was on the senior usher board @ Macedonia with my mom for many years.*

-----  
**Benita Smith** - August 17, 2022 at 01:48 PM

SB

“ *My condolences and prayers to Mr. Ringo's loved ones.*



-----  
**Stacy Brown** - August 17, 2022 at 01:05 PM

RH

“ Our Heart Filled Condolences, Love And Prayers Are Sent Out To You Carl, Fred And Norma.  
May God Bless You All With Strength, Comfort And Peace.  
Rest Peacefully In Heaven  
Mr. John Wesley Ringo 🕊️🙏💕



Ruthi Hill & Family

---

Ruthi Hill - August 17, 2022 at 12:01 PM

KR

Thank you Ruthi for your thoughtfulness

---

Karl Ringo - August 18, 2022 at 03:33 PM

TW

“ Tamekila Wansley lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo



---

Tamekila Wansley - August 17, 2022 at 11:52 AM

WH

“ Wanda Harrison lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo



---

Wanda Harrison - August 17, 2022 at 11:35 AM

LM

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ringo sending my condolences and prayers to the family.*  
*Linda Mayfield*



Linda Mayfield - August 17, 2022 at 09:35 AM

VB

“ *My condolences and prayers to Karl, Norma and Ringo family 🙏*



Vickie Broome - August 17, 2022 at 02:49 AM

QS

“ *A great man indeed, my Elder Cousin John always showed up in support of me and my family at the most important times in my life with words of wisdom, kindness and love. Prayers and unconditional love to my family as we mourn the death of a great patriarch in our family. You will truly be missed! Your presence will forever live on in spirit.*



Quanice Shumpert - August 16, 2022 at 09:03 PM

AB

“ *Norma, I'm so sorry for your loss. You have my sincere condolences.💕*

Angela R. (Clarke) Boykin - August 16, 2022 at 08:34 PM

JL

“ *Jill Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Jill Lewis** - August 16, 2022 at 07:17 AM

PW

“ *Pam Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Pam Williams** - August 16, 2022 at 05:02 AM

AJ

“ *Abby Lorean Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Abby Lorean Johnson** - August 15, 2022 at 07:21 PM

LH

“ *Lorean Holmes lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Wesley Ringo*



---

**Lorean Holmes** - August 15, 2022 at 07:20 PM

CH

“ *Hartfield family. Will Pray for the Ringo family.  
Norma u are a bless daughter. God will give u a  
Victory. Be bless*



---

**Cheryl Hartfield** - August 15, 2022 at 05:37 PM