



Mr. Percy C. Richards

September 26, 1935 - January 13, 2018

RICHARDS, Mr. Percy C. - Age 82, passed away Saturday, January 13, 2018 at his residence. Family hour 10:00 AM Monday, January 22, 2018 at Grace Cathedral Community Church, 1709 Nebraska Ave., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM Pastor Kelly Richards, Host Pastor, Min. Marlyn Lowe officiating. Interment Sunset Hills Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Monday. Mr. Richards 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 - 6:00 PM Sunday.

On the morning of January 13, 2018, Mr. Percy Charles Richards, Jr. went home to be with the Lord. He was born in rural Utica, Mississippi on September 26, 1935. His parents P.C. and Susie Richards were farmers who picked cotton for a living. Seeking better financial and social opportunities, Percy's family migrated to Muskegon, Michigan. Growing up the eldest of eight children, Percy had many responsibilities. Early on, he developed a strong work ethic. Following the untimely death of his mother, he helped to raise his younger siblings. As a teenager in Muskegon, he worked on the Erickson's Family celery farm. With his earnings he helped support his family. Percy attended the Muskegon Heights Schools, where he graduated from Muskegon Heights High School. Throughout his academic years in Muskegon he maintained perfect attendance. While at Muskegon Heights High School, he excelled participating in school sports. During the 1953 and 1954 seasons

he was a champion basketball player and a winning high jumper on the track team. Percy credits his mother with instilling a passion for education and learning. She taught him that education “was the way to make it in life”. Following high school graduation, Percy moved to Flint, Michigan to create a better life for his family. With the hope of obtaining a job at General Motors, Percy stood in a long line just to get an application. However, applications were no longer being given out before getting to him. When told to come back tomorrow, Percy didn’t want to miss the opportunity. He slept on the steps outside, so he could be first in line. With ambition and determination, he was hired as an assembly worker. He set a goal to become a skilled trade employee. Entering the skilled trades training program, he completed his coursework at Mott Community College. Percy apprenticed as a Millwright where he enjoyed the classification of Millwright. Aspiring to become a Skilled Trades Supervisor, he took additional courses and in-service training. “Quick on his feet,” he advanced to becoming a Millwright Supervisor. After maintaining perfect attendance and receiving numerous awards for his professional accomplishments, Percy retired as a Skilled Trades Maintenance Supervisor with 50 years of employment at General Motors. Mr. Richards was a founding member and an elder of Grace Cathedral Community Church of Flint. He loved his church family. In 2013, the church congregation honored him. In appreciation of his service, the church’s fellowship hall bears his name. His son, Pastor Kelly Richards serves as the Senior Pastor along with his wife, First Lady Andrea Richards. Mr. Richards was actively involved in church activities and faithful as an enthusiastic choir member. In 2007, Mr. Richards was honored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, who named him as one of the Legendary Michigan High School Basketball Players. Percy was a member of Eureka Lodge No. 16 Free and Accepted Masons-Prince Hall Affiliation where he served as Worshipful Master in 1975. In 2015, he was inducted in the Muskegon Heights Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Percy C. Richards, Jr. leaves to cherish his memory: his beloved wife of

41 years, Cynthia J. Richards; a blended family: 4 sons, Malcus (Pat) Richards, of Johns Creek, GA, Brian Richards of Ypsilanti, MI, Pastor Kelly (Andrea) Richards of Muskegon, MI and Percy C. Richards, III of Detroit, MI; 4 daughters, Eshe Faizah of Atlanta, GA, Kym (Anthony) Kelley of Antioch, CA, Lynette McKinney of Flint and Dana (Charles Jr.) Banks of Ann Arbor, MI; 21 grandchildren, Malcus II, Mario and Maya Richards, Dr. Nikisha Q. Richards, Kel and Aisha Richards, Jabri Faizah, Khari, Khyiah, and Nia Riviears; Juanita, Bakiya, Imani Taylor, Carl (Gianna) Taylor, Jr. and Angela (Ronald) Gant, Camryn, Alanah, Olivia and Troy Marie Banks, Amir Richards and Iz'Rell Jarrett; 6 great-grandchildren, Mario Jr. and Malachi Richards, Kamari Peterson; La'Nye Taylor, Khalie Gant and Donald Fisher IV; 4 sisters, Evelyn Smith of Flint, Mattie Fox of Cleveland, OH; Betty (David) Montgomery of Grand Rapids, MI; Alma (John) Pratt of Flint and Shirley (Robert) Madison of Norton Shores, MI; 2 brothers, Curie (Mary) Richards of Flint and Albert Richards of Muskegon, MI.

Percy was well-loved, respected and had a special relationship with everyone he encountered; especially his many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was known for giving loved ones special "pet" names. There is also a host of nieces including special nieces, Sabrina Harris, Sondrian Pratt RN, Myra Houston, Faith Bodnar and Roxie (Lionel) Lee; a host of nephews including special nephews, the Smith Brothers-Orlando, Reginald, Kelvin, Kenneth, and Darwin Sr., David Montgomery Jr., Tremelle Richards, Bradford and Doron Pratt; great nephew, Darwin Smith, Jr.; a host of other relatives and friends including special friends, Calvin and Stella Wright, Linda Harris, Helen Turner, Mike and Mariya Luna.

Mr. Richards was preceded in death by his parents; Percy C. Richards, Sr. and Susie Ross Richards and his first wife, Helen A. Richards.

The family would like to express special thanks to granddaughters, Imani Taylor, grandson, Kel Richards, Jr., Grace Cathedral Community Church family, Hurley Medical Center 5th Floor ICU Nurses, Aides and Staff.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Hills Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.
Flint, MI 48504

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JAN **21**. 10:00 AM - 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

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

Grace Cathedral Community Church
1709 Nebraska Ave.
Flint, MI 48506
(810) 422-1015

Service

JAN 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace Cathedral Community Church
1709 Nebraska Ave.
Flint, MI 48506
(810) 422-1015

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Percy C. Richards*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *All my love*



Jabri Lewis-Faizah - April 15, 2020 at 01:42 AM



“ *I keep checking this page because I still can't believe you are gone, Daddy. I see your picture but don't really understand.*



Dana M Banks - January 30, 2018 at 08:43 PM



“ *Stephanie Robb sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Stephanie Robb - January 23, 2018 at 07:31 AM

DF

“ *Delores Keith And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Delores Keith and family - January 22, 2018 at 02:48 PM

MB

“ *Sending prayers of comfort to the Richards Family ...*



Melita Bowman-Murphy - January 22, 2018 at 10:03 AM

AR

“ *Love and more love to our family* ❤️❤️❤️

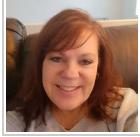
Andrea Richards - January 21, 2018 at 10:30 PM

AR

“ *Andrea Richards lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Andrea Richards - January 21, 2018 at 10:26 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Kelly Richards and your family. We are very sorry for your loss!*
Sincerely, Trenton and Andrea Smiley



Andrea Smiley - January 21, 2018 at 09:37 PM

LP

“ *L & B Purifoy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



L & B Purifoy - January 21, 2018 at 05:33 PM

AT

“ *PC was a very smart man, he enlighten our family at the last family reunion in flint with so much history ,he will be missed.RIP cousin.*

Adriane Elaine Turner - January 21, 2018 at 04:28 PM

PB

“ *My Deepest and Heartfelt sympathy Kim, Brian & Family. RIP Uncle Plute.*

Pamela Buck - January 21, 2018 at 08:09 AM

DS

“ Kym and Family o would like to extend my deepest sympathy. GOD said HE would never leave or forsake us. May the fond memories you have of you Dad be etched on your heart. GODspeed. Love you
.....Deidre Spight~Woodson



Deidre Spight~Woodson - January 21, 2018 at 12:28 AM

DB

“ Sorry about the lost of your love one who will truly be missed, he was full of jokes ,he was one of my favorite patients. Love and Prayer Denise

Denise Belle - January 20, 2018 at 07:22 PM

SJ

“ Shirley Jones lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Shirley Jones - January 20, 2018 at 03:42 PM

WS

“ WYVONNE SKINNER sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



WYVONNE SKINNER - January 20, 2018 at 10:57 AM

AD

“ We send our love and prayers to Aunt Cynthia and the children of uncle Plute. May god strengthen you all at this time. Love Andrew & Adrian Duke

Andrew & Adrian Duke - January 20, 2018 at 09:31 AM



“ Melanie Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Melanie Smith - January 19, 2018 at 09:27 PM

SL

“ The Lomax family extend our condolences and prayers to the Richards family. My father (Willie) and I had the pleasure of working with Percy at Flint Metal Fabricating Plant, now Flint Stamping. He had a way of telling a story and then that laugh, you couldn't do anything but smile. May God comfort each of you in your time of sorrow.

Sheila Lomax - January 19, 2018 at 04:14 PM

FM

“ Flint Metal Center
RPIH Mr. Richards 🌹



FMC - January 19, 2018 at 10:28 AM



“ *SaBrina Richards-Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



SaBrina Richards-Harris - January 19, 2018 at 08:21 AM



“ *To the family of my dear Uncle Percy Richards (plute), as ONE of your favorite nieces, I'm gonna miss you dearly. Loved when you referred to my kids as eyes, & ears because they still remember that to this day. You were the head of the family for years, knew all the history, told all the stories to make sure we all understood from where we came. Rest in peace my dear uncle, you will really be missed and will never be replaced.*

*Roxie (Smith), Lionel Sr., Lionel Jr (eyes), Chevelle (ears), & LaToya Lee
Pemberton, NJ*

Lionel Lee - January 18, 2018 at 10:35 PM



“ *Regina Mitchner-Sayles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Regina Mitchner-Sayles - January 18, 2018 at 09:59 PM

GJ

“ Gloria Jackson- Jenkins sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Gloria Jackson- Jenkins - January 18, 2018 at 06:55 PM

Yvette
Harris-
Wallace

“ Wallace Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Yvette Harris-Wallace - January 18, 2018 at 05:30 PM

LT

“ Sorry for your loss..love much Tonya Turner and family



Latonya turner - January 18, 2018 at 04:17 PM

FA

“ Love You Always Uncle Plute❤️



Faith, MaKhya & Alec - January 18, 2018 at 04:16 PM

RB

“ *Rosa Burnett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Rosa Burnett - January 18, 2018 at 04:03 PM

MF

“ *Myles Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Myles Family - January 18, 2018 at 02:39 PM

AT

“ *Ardelia Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Ardelia Taylor - January 18, 2018 at 02:38 PM

KK

“Daddy, I will always love and miss you. Just know that you will never be forgotten and in our hearts forever. You've left a strong legacy of Fire Eaters that will carry on in your honor. Until we meet again we'll continue to make you proud and I'll continue to hear you say "keep on living"



Kym Kelley - January 18, 2018 at 01:56 PM

CL

“Cynthia Lumsey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Cynthia Lumsey - January 18, 2018 at 01:54 PM

MH

“Min. Mary Haney lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Min. Mary Haney - January 18, 2018 at 01:41 PM

FA

“ Love you Always Uncle Plute❤️



Faith, MaKhya & Alec - January 18, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ Wanda Baker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Wanda Baker - January 16, 2018 at 07:02 PM

CH

“ Calvin And Pamela Hightower lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards



Calvin and Pamela Hightower - January 16, 2018 at 02:46 PM

CA

“ Please accept our condolence, death does hurt, but not forever, pray for strength at this time of sorry, God can and will comfort the family .

concern for all - January 16, 2018 at 02:32 PM

TJ

“ *Tanya Jefferson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Tanya Jefferson - January 16, 2018 at 10:00 AM

DA

“ *Doris Allen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Doris Allen - January 16, 2018 at 09:07 AM

UC

“ *UAW Local 659 Black History Committee lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



UAW Local 659 Black History Committee - January 16, 2018 at 08:44 AM

CA

“ *Our thoughts are with the family for the loss of your Love one. it doesn't matter how long we have together, when death comes it hurt, pray for strength and courage to go on it can bring comfort at the time like this.*

concern for all - January 15, 2018 at 01:20 PM

KR

“ *Kermit & Genell (Crain) Reeves lit a candle in memory of Mr. Percy C. Richards*



Kermit & Genell (Crain) Reeves - January 15, 2018 at 01:14 PM