



## Purvis Givens

December 20, 1923 - February 3, 2010

GIVENS, Dr. Purvis - Age 86, passed away Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at his residence. Family hour 10 a.m. Monday, February 8, 2010 at Jackson Memorial C.O.G.I.C., G-3155 W. Carpenter Rd., with funeral service commencing at 11 a.m., Bishop Herbert J. Williams officiating. Interment River Rest Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10 a.m. Monday. Dr. Givens will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sunday. Afterwhich, Dr. Givens will be taken to Prayer Garden C.O.G.I.C., 3918 Fleming Rd. for Memorial Service from 5-8PM. Dr. Purvis Givens, affectionately known as Brown was born December 20, 1923 in Morton, Mississippi to Lynwood and Ada Givens. He was the third of five children. As a youngster, he moved with his family to Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Givens served our country from March 28, 1944 until February 9, 1946 where he was Honorably Discharged from the United States Navy. While serving in the Navy, he was awarded the American Theatre Campaign Ribbon, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Ribbon and the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon. While on a visit to Texas, Dr. Givens was introduced by his Aunt Fran to a beautiful yellow rose by the name of Ruth H. Smith. They were united in Holy Matrimony on June 22, 1947 in Beaumont, Texas. After returning back to Jackson, Mississippi, Dr. Givens and his wife visited California. While visiting in California, they attended a church and Dr. Givens gave God his heart in 1948. Dr. Givens and family relocated to Flint,

Michigan from Jackson, Mississippi in 1953. He was employed by Buick Motor, a division of General Motors, where he worked in the Foundry and later transferred to Plant 36 working on the machine floor, where he retired in 1985 after 32 years of service and was a member of UAW Local #599. When Dr. Givens and family moved to Flint, they were members of St. John Street Church Of God In Christ located on State Street under the leadership of Elder Smiles. Later they united with New Jerusalem Church Of God In Christ under the leadership of Elder H. M. Badon until he founded his church – Prayer Garden Church Of God In Christ on Palm Sunday in 1966. The church was located at 4902 Horton Avenue. Many souls were saved and bodies healed. God's healing power was evident by the display of crutches, canes, hearing aids and eyeglasses on the wall. The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved, giving Dr. Givens the vision to seek a larger edifice. In December 1979, Prayer Garden relocated to its present location at 3918 Fleming Road. Dr. Givens served as the District Superintendent of District Number 17. In 1985, Dr. Givens received his Doctorate of Divinity Degree from Bishop Goldsberg of Chicago, Illinois. He faithfully and diligently served as the pastor of Prayer Garden Church Of God In Christ for 20 years before retiring in 1986 in which he passed the baton to his son, Supt. Jerry L. Givens to continue the work. Although retired, Dr. Givens remained faithful to the ministry. Dr. Givens was a shining example of true holiness. He exemplified a saved, sanctified and consecrated life in Christ Jesus. Dr. Givens fought a good fight, he finished his course, he kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for Dr. Givens a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give him at that day, and not to him only, but unto all them also that love His appearing. He leaves to cherish his memory: 4 daughters: Phyllis (Derick) Jones, Beverly (Maurice) Davis, Ruth Ann Givens and Deborah Robinson all of Flint; 5 sons: Purvis Givens, Jr. of Jackson, MS, Deacon Adam (Marilyn) Givens of Flint, James (Marie) Givens – Pastor of River of Life Ministries of Carlsbad, CA, Supt. Jerry L. (Cherrylean) Givens of Grand Blanc, MI and Terry Don Givens, Sr. of Flint; special and

devoted friend: Francine Williams; 44 grandchildren; 72 great-grandchildren; sister, Willie Pearl Childress; brother, Robert (Velma) Givens all of Jackson, MS; aunt, Mary Givens-Williams of Boyd, MD; uncle, R. J. Givens of Gary, IN; sister-in-law, Elise Givens of Chicago, IL; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and dear friends including the Prayer Garden Church Family and many, many more. Dr. Givens was preceded in death by his wife, Mother Ruth H. Givens; parents, Lynwood and Ada Givens; sister, Ardean Davis; brother, Nicodemus Givens; aunts, Catherine McLemore, Annie Baskin and Gladys Pratt; uncles, Malcolm and Jack Givens and wife "Honey". The family would like to express a special thanks to Julie Corrion, Tamara Dummond Peterson, Sharon, Ann (5th floor nurses), Dwayne, Glenda (6th floor nurse and nurses aide), Debbie Hargrave, Carolyn Jones, Keith Harris (8th floor nurses and nurses aide), Becky (9th floor nurse), Janet Popp (Social Worker) all of McLaren Regional Medical Center, Dr. Jawahar Tummala, M.D., Dr. Joseph Varghese, M.D., and Dr. Rao Ven Kat, M.D., Arthur Tanyi of McLaren Home Medical Supplies and Lonna Shinn, R.N. of McLaren Visiting Nurses and Hospice.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Purvis Givens*

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October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *We the Johnson would like to express deepest condolence to the Givens Family. We have always loved and will be grateful for the wonderful things that Dr. Givens have taught us and our family. We can both say that he will be missed, but never forgotten.*

*Love you and stay encouraged God do not make any mistakes.*

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**Elder J.B & Missy. Betty Johnson** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Pastor Jerry and the entire Givens Family: I have known all of you throughout the years through school and the C.O.G.I.C. Take comfort knowing that your father has gone from labor to reward. We rejoice knowing that he has been welcomed into the arms of his savior and now abides in eternal peace with the Lord. May all of the love and wisdom that Dr. Givens imparted to you, sustain you and warm your hearts and minds throughout this difficult time. I am praying for your strength in the Lord.*

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**Carol Taylor Johnson** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GOES OUT TO THE GIVEN'S FAMILY DURING YOUR TIME OF SORROW.OUR FAMILY GREW UP IN PRAYER GARDEN. SO WE WILL KEEP THE ENTIRE FAMILY IN PRAYER.

"GOD WILL ALWAYS BE THERE JUST CALL ON HIM HE WILL ANSWER"

" GOD BLESS THE ENTIRE GIVEN'S FAMILY"

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February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers are with the Givens family. May God continue to bless each and everyone one of you.

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**Simone Reed** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ TO THE GIVENS FAMILY..ALL OF MY LIFE THE GIVENS FAMILY HAS BEEN AN INSPIRATION TO ME! MAY YOU ALL BE TRULY BLESSED AND COMFORTED AS DR. PURVIS GIVENS MAKE HIS TRANSITION TO BE WITH THE LORD..MISSY GLORIA JORDAN-THOMPSON,PRES. HOSPITALITY/SUPT.QUINTIN L.MARSHALL SR,PASTOR, NEW LIFE COGIC

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**GLORIA JORDAN-THOMPSON** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ All day I dream, I dream your with me, all day I dream, I dream, I'm sailing away....I love you granddad

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**Adrian White Sr.** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ *I'm sending my love to you and your family for your loss*

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**Cindy Johnstone** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ *I would like to send my sincer condolence to the Givens family. Also, your mother and father made a profound impression on my life as a young girl. We were your neighbors and we didn't have much but your mother and father was a light of christianty for me. I looked forward to seeing them, even though I was only 4 yrs old. I remember your whole family and for one of these reasons, I can stand for Jesus Christ. Now I am a light for others. So for these reason I Thank your family. Sincerely*

*Norma J Ross-Abbott*

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**Norma J (Ross) Abbott** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *Dear Jerry*  
*I did not find out until yesterday about the transition of your Father. As he now sits at the side of Jesus and our Father his spirit still remains as a part of the body of Christ. The physical prescence is little compared to the eternal prescen and memories you and your family will have. I know the Holy Spirit is comforting you and through all your strength will be increased. Parying and loving you and your family during this time. Your Sister and Friend in Christ.*

*Dwight and Debra Moore-Knight*  
*aqD8RM*

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**Debra L. Moore and Family** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU ARE IN MY PRAYERS AND I LOVE YOU ALL.

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**Annette [TUTTIE] Carlisle** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ We love and pray for our extened family. May God bless and keep us all. Dad will truly be missed. Gone but never forgotton, our father, friend and leader. HAAAAYYYYAAAA!

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**The Warthon-Hall Family** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Givens family I will always remember your kind words and prayers for my family sincerely art tanyi (oxygen man)and family.

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**arthur tanyi** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ To Eld. Jerry, Beverly, Tamara and the Givens Family. My heart goes out to you during this time of transition. Although we do not mourn like those without hope. Dr. Givens was a wonderful man, who lived the life many people only talked about. I had the great priviledge of meeting Dr. Givens, through my sister Kimberly Bohanon, she to loved him and refered to him as DAD. He was a true prayer warrior, who have interceded for many, including myself. We have not losted him because we know where to find him, and if we live the life we've been thought we will see Dr. Givens again. Gain comfort in knowing he can now joining his lovely Rose, Mother Givens. He's now at peace. I'm Praying for your strength.

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**Syble Waters-Smith** - February 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM