



Mr. Van Earl French Sr.

November 16, 1952 - January 13, 2018

FRENCH, Mr. Van Earl Sr., - Age 65, passed away Saturday, January 13, 2018 at McLaren-Flint. Family hour 10:00 AM Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at First Union Baptist Church, 7004 Fleming Rd., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM Pastor Archie Powell Host Pastor. Interment Flint Memorial Park, G-9506 N. Dort Hwy., Mt. Morris, MI. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Tuesday. Mr. French will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM Monday with the family present from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM to receive friends.

Mr. Van Earl French Sr., "Frenchy," was born on November 16, 1952 in Rison, Arkansas. He was the eighth child born to the union of Ervin and Patsy (Craig) French. Van was called home to be with the Lord on January 13, 2018 at McLaren Regional Medical Center in Flint, Michigan.

Mr. French attended Rison High School, where he was a graduate of the "Class of 1970" and a member of the football and basketball teams. He was united in Holy Matrimony to Barbara and the couple made their home in Flint and Grand Blanc, MI. They were happily married for over 39 years.

Mr. French was employed at General Motors for 36 years. He was a member of several U.A.W. locals. Around the shop "Frenchy" was well-known and his

jokes and ability to make even the quietest person talk was certainly missed upon his retirement. Mr. French continued his work in service to the Lord as a member of the Dozier Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, where he was a past member of the Trustee Board and Male Chorus. Don't let it ever be said that you caught Mr. French "slipping." From his inspection-ready cars to his crisp hats and killer shoes, Mr. French was sharp with a capital "S" wherever he went. He often remarked to his family and friends that he had "been there and done that" while everybody else was still asleep. Mr. French loved to travel and was a true road warrior. It was nothing for him to say, "Barbara, let's go," and be headed somewhere South before the sun arose the next day. He catered to and loved his family dearly; often bringing his granddaughter lunch to school when she conveniently "forgot it" and telling everyone about his son's bakery in Philadelphia. We also cannot forget his loyalty to all the green teams, including the Michigan State Spartans and his favorite, The Boston Celtics. Mr. French and his brother E.C. would often dissect and discuss each ball game after it occurred. He loved to shoot the breeze with strangers and friends alike; leaving many laughs and epic stories that became more elaborate with each re-telling. His outgoing, lively, and "straight-shooter" personality will truly be missed.

Mr. Van Earl French Sr., "Frenchy," leaves to cherish his memory: loving and devoted wife, Barbara French; son, Van Earl French Jr. of Philadelphia, PA; daughter, Tamika French; granddaughter, Angela French, both of Lansing, MI; brother, Ervin C. French of Miami, FL; sisters, Estella Gould, Gladys (Victor) Powell, and Francisetta French, all of Flint; sisters-in-law, Vernell French of Houston, TX, Ophia French of Flint, Linda (Leroy) Perkins and Aileen (David) Louis, all of Grand Blanc, MI and Shirley Credit of Muskegon, MI; brother-in-law, Alfonzo Sr. (Kimberly) Credit of Waterford, MI; and a host of nieces, nephews, friends and other relatives.

Mr. French was preceded in death by his parents, Ervin and Patsy French;

brothers, Charlie B. French and Robert John "RJ" French; sister, Argie Lee Williams; father and mother-in-law, Chester and Occie Credit; nephews, Stanley Johnson, Charlie French Jr., Robert French Jr., Rudy Johnson and Darnell Gould; brothers-in-law, James Credit, Roy Gould and Joe Williams.

Cemetery Details

Flint Memorial Park Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JAN 22. 12:00 PM - 8:00 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 Present

JAN 22. 4:00 PM - 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 **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Union Baptist Church
7004 Fleming Rd.
Flint, MI 48505

Service

JAN **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Union Baptist Church
7004 Fleming Rd.
Flint, MI 48505

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Phyllis McCree lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Phyllis McCree - January 27, 2018 at 04:00 PM



“ *I didn't know him but I know Earl Jr. They say the Apple don't fall far from the tree. Earl Sr. Created a wonderful man of God Earl Jr. You look just like your father. Earl Sr. Is at rest now. Praying for entire family.*



La Ronda Moore - January 26, 2018 at 07:11 AM



“ *Eire French (his Niece) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Eire French (his niece) - January 24, 2018 at 11:58 AM

CV

“ *Carol VanBuren lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Carol VanBuren - January 24, 2018 at 09:42 AM

MB

“ *Praying that the Lord will bless and comfort you and family at this time.*

Minnie Blake



Minnie Blake - January 23, 2018 at 10:41 PM

DJ

“ *To my dearest friend Barbara, Tamika & Angela. My heart goes out to you all and the French family. I am going to miss Van SO, SO, SO much. I was looking forward to a visit from them this year when the weather broke. But the Lord wanted him home with him Barb, I know this is a very difficult time for you and is difficult for me. I love you and You know I am here for you. May GOD give all you need to sustain through this difficult. time.*



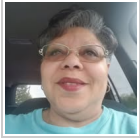
*Deborah Johnson, Cecil Washington & Family
Shreveport, Louisiana*

Deborah Johnson - January 23, 2018 at 02:18 AM

LC

“ So very sorry for your loss. Please accept my sincere condolences. Van was a friend, I have known most of our lives. May God comfort you at this time.

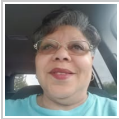
Ltanya Clegg - January 23, 2018 at 02:16 AM



“ Esther Gentry-Thompson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Esther Gentry-Thompson - January 22, 2018 at 06:50 PM



It was a pleasure knowing Frenchy. We drove fork truck together at FES. RIP.

Esther Gentry-Thompson - January 22, 2018 at 06:51 PM

FJ

“ Farrah Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Farrah Johnson - January 22, 2018 at 02:18 PM

AW

“ We love you and will miss you so much uncle Van Rest easy, see you when I get there your niece Argie Nee Nee Williams

Argie Williams - January 22, 2018 at 12:40 PM

AW

“ Argie Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Argie Williams - January 22, 2018 at 12:39 PM

BB

“ Out prayers are with Mrs Barbara and The French family durithe loss of your loved one. Please know that our prayers are for all of you during this difficult time. Also know that we will continue to keep you in our thoughts and prayers. May God continue to comfort your hearts during your time of mourning. Betty Burgess and family of Hartford Connecticut.

Betty Burgess - January 22, 2018 at 12:34 PM



“ My sincere and heartfelt condolences to the entire family of Mr Van Earl French. We love you all and are praying for you. Beverly Simpson and Cerese Simpson Pennington.

Cerese Simpson Pennington - January 21, 2018 at 07:54 PM

WH

“ Wanda Harrison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Wanda Harrison - January 21, 2018 at 03:26 PM

SJ

“ To The FRENCH FAM':
It is with deep sadness to know our loved one has passed on. I want you to know, you have my deepest condolence & I will keep you in my prayers. He was TRULY A BLESSED MAN of GOD: BELOVED Son, brother, father, uncle, husband,....& FRIEND!
MY PRAYERS ARE w/YOU & FOR YOU!



Sharon J. - January 21, 2018 at 10:03 AM

SR

“ *Sharena Roland lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Sharena Roland - January 20, 2018 at 03:22 AM

FG

“ To Barbara, Tamika, granddaughter, and other family members of the French Family:
We send our deepest sympathy and will keep you all in our thoughts and .prayers. I will always remember your family from Barbara Drive. My late Mother thought the world of your family. Van was always saying or doing something to keep us laughing. He was a good neighbor and we really missed you when you moved. May God's love and eternal promise be with you, help you, comfort, strengthen and bless you.



Ricky Gist and family (Carolyn, Erika, and April)

Fredricka "Ricky" Gist - January 19, 2018 at 02:14 PM

PB

“ Sincerest condolences to the family of Van French. It is never easy to say goodbye to the people we love but the Lord promised that He would send a comforter so we will never have to be alone. Treasure the memories that were created and trust that you will see each other again.

Phillip and Otissteen Blair-Brown

Phillip Brown - January 19, 2018 at 02:03 PM

MT

“ My condolences to the family. No one is ever totally prepared for the death of a loved one. The Bible teaches that there is going to be a resurrection and those who are dead will be brought to life.-John 11:25

M. Tuffy - January 19, 2018 at 05:44 AM

WI

“ I have a lot of happy memories with Van and Barbara! He will truly be missed.



Wanda Irvine - January 18, 2018 at 08:24 PM

LT

“ Larry Tubb lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Larry Tubb - January 18, 2018 at 05:38 PM

LV

To van family it was a to have known to see you at home with the ones you loved in rision much love 💕💕💕

lettie vreford-rodders - January 18, 2018 at 10:47 PM

RH

“ *Good Brother.*

Richard Hatcher - January 18, 2018 at 08:29 AM

SM

“ *Sibyl McQuiter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Sibyl McQuiter - January 17, 2018 at 10:16 PM

SP

“ *Sandra Payne sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Sandra Payne - January 17, 2018 at 03:57 PM

RM

“ *Ronald Miller lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Ronald Miller - January 17, 2018 at 02:44 PM

DC

*You all always been really nice to me and are always in my Prayers.
Love you much 🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹🌹*

Doreen Crosby - January 17, 2018 at 06:43 PM

CR

“ To the entire families of Mr. French; we the Randolph and Witcher families send out our deepest condolences as you transition during this time. Mr. French left a lasting impression of humor on me to the point I had to walk out of the room so he didnt see me pass all the way out! lolololololo! bwaaaahhhh! To Mrs. Barbara looking like my aunt Erma smooches and big hugs! Thank you so much for allowing me to serve your family.

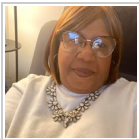


Carolyn Randolph-Witcher - January 17, 2018 at 09:42 AM

BM

“ TO the family you all have my deepest sympathy @ condolence may GOD strengthen you all, you are in our prayers. Brenda Holmes Mays Rison, AR

Brenda Holmes Mays - January 16, 2018 at 09:58 PM



“ With sincere condolence to the French Family in the loss of your loved one.



ReGina Adams - January 16, 2018 at 07:58 PM

CC

“ Cynthia Crain lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Cynthia Crain - January 16, 2018 at 07:42 PM

CF

“ Cynthia Crain & Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Cynthia Crain & Family - January 16, 2018 at 07:35 PM

BD

“ Brenda Dilworth lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



Brenda Dilworth - January 16, 2018 at 03:50 PM

GC

“ Sending my condolences to the family of Mrs. Estella Gool. For the lord holds you close in your hour of your love one transition. God is near to the broken hearted, and he him self gives you his peace 🙏



gail cooper - January 16, 2018 at 02:01 PM

ES

“ *Eddie & Shirlene Simmons lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Eddie & Shirlene Simmons - January 16, 2018 at 01:42 PM

AM

“ *Annette Marks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.*



Annette Marks - January 15, 2018 at 06:28 PM

GB

“ *To Barbara and family, Greg and I are so sorry to hear about the passing of your dear husband. Please except our sincere condolences to you and your family. Please except our sincere condolences to you and your family.*



Greg and Michelle Brock

Greg and Michelle Brock - January 15, 2018 at 06:09 PM

JB

“ My deepest condolences go out to the family of Mr. Van French, "May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our father who loved us and gave everlasting comfort and good hope by means of undeserved kindness comfort your hearts and make you firm". (2 Thessalonians 2:16,17)

J. Brown - January 15, 2018 at 02:10 PM

KR

“ Kermit & Genell (Crain) Reeves lit a candle in memory of Mr. Van Earl French Sr.



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