



Mr. William L. Jones Jr.

September 15, 1932 - March 15, 2025

JONES, Mr. William L. Jr. - Age 92, passed away Saturday, March 15, 2025, at Lockwood Manor. Family hour 11:30 AM Thursday, March 27, 2025, at Foss Avenue Baptist Church, 1159 E. Foss Ave., with funeral service commencing at 12:00 PM Pastor Brian Frelix, officiating. Interment Sunset Hills Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 11:30 AM Thursday. Mr. Jones 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 - 6:00 PM Wednesday with family present from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM to receive friends. William Louis Mack Jones III departed this life and received his heavenly reward on Saturday, March 15, 2025. William, affectionately known as "Junior" to many, was born on Thursday, September 15, 1932, to the union of William Louis Mack Jones II and Lula B. Wingard in Redfield, Arkansas—a small logging town southeast of Little Rock. His beloved wife of 62 years, Delois Jones, preceded him in death. William honorably served in the Korean War from 1953 to 1955. While stationed on Army bases, he showcased his baseball talent by playing on Army baseball farm teams. His exceptional skill caught the attention of an Army officer whose father was a scout for the Philadelphia Phillies. Following his service, William was offered a tryout with the Phillies, but he declined—a decision he later regretted—choosing instead to return to Redfield to work on the family farm and in their sawmill business. Despite this choice, William's love for baseball never wavered. He traveled throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas playing the

game he cherished, competing against some of the Negro League's greats, including Lou Brock, Roy Campanella, Larry Doby, and Don Newcombe. It was during this time that he met the love of his life, Delois Ussery. He often said he pitched harder than his 95-mile-an-hour fastball when she was in the stands watching. Their love story led to their union in holy matrimony on June 24, 1956, in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Together, they welcomed three daughters—Janice, Debra, and Barbara—and he proudly embraced the title of "Girl Dad." In 1965, William, seeking a better life for his family, moved to Flint, Michigan, where he became gainfully employed at Chevrolet Truck and Bus, a division of General Motors Corporation and was a member of UAW Local #598. He retired in 1997 after 32 years of dedicated service, known for his strong work ethic and for missing only one day of work—because, as he fondly recalled, "Lois wanted to see Aretha Franklin in concert." A devoted member of Foss Avenue Baptist Church, William served with the Deacon Ministry and the Transportation Ministry until his health began to decline. He found great joy in driving around the city, serving the Lord, and ministering to the many Christians he transported to church on Sunday mornings.

Beyond his love for baseball and fast-pitch softball—both of which he played well into his sixties—William also enjoyed a good game of dominoes and was known to say, "The bones talk." William leaves behind a legacy of love, strength, and cherished memories. William Louis Mack Jones III is survived by his daughters: Janice (Michael) Motley of Flushing, MI; Debra (Frederick) Jones-McConnell of Huntersville, NC; and Barbara (Steven) Jones-Wade of Elyria, OH. His grandchildren, who lovingly called him "PaPa" and saw him as their MVP, include Michael (Jacquelyn) Motley Jr., Frederick (Constance) McConnell Jr., Maurice Motley, Marvin Motley, Dedrick McConnell, Michelle (Jonathan) Matthews, Danielle McConnell, Dr. Shaunte' (Nicholas) Schroeder, and Steven Wade II. He also leaves behind his great-grandchildren: Michaela, Maurice Jr., Serenity, Asha, Wade, and Jonathan Jr. Additionally, William is survived by his two beloved sisters, Classie Mae Clark and Jeanne Cooper, and his brother, James C. Jones (Mary), all of Arkansas. He also leaves

behind his dear friend and baseball companion, Deacon Eddie Lucas. William was preceded in death by his wife, Delois Jones; his parents, William Louis Mack Jones II and Lula B. Wingard; and his siblings, Fred Jones, John H. Jones, Edward Jones, and sister Jennie D Ward. He was also preceded in death by his mother- and father-in-law, Silverine and Ezra Henry, along with a host of other beloved relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Hills Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.
Flint, MI 48504

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAR **26**. 12:00 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 Present

MAR **26**. 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

MAR 27. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Foss Ave. Baptist Church
1159 E. Foss Ave.
Flint, MI 48505

Service

MAR 27. 12:00 PM (ET)

Foss Ave. Baptist Church
1159 E. Foss Ave.
Flint, MI 48505

Tribute Wall

IH

“ Ivy Herron lit a candle in memory of Mr. William L. Jones Jr.



Ivy Herron - March 27, 2025 at 07:34 PM

BR

“ Jones Family, Robert, and I are praying as you all walk this journey...may God be with you, and may you feel his presence every day.

Bridget and Robert - March 27, 2025 at 01:45 PM

EB

“ Eddie And Linda Booth lit a candle in memory of Mr. William L. Jones Jr.



Eddie and Linda Booth - March 27, 2025 at 12:07 PM

MC

“ Praying for the family. May God continue to strengthen and comfort you.



Mark and Tracy Coleman - March 27, 2025 at 11:32 AM

TP

“ *Tiny Presnall lit a candle in memory of Wiliam Jones*



Tiny Presnall - March 27, 2025 at 12:53 AM

JJ

“ *Jennifer Jones lit a candle in memory of Wiliam Jones*



Jennifer Jones - March 26, 2025 at 01:33 PM

BM

“ *Barbara Motley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr.*



Barbara Motley - March 26, 2025 at 11:48 AM

AB

“ *Clifton & Alice Blanding*



alice blanding - March 26, 2025 at 10:52 AM

HW

“ *Herbert And Linda Winfrey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr.*



Herbert and Linda Winfrey - March 25, 2025 at 07:55 PM

CR

“ *Curlee/Annette Robinson purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr..*



Curlee/Annette Robinson - March 25, 2025 at 06:53 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr..*



March 25, 2025 at 03:48 PM

CA

“ *Carrie Dillard & Ann & Bill Amis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr..*



Carrie Dillard & Ann & Bill Amis - March 24, 2025 at 04:27 PM

MA

“ *Mt. Zion Baptist Church Grapevine, AR. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr..*



Mt. Zion Baptist Church Grapevine, AR. - March 24, 2025 at 02:29 PM

FM

“ *My father in law, William L. Jones was the greatest father, husband and man of God that I have ever been around. I light a candle in your memory. Love you, Frederick McConnell & family.*

Frederick McConnell - March 24, 2025 at 12:07 PM

JJ

“ *J.C.Jr & Linda Jones purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr..*



J.C.Jr & Linda Jones - March 24, 2025 at 08:46 AM

LH

“ *Lois Harden lit a candle in memory of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr.*



Lois Harden - March 23, 2025 at 06:35 PM

FC

“ Foster & Willie Mae Hampton Clan purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Mr. William L. Jones Jr..



Foster & Willie Mae Hampton Clan - March 23, 2025 at 03:28 PM

FC

“ Foster & Willie Mae Hampton Clan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. William L. Jones Jr..

Foster & Willie Mae Hampton Clan - March 23, 2025 at 03:28 PM

CH

“ Christine Henderson lit a candle in memory of William Jones



Christine Henderson - March 22, 2025 at 01:27 PM

HF

“ Helen Soencer & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. William L. Jones Jr..



Helen Soencer & Family - March 21, 2025 at 11:47 PM

DM

“ Dale McGhee lit a candle in memory of Mr. William L. Jones Jr.



Dale McGhee - March 21, 2025 at 08:07 PM

LC

“ Lillian F Chandler lit a candle in memory of Mr. William L. Jones Jr.



Lillian F Chandler - March 21, 2025 at 10:08 AM



“ So saddened to hear of Mr. Jones passing. Praying for his family & friends. God bless you all. Jacqueline Bridges & family



Jacqueline Bridges - March 20, 2025 at 11:31 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. William L. Jones Jr..



March 20, 2025 at 07:06 PM

IB

“ Ivy J Blount lit a candle in memory of Mr. William L. Jones Jr.



Ivy J Blount - March 20, 2025 at 06:03 PM

DD

“ Dora Daniels lit a candle in memory of William Jones



Dora Daniels - March 20, 2025 at 01:03 PM

HC

“ Our Prayers and Condolences go out to the entire family of William L. Jones, Jr. I had the opportunity to serve on the Foss Avenue Baptist Church Deacon Board with Deacon Jones for many years, before relocating to Tennessee. Deacon Jones was a wonderful friend and great person to know during our many years of service together on the Deacon Board. We ask that the entire family put their entire trust in the Lord, because he never make a mistake. He simply called Deacon Jones home to be with him. May God continue to Bless the Entire Jones Family. Attorney Hewitt & Dornell Chatman, Plant City, FL.



Hewitt Chatman - March 20, 2025 at 11:54 AM

EC

“ *RIH Faithful Servant* 🙏



Elder-Dr. Carolyn D. Davis & Children - March 19, 2025 at 10:37 PM

YL

“ *Your friends at U of C Library purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. William L. Jones Jr..*



Your friends at U of C Library - March 19, 2025 at 12:07 PM

EM

“ *Love leaves behind more than death takes away. Continue to hold on to the memories*



Eddie & Paulette McGhee - March 19, 2025 at 09:47 AM

CA

“ *I am sending prayers and condolences to the Jones" family. God watches over all of us and is always there when we need Him.*



Cheryl Adkins - March 19, 2025 at 09:34 AM

RF

“ *Rene, Ann And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr.*



Rene, Ann and Family - March 19, 2025 at 06:53 AM

RC

“ Uncle William may be gone to glory but I am truly glad that God blessed us with ever lasting memories of him, playing dominoes and wise cracking while he played! As Classie’s (his sister) middle child , I remember uncle spending the day with my mom. He wanted hot fish to eat. So my husband and I took him to this shack called Hudson’s fish market. When we entered, uncle was so excited to pick his fresh fish, and watch the cook cut it and fry it! He started talking to the customers in the market about his migration to Michigan and being in the Negro League of Baseball. He captured the customers attention with his story that one guy said “I was going to take my fish to go but now I have to hear the end of this story” Now, when I say shack, that’s what it was! It was not meant for people to “hang out”! Fish was supposed to be to go! People were so intrigued they weren’t leaving! They were passing bottles of hot sauce and mustard around and my uncle continued the story until to the cook told us we had to go outside. We got our hot fish and went outside and everyone followed! BUT did I mention it was 89 degree! We were already sweating and smelling like fish! I said uncle the best fish is hot fish! So, we need to go! The crowd was so excited some asked for autographs on napkins and at that moment I was a proud niece who had learned his story for the first time! That was a beautiful summer day that I will never forget and his beautiful smile that seemed to make the day even brighter! History pioneer! Rest well Uncle Jr



Renee Clark-Spencer - March 18, 2025 at 09:45 PM

HC

“ Praying for the families’ strength and continued unity. Such a beautiful family and I know PAPA William would be proud of his family and celebration of his life.
With love, from the Hughes Family



Hughes Casandra - March 18, 2025 at 07:25 PM

DB

“ Deacon Emerson & Carol Boles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Wiliam L. Jones Jr.



Deacon Emerson & Carol Boles - March 18, 2025 at 02:44 PM

AJ

“ Abby Johnson lit a candle in memory of Wiliam Jones



Abby Johnson - March 17, 2025 at 04:51 PM

NB

“ Neysa Hodges Burns lit a candle in memory of Wiliam Jones



Neysa Hodges Burns - March 17, 2025 at 01:45 PM

MT

“ *Sending our condolences to the Jones & Motley families. May he rest peacefully in Heaven.* ”



Marshall & Bev Tolbert - March 16, 2025 at 09:12 AM