



## Mr. Willie James Fields

July 8, 1936 - November 27, 2024

FIELDS, Mr. Willie James - Age 88, passed away Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at Mission Point Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. Family hour 10:00 AM Saturday, December 14, 2024 at Bethel

United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Hwy. Family and friends will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Saturday. Mr. Fields 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 Friday, with family present from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM to receive friends. Mr. Willie James Fields, affectionately known as "Sonny," passed away peacefully on November 27, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love, dedication, and service to his family, community, and country. Born on July 8, 1936, in Florence, Alabama, he was the oldest and only son of James and Hattie Mae Fields. Sonny lived a full and meaningful life, touching the hearts of everyone fortunate enough to know him. Sonny grew up in Florence, Alabama, where he cultivated a strong sense of family and community that shaped his life. He attended high school at Burrell Slater School before joining the United States Navy, where he honorably served his country with pride and dedication. While in the Navy, Sonny discovered a passion for boxing and developed a lifelong love for the sport. His athleticism also extended to baseball, where he played in intermural leagues. After his military service, Sonny attended Wenonah Technical Institute in Bessemer, Alabama, where he studied television and radio repair. He later became the owner of Fields's Television and Radio Repair shop in Florence, showcasing

his entrepreneurial spirit and technical expertise. In 1965, he transitioned to Flint, Michigan, where he built a remarkable career with General Motors, retiring in 2000. His leadership and passion for workers' rights led him to serve as an elected officer for the United Auto Workers (UAW) Local #659, tirelessly advocating for his fellow employees. Sonny was deeply committed to his faith and community. He was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church in Flint, Michigan. He proudly served as a Prince Hall Mason and Shriner. His service in these esteemed organizations reflected his dedication to uplifting others and his commitment to brotherhood, service, and integrity. Sonny was a man of many passions. A man of refined taste and an undeniable sense of style, Sonny had a lifelong love for cars, particularly Corvettes and Cadillacs, which he appreciated and took immense pride in. His love for automobiles reflected his appreciation for craftsmanship and elegance. He was a proud fan of both Michigan State University and the University of Alabama, never missing an opportunity to cheer for his favorite teams. His love for music was equally profound, with blues holding a special place in his heart. Over the years, Sonny befriended several notable blues artists, forging connections that reflected his warm, personable nature and appreciation for the art form. Known for his debonair demeanor, infectious smile, hearty laugh, and love of spirited debate, Sonny was cherished by all who knew him. He never met a stranger and brought warmth, wisdom, and humor to every interaction. A pillar of his family, he demonstrated his devotion, which was evident in how he supported and nurtured them, always providing guidance and boundless love. Whether advocating for others, sharing stories from his life, having intentional but light-hearted deliberations, or simply spending time with loved ones, Sonny leaves behind treasured memories from the meaningful connections he fostered throughout his life. Sonny was blessed with a loving family. He was first married to Ms. Mary Jeanette Cunningham, with whom he had three beautiful children. He later married Ms. Betty Thomas, gaining another son through their union. For many years, Sonny was also lovingly supported and cared for by his lifelong friend, Ms. Ernestine Lattimore, whose solid presence

and loyalty brought immense happiness and contentment to his life. Sonny is survived by a host of surviving family members who will continue to honor his memory and carry forward his enduring legacy: daughter, Bonita F. Fields of Flint, MI; four sons, Michael A. Fields of Warner Robins, GA; Terrence D. Fields of Anniston, AL; Darel (Rachel) Thomas of Orlando, FL; and Maurice (Janiece) Lee of Flint, MI; 14 grandchildren, Dr. Minina (Michael) Johnson of Vail, AZ; Denardo D. Fields of Flint, MI; Michelle (Erick) Fields-Simmons of McDonough, GA; Tierra (Bradley) Ball of Huntsville, AL; Rhajah Weathers of Flint, MI; Myranda Fields of Warner Robins, GA; Taylor Fields of Anniston, AL; Teral Thomas, Simone (Travis) McGhee; Allana Thomas; Maurice Lee, Jr.; Shanae Lee; Nakalius Hudson; and Keyona Viverette; 18 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; 2 sisters, Patricia D. Fields and Glenda Freeman; 2 nieces, Vonda Moore and Vetia Searcy; nephew, Darius Freeman; 2 aunts, Betty Jean Smith and Barbara June Jones; daughter-in-law, Ms. Tujaner R. Fields; a host of cousins and a long list of friends. Sonny was preceded in death by his parent, James and Hattie Mae Fields, and sister, Stella Searcy, with whom he is now reunited in eternal rest.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

DEC 13. 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

DEC 13. 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

DEC 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
1309 N. Ballenger Hwy.  
Flint, MI

## Funeral Service

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DEC **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
1309 N. Ballenger Hwy.  
Flint, MI

# Tribute Wall

GP

“ *Gloria Proby lit a candle in memory of Willie Fields*



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**Gloria Proby** - December 14, 2024 at 11:24 PM

TB

“ *Tierra Ball lit a candle in memory of Willie Fields*



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**Tierra Ball** - December 14, 2024 at 10:09 AM

JW

“ *Janice Womack lit a candle in memory of Willie Fields*



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**Janice Womack** - December 14, 2024 at 08:09 AM

VK

“ *Vivian Kelley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields*



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**Vivian Kelley** - December 12, 2024 at 08:58 PM

HS

“ *Helen Young Scott lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields*



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**Helen young Scott** - December 12, 2024 at 07:36 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie James Fields.*



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December 11, 2024 at 03:19 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Willie James Fields.*

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December 11, 2024 at 03:19 PM

LB

“ *Love, Anthony, Vonda, Alena and Brandon purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Willie James Fields.*



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**Love, Anthony, Vonda, Alena and Brandon** - December 11, 2024 at 12:46 PM

LB

“ Love, Anthony, Vonda, Alena and Brandon planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Willie James Fields.

Love, Anthony, Vonda, Alena and Brandon - December 11, 2024 at 12:46 PM

VS

“ Vetia & Stella purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Mr. Willie James Fields.



Vetia & Stella - December 11, 2024 at 01:35 AM

VS

“ Vetia & Stella planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Willie James Fields.

Vetia & Stella - December 11, 2024 at 01:35 AM

EP

“ Elder Michael Proby lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields



Elder Michael proby - December 10, 2024 at 04:45 PM

DA

Willie James Fields, like a brother to me David C Miller we drove around in our Trans AM's we travel all over Michigan Saginaw Lansing Bay city have a ball rest in peace My Brother love you miss you God's blessing to you and your family.

DavidcMiller - April 13, 2025 at 11:44 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie James Fields.*



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December 10, 2024 at 09:45 AM



“ *I'm sure going to miss our weekly check in phone calls Sonny. Love, your favorite cousin Martelli.*

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**Martelli D. Smith** - December 09, 2024 at 11:38 PM



*Sonny, old buddy, I am glad that we made strong efforts to keep our pact to check on each other at least once a month. I'm gonna miss our calls filled with laughter and reflections. Memories of our gatherings are now precious treasures. Rest in peace Sonny.*

*Rev Billy Ray Gabriel  
To God Be The Glory 🙏*

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**Billy Gabriel** - December 11, 2024 at 04:20 PM



“ *Larry Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields*



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**Larry Williams** - December 08, 2024 at 09:51 PM

RC

“ *Condolences to the loved ones may He RIP*

*Rose Cox  
Coworker*



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**Rose Cox** - December 07, 2024 at 08:05 AM

FW

“ *Praying God's peace and comfort for entire family and friends 🙏*



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**Faye Williams** - December 07, 2024 at 01:06 AM

PH

“ *Uncle Willie you will truly be missed. Thank you for letting me drive your Corvette when I got my licenses 💙*

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**Paula Holliman** - December 06, 2024 at 04:53 PM

KR

“ *Kermit & Genell (Crain) Reeves lit a candle in memory of Willie Fields*



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**Kermit & Genell (Crain) Reeves** - December 06, 2024 at 02:51 PM

TH

“ *My condolences to Mr Fields family and friends. Mr Willie had a great sense of humor \*T*

Tanya Harris - December 06, 2024 at 11:43 AM



“ *Jimmye Maxwell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields*



Jimmye Maxwell - December 05, 2024 at 09:53 PM

CB

“ *Carolyn Buckley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields*



Carolyn Buckley - December 05, 2024 at 07:29 PM

CD

“ *My friend Willie you will truly be missfrom my daughters grandson you always call baby Jordan who is 20yrs old we loved you,and our Condolences to all the families Cheryl Harris FtWorth TX*



Cheryl DHarris - December 04, 2024 at 02:46 PM

LJ

“ Love, Jarroun purchased the *Simply Elegant Spa thiphyllum* for the family of Mr. Willie James Fields.



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**Love, Jarroun** - December 04, 2024 at 02:30 PM

LJ

“ Love, Jarroun planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Willie James Fields.

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**Love, Jarroun** - December 04, 2024 at 02:30 PM

DB

“ Debra Bridges lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields



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**Debra Bridges** - December 03, 2024 at 06:11 PM

MF

“ Sending sincerest condolences and prayers to the family.



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**Melita Bowman-Murphy and Family** - December 02, 2024 at 05:56 PM

JP

“ June Perkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields



June Perkins - December 02, 2024 at 08:34 AM

BF

“ Praying for the family, praying that God will comfort each and every one of you all



Birtie Forster - December 01, 2024 at 09:27 PM



“ Jimmye Maxwell lit a candle in memory of Willie Fields



Jimmye Maxwell - November 30, 2024 at 09:40 AM

PM

“ Willie a coworker who served as a committee man. I thank God I last saw you at the Golden Carrell not to long ago. You will be missed dearly. RIH



Patricia Moss - November 30, 2024 at 09:22 AM

DS

“ Dorothy Simmons lit a candle in memory of Willie Fields



Dorothy Simmons - November 30, 2024 at 06:48 AM

CB

“ Carolyn Buckley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields



Carolyn Buckley - November 29, 2024 at 07:35 AM

CD

“ I was so sad to hear about my friend getting his wings my condolences to the families We had been friends for many years. My friend will be missed, Cheryl Harris FtWorth TX, RIP Willie Fields



Cheryl DHarris - November 28, 2024 at 11:43 PM

NA

Sonny, thank you for the many chats we had whenever you came home to Florence, and from Michigan. You were so filled with a plethora of knowledge and wisdom, memories, history of family and friends, and commitment to those you loved best. I will miss you checking on me, and offering to help if I needed anything. Rest in Heaven 🌹❤️🙏

Natalie - December 14, 2024 at 11:08 AM

CH

“ *Willie who am I supposed to argue with now. I will miss you my friend.*

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**Carolyn A. Holliman** - November 28, 2024 at 09:24 PM

TB

“ *Tommie Beverly(Miller) lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields*



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**Tommie Beverly(Miller)** - November 28, 2024 at 02:14 PM

RA

“ *Rosia Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of Willie Fields*



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**Rosia Anderson** - November 28, 2024 at 08:55 AM

CH

“ *Uncle Willie, the kids and I will miss you*



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**Catrina Holliman** - November 27, 2024 at 09:33 PM

MJ

“ *I'm going to miss you my oldest cousin rest in paradise to my family stay strong I love you all.* ”

**mia Jones** - November 27, 2024 at 08:21 PM

OC

“ *Otis & Debra Cheatom lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Fields* ”



**Otis & Debra Cheatom** - November 27, 2024 at 06:05 PM

HR

*REMEMBERING A UNIQUE. INIMITABLE FRIEND!*

**Helen Rogers** - December 12, 2024 at 05:22 PM