



Alfred Neal,

February 11, 1938 - September 16, 2006

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 23, 2006 at the Wolverine State Baptist Headquarters, 615 S. Jefferson Ave. Pastor Vincent McMillon, Sr. will officiate with interment in Eastlawn Memorial Gardens. Friends may call at St. Paul Baptist Church, 120 N. 15th Street on Friday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m., where the family will be present at 7:00 p.m. for the family hour. Our beloved husband, father, brother, uncle, cousin, brother-in-law and friend went home to be with the Lord Saturday, September 16, 2006, surrounded by his loving wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Alfred (Sonny) Neal, Sr. was born on February 11, 1938 in Greenville, MS to Melvin Neal, Sr. and Mildred Cannon-Robinson. He graduated from Coleman High School in Greenville, MS, where he also accepted Christ and was baptized at the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. There was no doubt that he loved the Lord and his favorite Bible verse was Matthew 16:13-17. He would share with anyone that would listen how much he loved and was proud of his family. Due to his talkative nature, Al was also nicknamed "Gabby". He never met a stranger and people never forgot "Al Neal" once they met him. He enjoyed sharing stories and thrived on being the life of the party. Those that knew him knew that Al was an avid golfer. He played in numerous tournaments and won many trophies over the years. Even his final days were spent enjoying his favorite past time. He retired from the State of Michigan after 30 years of service. He was employed at Browne's Mortuary, where he enjoyed comforting others and the

camaraderie of his colleagues. He was a former Union Representative for the State of Michigan, a former Board Member for the Buena Vista School District, and served as a former Township Trustee. He was an active member at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as a vice-chairman of the Trustee Board. His memory will be cherished by his devoted wife of 40 years, Joyce Neal; four children, Charinita (Lester) McDonald, Andrea (Andre) Cisco, both of Cleveland, OH, Alfred (Leslie) Neal, Jr. and Nicole (Rocelious) Goodson, both of Detroit, MI; nine grandchildren, Shanika, Antonio, Charmel, Dannita, Shelby, Sydney, Andre II, Arion, and Ryan; two great-grandchildren, Kayla and Jaida; two brothers, Melvin Jr. (Hazel) and Rayford (Denise); one sister, Melva (Louis); eight brothers-in-law, Roosevelt (Clemetta), John (Maxine), Woodrow (Doris), Melvin (Lois), George (Janice), Fitzsimmon (Rayunza), Lawrence and Raymond; three sisters-in-law, Savannah (John), Cathy (Frank) and Laverne; one uncle, Jerome (Bessie); special cousins, Betty (Gloster), Carolyn (Don), Janet (Delaine), Sandra and Roy; godchildren, Regina, Serina, Sherelle, Janee and Alese; special niece, LaNasia Hood and a host of other relatives, friends, and loved ones. He was preceded in death by his mother, Mildred Robinson; father, Melvin Neal, Sr., stepfather, Willie L. Robinson; aunt, Lucy Robinson and uncle, Joseph Collins. In lieu of flowers, please consider monetary donations to St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church Alfred A. Neal, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Tribute Wall

CL

“ Precious/in/the/sight/of/the/Lord/is/the/death/of/His/saints/Psalm/116/1.
Life/is/but/a/story
told/in/Volume/Three
The/Past/The/Present/and
the/yet/to/be
The/past/is/finished
and/laid/away
The/present/we/are/living
from/day/to/day
The/Third/and/final/of
the/Volumes/three
Its/unknown/to/man
Only/God/holds/the/key/So/we/accept/this/chapter/of/Volume/Three
Alfred/Sr/rest/with/the/Lord
Who/holds/the/Key.

Our/profound/deepest/heartfelt/sympathy
Love/&Prayers
Aunt/Clara/Beth/&Niyah

Clara/O./Fenderson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Aunt Joyce, Alfred & Nikki, my prayers are with you. Life is precious and God made a way for me to see Uncle Alfred before his final story was told. His memory will live with me forever. Love you all.
Anitra

J. Anitra Smith-Williams - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ *May God continue to bless and keep you Sister Neal. Unfortunately I was unable to make Mr. Neals homegoing.*

You and your family are on my heart and in my prayers. Thank God for time that he spent with you and for all the memories.

God bless

Pastor Willie F. Casey - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *To the Neal Falmily. While your sorrow and your loss are both beyond words, they are not beyond the thoughts, caring and sympathy of friends. My God continue to carry your burdens and help to ease your pain. God Bless. Carl & Stella Taylor.*

Carl & Stella Taylor - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ *To the Neal Family we are very sorry for the lost of your love one, Alfred was a loving, caring, person. We would keep you lifted up in prayer, Mrs. Neal if you need us call or tell us, we would be gladly to support you, comfort you and be there for you. Mrs. Neal stay strong, Mr. Neal is in a better place now, The lord will keep you in his loving arms.*

Tiesha Griffin - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this trying time.*

I wish you hope in the midst of sorrow, and comfort in the midst of pain.

~Peace and Blessings~

Tonja

Ms. Tonja R. Johnson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ *A note to let you know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. If there is anything that I can do please let me know. May God's peace and love be with you. Love- Mrs. Betty J. Johnson*

Betty J. Johnson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ Alfred A. Neal Sr. was a man who will never be forgotten. His love for family and others was quite evident. His life was a testimony of God's love in that he never met a stranger. The wonderful and captivating smile will remain in our hearts. The sense of humor and inviting conversations were always welcomed. A very intelligent man who could communicate with everyone and put anyone at ease.

May the family members be comforted in knowing that he had a relationship with Jesus Christ and we shall see him again. His spirit will always be with you and a part of you. You can see him in the faces of family. You can hear him in repeated phrases he spoke and now you speak them. You can remember him from a song, a joke, and someone who loved you dearly. Cry, shout ,holler, talk, look through pictures; whatever it takes to transition through this process. Remember your strength is in God and not in yourself.

Love never dies, but grows in our hearts. Our hearts and prayers are with you.

Cathi Brewer Alexander - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ May God's Blessing be upon you in your time of sorrow. Al will be missed in the flesh but will always remain here in spirit within our hearts.

Joyce Phillips - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We know that Bro. Neal was concerned and dedicated to the youth of the community, and that we will have to work to keep his legacy of taking care of children alive.

Charles Coleman - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ To the Neal family, I am so sorry about the loss. I had just seen Mr Neal at Derwin's funeral. We were talking about Alfred, he and I were class mates. He said I will make sure that I tell him that I had spoken to you, Of course he asked me a million questions that is how he was. I was so shocked, but God will sustain you in this time of need. I was there this time last year. Take care
Dahl Enoch

dahl enoch - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ My prayer is for God to comfort you all in this, your time of sorrow. Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted. Matthew 5:4

Diana R. Simpson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ My prayers are with you and your family and may god give you all strength

Jackie Ray - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ Our Prayers are with you and your family, keep god in your prayers.

Exie Robinson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I am deeply sadden of this family loss. I had the pleasure of meeting Alfred in Oct 14th 2003 when my mother passed away. Alfred was the driver of my brothers and myself. Not ever having to go through this experience before, I remember Alfred telling me in the midst of all the noise, "Ms. Wilson hand me your hand, we are here for you." As you can see I never forgot those kind words and the man who spoke them. when ever I would see him out I would always make him remember me, because I really did appreciate his concern for me during the time that was the hardest for me. So to the family I just wanted you to know how your Alfred touched my life. A complete stranger before hand and a dearing friend in the end. May God give you the strength to get through each and every day. God bless!

celeasha wilson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ I was very saddened to hear of Mr. Neal's passing. Just wanted to let you all know that you are definitely in my thoughts and prayers. Hold to God's unchanging hand- He will see you thru.

Tamara M. Johnson - September 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM