

Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat

May 16, 1940 - November 3, 2020

Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat, Sr. was born on May 16, 1940 in Saginaw, Michigan to the parents of Elzora (Easley) Hicks and Carleton DeGroat. He was raised in Saginaw and passed away on November 3, 2020 at the age of 80 years.

He graduated from Saginaw High School and retired from the Saginaw Public School District. He enjoyed working out, watching old cowboy movies, sports, listening to jazz, old classics and traveling. He also enjoyed having his favorite drinks after the end of a long day.

Mr. DeGroat leaves to cherish many memories, four daughters and one son, Denise (Tyrone) DeGroat, Cynthia Anderson, Kathy Hayes, Celester DeGroat II and Brittney DeGroat; three special children, Johnathon Atkins, Ronni Walker and Enice Lundy-Kelly; 15 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Augusta (Dwight) Woods and Elaine Hicks; one brother, Carleton DeGroat; step-brother, Johnny McClaine; two nieces, Jasmine Atkins and Marleyna Greene-Garrett; nephew, Bilal Harris many other relatives including special friends, Archie Dale, Roy Potterfield, Marie Beasley, " Robert "Moe" Woods, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, Ruthie Moore and Kim Farrington.

Celester was preceded in death by his parents, Carleton DeGroat and Elzora Hicks; step-mother, Zonnie DeGroat; grandparents, "Ma and Pa" DeGroat and

six uncles.

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 N. Jefferson Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607. Pastor Taurus Simpson, Sr. will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48601. Friends may call at the funeral home from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV **19**. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home
441 North Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607

Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Browne's Mortuary - November 19, 2020 at 10:51 AM

NA

“ *Naomi lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Naomi - December 15, 2020 at 04:16 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayer are with the entire DeGroat family during this difficult time.
Sincerely,
Rozina Murphy*



Rozina Jamerson Murphy - November 19, 2020 at 10:21 AM

MP

“ *Lester and I have been friends since early child hood, we drove to California together. We lived together, worked together. There are no words that can explain how much he is going to be missed.*

Mitchell Roy Porterfield - November 18, 2020 at 01:14 PM

MR

“ Mitchell R. purchased the Red Rose Fireside Basket for the family of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat.



Mitchell R. - November 18, 2020 at 12:45 PM

KF

“ "Celester" my childhood friend and leader. The kid I followed with enjoyment downtown, a cross town, the PM woods everywhere we were not supposed to go. Thanks "Celester"



Kenneth Fields - November 18, 2020 at 01:12 AM



“ Gladys Fields lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Gladys Fields - November 18, 2020 at 12:02 AM

NM

“ To the family of Les Degroat may God be with you durring this difficult time, Les was a good person, father and friend and he will be missed



Nate

Nate Morris - November 17, 2020 at 08:07 PM

MR

“ *Marlyn Reeves sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Marlyn Reeves - November 17, 2020 at 11:43 AM



“ *Shareika Stewart lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Shareika Stewart - November 16, 2020 at 04:24 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat.*



November 14, 2020 at 08:33 PM

IB

“ *When we were little kids Celester would come over to see my uncle Harry. My brothers couldn't remember his name so he told us to call him "Easter Bunny" so that's what we always called him. He was always a nice guy. Rest in peace "Easter Bunny". Our sincerest condolences to the Family,. McClure's, Barkley's, Allen, Families.*



Ingrid Barkley - November 14, 2020 at 05:49 PM

DM

“ Doloris Mixon sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Doloris Mixon - November 14, 2020 at 09:24 AM

DM

“ Doloris Mixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Doloris Mixon - November 14, 2020 at 09:23 AM

DM

“ Doloris Mixon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Doloris Mixon - November 14, 2020 at 09:22 AM

LK

“ Larry Kemp sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Larry Kemp - November 13, 2020 at 08:39 PM

SS

“ Sue Surles-McDole lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Sue Surles-McDole - November 13, 2020 at 12:18 PM

L-

“ Linda Campbell -Stacy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Linda Campbell -Stacy - November 13, 2020 at 08:55 AM

JW

“ Joanie Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Joanie Williams - November 12, 2020 at 10:33 PM

LA

“ To Denise and family; We extend our deepest condolences on the loss of your father, grandfather and friend. May God's grace bring you comfort and peace as you celebrate the life of "Mr. Lester DeGroat. We will keep you lifted in prayer.



Larry/Linda Adams

LARRY ADAMS - November 12, 2020 at 10:42 AM

CP

“ Cheryl A Pickett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



cheryl a pickett - November 12, 2020 at 09:33 AM

YS

“ Yvonne Sanders lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Yvonne Sanders - November 11, 2020 at 09:43 PM

LG

“ *Latrice Griffith-Ford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Latrice Griffith-Ford - November 11, 2020 at 08:24 AM

BD

“ *Brittney Donald lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Brittney Donald - November 10, 2020 at 10:58 PM

GP

“ *Gail Porter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Gail Porter - November 10, 2020 at 03:14 PM

JW

“ *Jimmie D. Westbrook lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Jimmie D. Westbrook - November 10, 2020 at 02:00 PM



“ Vanda Nash-Strode lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Vanda Nash-Strode - November 10, 2020 at 10:01 AM



“ .Madeleine Oneal sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



.Madeleine Oneal - November 10, 2020 at 08:24 AM



“ Red Poinsettia (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat.



November 09, 2020 at 12:39 PM



“ Frank Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Frank Johnson - November 09, 2020 at 10:42 AM

JS

“ *Janie Surles-Cork sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Janie Surles-Cork - November 09, 2020 at 09:04 AM

VJ

“ *Vanessa Humes Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Vanessa Humes Johnson - November 08, 2020 at 04:35 PM

DK

“ *To The Entire Family You'll Have My Deepest Sympathy and Heartfelt Condolences. We Were The Best Of Friends As We Young Men Coming Up He Is Going To Be Missed*



Deacon Bobby Kelley - November 08, 2020 at 03:52 PM

KH

“ *Kim Holliday lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Kim Holliday - November 08, 2020 at 03:16 PM

DC

“ Debra Cork sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



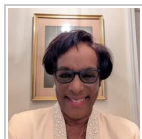
Debra Cork - November 08, 2020 at 12:55 PM

SK

“ Shontorie Knox lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Shontorie Knox - November 08, 2020 at 12:42 PM



“ My condolences to the entire family. I always enjoyed talking to Les at the gym. We had very interesting conversations.



Charline Bodiford - November 08, 2020 at 11:32 AM

AM

“ Audrey McKandes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Audrey McKandes - November 08, 2020 at 04:47 AM

FH

“ Freddie Hodges sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Freddie Hodges - November 07, 2020 at 10:05 PM

LV

“ Linda McClain Veasley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Linda McClain Veasley - November 07, 2020 at 03:00 PM

WD

“ Willie,Lorraine Davis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Willie,Lorraine Davis - November 07, 2020 at 10:38 AM

GL

“ Gloria(Ford)Cormier lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Gloria(Ford)Cormier - November 07, 2020 at 01:00 AM

KC

“ Karen Cork lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Karen Cork - November 06, 2020 at 11:09 PM

DK

“ To The Entire Family You Have Our Deepest Sympathy and Heartfelt Sympathy. We had some wonderful childhood memories and a very good friendship growing. You will be missed.



Deacon Bobby Kelley - November 06, 2020 at 09:33 PM

DS

“ Love to our DeGroat family. Rest in Peace my cousin



Dolores Hill Sneed - November 06, 2020 at 08:53 PM

DS

“ Rest in peace my cousin



Dolores Hill Sneed - November 06, 2020 at 08:50 PM

TJ

“ Tina Jamerson-Mata lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Tina Jamerson-Mata - November 06, 2020 at 07:47 PM

DM

“ Deorah Morris-Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Deorah Morris-Williams - November 06, 2020 at 05:32 PM

SK

“ Omg I remember working your nerves at school you was always kind and sweethearted towards me no matter how bad i was in school at Webber I want to extend my condolences out to your family at this difficult time

Shontorie Knox - November 06, 2020 at 05:09 PM

GL

“ Gloria(Ford)Cormier lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Gloria(Ford)Cormier - November 06, 2020 at 03:41 PM



“ *My prayer going out to the Degroat family i enjoy working with him he kept the staff together he kept us laughing and he had a lot of wisdom to all that came in contact with him Rip mr gone but not forgotten*

Dale Mitchner - November 06, 2020 at 09:50 AM



“ *Dale Mitchner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Dale Mitchner - November 06, 2020 at 09:41 AM



“ *Gina Ford-Copeland lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Gina Ford-Copeland - November 05, 2020 at 08:57 PM



“ *Linda McClain Veasley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Linda McClain Veasley - November 05, 2020 at 04:42 PM

NL

“ Nola Levelston lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Nola Levelston - November 05, 2020 at 02:39 PM

MR

“ Marlyn Reeves sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Marlyn Reeves - November 05, 2020 at 12:37 PM

LT

“ Linda Troutmon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Linda Troutmon - November 05, 2020 at 11:08 AM

MS

“ Mary Ann Stewart sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat



Mary Ann Stewart - November 05, 2020 at 11:04 AM



“ *Frank Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Frank Johnson - November 04, 2020 at 10:36 PM



“ *Deatte McGlothlin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Deatte McGlothlin - November 04, 2020 at 10:09 PM



“ *Prayers to The Family God Bless Y'all So Sorry for Your Loss*



Phyllis Scarbrough - November 04, 2020 at 09:15 PM



“ *Tania Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Celester Raymond "Lester" DeGroat*



Tania Moore - November 04, 2020 at 04:16 PM

RF

“ *Our condolences to Celester’s family and all our family. Have thought about you often over the years. RIP my cousin.*



Ralph & Lynette Ford - November 04, 2020 at 03:26 PM