



## Clifton Cooper,

January 26, 1944 - August 5, 2008

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 14, 2008 at the Browne's Mortuary, 441 N. Jefferson Ave. Elder Arthur Aikin will officiate with entombment in Oakwood Mausoleum. Friends may call at the funeral home on Wednesday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. Clifton Cooper, Sr. passed away on August 5, 2008 at the age of 64 years. He was born January 26, 1944 in Taylorsville, Mississippi to Cleveland Cooper and Ruby (Cooper) Burnell. Mr. Cooper was an avid fisherman, hunter, golfer, photographer and history buff. He retired after 36 years of service to Vlastic Foods, Inc. to start farming and raising animals as he did while growing up in Mississippi. Cliff had a great love of all God's creatures. He helped his fellow man when needed with Christian faith. Clifton married Clara James in 1962, she survives him. To this union four children were born; Ruby Jean Cooper (deceased), Cathy Cooper, Clifton Cooper, Jr. and Edward Cooper, all of Saginaw, MI. He leaves to cherish his memory, his children, Cytina Barnes, Biloxi, MS, Sentoria Fairley, Omaha, NE and Augustine Cooper, Oak Harbor, WA; mother, Ruby M. Burnell, Saginaw, MI; sisters, Irene (Cooper) Mannie, Ypsilanti, MI, Mary (Clyde) White, Kileen, TX, Jettye Young, Shirley Drain and Barbara (Pastor Ronald) Turner, all of Saginaw, MI; brothers, Bobby (Ethel) Young, Herschel L. Burnell, Jr. and Donald (Jackie) Burnell, all of Saginaw, MI; many nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends including special friends, Rod and Julie Bliss and family, Kandy McGrandy and family. Mr. Cooper was preceded in death by his father, Cleveland Cooper; daughter, Ruby Jean

Cooper; sister, Mattie L. (Cooper) Long; grandparents, Ed and Cora Sullivan; brother-in-law, George Young; a special niece, Katrina E. Henderson and a special friend, Ray Clay.

# Tribute Wall

RB

“ Through my dear friend Mary, I met Mr. Clifton Cooper, Sr.. I remember meeting this gentle man, with warm kind eyes, a full laugh, and a love of life...a truly generous spirit. May you rest in peace. While so many will miss you, we know you are with God - smiling down on us all.

*My heart is with your family, especially with my dear friend Mary - who will miss you greatly.*

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**Renee M Benard** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ Tyrone and Amelia Taylor wish to express our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

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**Amelia Taylor** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Uncle Clifton, was a shining example of great influence, modestly mentoring lessons in life, family and manhood. Without a doubt a GREAT MAN! Uncle Clifton didn't waste words he was direct and meant what he said. So, I never doubted him even he said possum stew was good! I will allways admire you and will aspire to acheive your steadfastness. I'll be missing you Unc!!!

*Love You Allways,  
Ramone and Family*

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**Sherman Puryear** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Clifton Cooper, Sr. Lived a wonderful life. He loved God, fishing, farming, hunting and good conversations with his many life long friends. I will miss him so very much. I know that he was ready to go meet his maker. He traded an old existence for a new beginning with God. It is hard to imagine that I will not hear his voice again until my "Great Getting Up Morning" but I know that he is in a better place so I bid him good-bye for now with the greatest love and respect that a sister can give. To God be the Glory for allowing me to have a brother such as Clif. I love you Clif. Sleep well. Love, Mary Della

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**Mary Cooper Henderson-White** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Mary Henderson-White and her family as they mourn the loss of a cherished family member. May God provide you with strength, courage, and comfort during the difficult days ahead.

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**Elaine Riley** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JM

“*Mrs. Cooper, I want to say that I am sorry for the loss of your husband. As I read over the kind words about Clifton SR. With you being his wife, I have not seen much adressed to you and your children.*

*I never met Clifton Sr. but Ive seen refections of him through the lives of you your and your children.*

*I hope you and your children saw the same love, strength and kindness he extended to everyone else.*

*Knowing your children Clifton Jr., Edward and Cathy for over 15 years*

*I pray you will be covered with love and strenght, and be respected during your time of bereavment.*

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**Jamie Monroe** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

WF

“*To the family of Mrs Henderson-White: may you find comfort in Christ Jesus during this time of mourning. May the peace of God that passes all understanding be with you.*

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**Williams Family** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

IM

“ My Brother Clifton Cooper passed away aug.5,2008. Our Father was Cleveland Cooper,our Mother is Ruby Burnell. Clif has been married to Clara for 46 years. We took that long ride on the bus from Missississp Aug. Of 1964 Leaving his family behind until he found employment,and a place to live. I(Irene Cooper Mannie)is sending an open Apology to his Wife and Childrens for any Disrespect they've encountered. Recognition is in order to(Roosevelt,and Thomas Sullivan)Of Muskegon Mich. We were all raised together like Brother's & Sister's by my Grandmother(Cora Sullivan) I am also reaching out for World Prayer,salvation ,non'Bios family leader,Love,Respect,Forgiveness,Peace, and Understanding-for myself and my family. "A House Divided Cannot Stand"  
Irene(Cooper)Mannie

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**Irene (Cooper) Mannie** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

IV

“ When your heart feels empty, filling it with happy memories can help you find your smile.

*It is hard to understand why people are taken from us, but may you find comfort in knowing so many others care.*

*Take heart. Time will soften the edges and ease your burden.*

*With Love*

*Ida*

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**Ida Vance** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ I will always remember Cliff for his kind, gentle ways and wonderful smile. He was a friend of my mom's and mine for many years and was always there every time I needed my bike fixed. Cliff was there for every big moment of my life except my wedding just a couple months ago. He will always hold a special place in my heart. I will miss him. Candy our thoughts and prayers are with you. Love,  
Shani Elmy (Schaard)

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**Shantele Elmy** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Cliff will be missed greatly. He was a very down to earth person and easy to get along with.

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**Jonathan & Crystal Cutting** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ You have my heart-felt sympathy for the loss of your brother. May you and your family find peace with time.

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**Mr & Mrs Bennie Smith** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

YG

“ To my best friend Cathy and family;  
I know that your heart is hurting right now but just know that Dad is in a better place and no more suffering and pain. Your Dad was a pillar in your life and in time your heart will heal. He is at peace now. Look to the lord for your strength during those times when you think you just can't go on.  
I love you Cathy  
your lil sis Yolanda

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**Yolanda Gill** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ My family and I met Uncle Cliff five years ago through my step-mother Mary Henderson White. I had my three children with me and we were on the way to the airport from Alpena to Detroit. Uncle Cliff was gracious to have the six of us (my father Clyde and Mary) spend the night at his home. He and Candy prepared a wonderful dinner and breakfast for us. We enjoyed meeting him, his kindness and hospitality was something that my children and I still remember. Please accept our condolences.

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**Michelle White-Godinet** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ To my uncle clifton,  
Through the years you have always been there for our family through the hard times. Thank you for being an inspiration in our lives. If it weren't for you being near our hearts we may have never had anyone to look up too, in our family. The lord took one of the bravest, smartest men I have known in my family. You will always be apart of our families legacy and my children will always know about there uncle clifton. From the present you purchased for me my nickelodeon moonshoes which I loved so much and the yearly pig roasts we shared together I will always remember the great times we shared. You told me to never give up and I never will Uncle Clifton. I love you very much and miss you dearly. I never got the chance to say thank you for loving me unconditionally. When it is my time I hope the lord will bless me to walk closeyv9vre with you.  
love always,  
Candice,Debonaire and Zion  
Henderson

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**Candice M. Henderson** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *It was a pleasure sharing an afternoon with Cliff and Candy a few years ago. His enthusiasm and willingness to share the art of farming was appreciated and welcomed. I wish the family gentle memories, faith-filled days and evenings knowing that Cliff is now in the arms of Jesus. Blessings to his very special and devout family.*

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**Cathy S. Meske** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I met Clifton in 2002, He was then and is now a Kind spirit. He loved His property, the animals he bought and sold. He did a good job tilling the ground, He told me all He wanted to be after He retired from his job at Valassic was a good dirt farmer. Clifton loved people and they loved him back once they got to know him. He had a very special bond with his older sister and brother, younger sisters, and brothers. He loved his Mom and was at her beck and call day and night until such time as he was physically unable. His Co Workers all loved him. They gathered at is Farm for a an old fashion send off with food that they prepared, conversations about Clifton and the love of his life. Clifton was a dedicated man, a self taught individual who became by all means a Mechanical Engineer of the highest degree. I oveheard one couple say that Clift and Ron Bliss (His best Friend), could fix any and everything in the Plant. He had an old Ford truck when I met him and he told me that was his FORD (FIX OR REPAIR DAILY). Being a ford man I knew what he meant. He was truly a Chef at preparing meat for consumption. When he did a Pig Roast no matter how far from his home in Vassar, the meat was perfect and the people he did the roast for most often they formed a relationship with him for the last 15 to 20 years. I, like many others loved talking with Clift about any and every thing. He loved reading His Bible and was well versed in His understanding of the Word. I will not miss him because he will remain in my heart and mind forever.

Clyde

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**Clyde W. White** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Who every Mr. right is i'm sure you meant Mr. Wrong, no offense but you should stay out of this your'e not on the Lord side.regardless how long who was with who its time for some Respect on both side, Mrs. Cooper did ALKNOWLEDGE the lady that he were with so lets forget all of this foolishness and do and say the right things.OK LOVE, HONOR, AND RESPECT.

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**mrs.Right** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ I would like to send my condolences to you all. I have known this wonderful family for many years as my own.

*Mama Clara,  
I know that trouble don't last always, joy will come in the morning.  
Just keep the faith and stand tall and keep your head up. If at any time you need a friend to talk to just call on the Lord first then me lol.*

*Cliff Cathy and Ed...  
always keep laughing smiling and most of all loving.  
eh*

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**Kim C. Walters** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ TO THE MAN WHO PEAKED MY INTEREST IN THE HISTORY OF THE SULLIVANS AND THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI. I WILL MISS YOU DEEPLY I LOVE YOU UNCLE CLIFF

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**SHARON** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ Larry and I send our deepest sympathies for the loss of Cliff. If I remember right, he was a great cooker and did wonderful things when family would roast a pig. So sorry to all family members for your loss. Mary White and family please know we send our love and prayers to all of you. I know what it is like to lose a brother....too soon. Hang in there. WE are thinking of you all!

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**Rae-Margare & Larry Adams** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Kandy my heart goes out to you and the entire Cooper family you keep your head up you keep your memories of Cliff in your heart because you were special to him and you no that. You don't need anyone to tell you that. People already KNOW's.

*Keep all those years you to were an item in your home you shared with him and you will be fine, yes he is gone but you have great memories.*

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**Rick Smith** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ This man has went on to be with the LORD there is no reason to argue like we tend to do when some one passes away about who this man's children nor family was. This was a good man with a good heart and he deserve's respect. No need to air his business out in a tribute, people already no who if you really no Clif Cooper who he was with day in night and you can't changed that. You can't change that! So the respect should be given to the one he resided with for a number of years. Not to take away from his immediate family, **BUT LETS BE TRUE TO YOUR SELF AND YOUR HEART**, we all knew who Cliff Cooper was with and were his last years and day's were spent and who his companion was when he needed to be loved. So let's mourn with them all regardless of who name comes first in the obituary people who no him for real already no what the real deal is, mourn this great man with **RESPECT**.

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**MR. RIGHT** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ Ed i'm sorry to hear about your father i can amagine how you must feel, because i've been there not only with my father but my son as well. you look just like your father and what i've read he was a wonderful man. So it's alright for a man to cry scream or hollow and if you can't seem to find your way you can call on one of these high power names and i promise you will be alright. Lord Jesus Father God and Jovah. So be strong and keep the Faith cause God will put no more on you that you can't handle. Remember the battle is not yours it's the Lord. So i'm praying for you and your family and God bless you . Love

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**Doris** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *Cliff, Cathy, & Edward*

*I'm sorry for the loss of your father. May God ease your pain in this time of sorrow. I'm here for you all! You know I look up to you all!!! Sending you some love back! Your lil' brother!*

*Erik, Nell, Ashlynn, & Erika*

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**Erik & Nell Caviness** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ *Final Words of Hope for Eternal Life:*

*Thanks to all of my true friends and family members for the kind words you spoke of my brother, Clif Cooper. For those who did not know him you may think you know something of him from reading some of the comments submitted to the family. As a teacher in academics, I urge some of you to look up the word tribute in your dictionary....'an expression of gratitude or esteem...'* Clif managed to get some sensationalism even in his death, although he was a very private man. Those of us who knew him, knows he never bothered anyone and would never intentionally hurt a soul. As a teacher of the faith, I urge you to reflect on Jesus Christ because He said that only God can judge a soul and only God can save a soul. I say to you if you cannot say that JESUS CHRIST is your Lord and Savior then you have nothing to say. If you do not know Jesus now is a good time to start learning about Him. God will even enable you to read and write. Start with the Bible. It is a Book of Life. It will minister to you in your darkest hour and your greatest need. I love everyone and I understand what happened had to happen and we will all pass this way one day. What do you want people to say about you when you die? You can start right now by living for God and building a legacy in the most High Faith. My brother left here knowing that I love God and I live for God. We have peace. I believe that he too found God and I esteem his life, with prayers to my Most High God. Thanks again for allowing me this opportunity to be a witness for Christ and to stick up for my big brother.

*Love IN Christ,  
Mary Della*

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**Mary Henderson-White** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ *My prayers are for the family in the homegoing of a loved one.*

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**Paul A. Rice** - August 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM