



## Coley Matthews

April 23, 1926 - June 8, 2015

Our beloved Mr. Coley Lee Matthews left us quietly and peacefully on Monday, June 8, 2015, to be with the Lord at age 89. He was born April 23, 1926 in Ozark, Alabama, the son of Mack and Inella (Crittenden) Matthews.

He married the Love of his life, Marie Madgalene Flowers, May 9, 1949 and to this union 3 children were born; Eddie Lee "Butch", Elnora and Debra Ann. Mr. Matthews attended St. Mark AME Church, graduated from D.A. Smith High School in Ozark, Alabama.

Coming to Saginaw, Michigan in 1951, he joined Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where he served for a number of years as Chairman of Security, member of the Busy Bee Club, served as Treasurer for the State of Alabama for the Rally of the States. Mr. & Mrs. Matthews were crowned King & Queen of the State Rally in 1980 under the leadership of Rev. H.C. Huggins. Coley loved God and his church.

He enjoyed reading from his diverse collection of books, especially the Bible. Gardening sharing his crops with the neighbors, caring for his roses and working in his yard were a labor of love. Coley was easy to talk to and was a father figure to the children in the neighborhood. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge with others and was known to be quite a "Gentleman".

Coley was a veteran of the United States Navy and was honorably discharged after serving in World War II. He retired from Malleable Iron Foundry GM and was a member of UAW Local 455.

Mr. Coley Lee Matthews leaves to cherish his memory, loving wife of 66 years, Marie Matthews; daughter, Elnora (Joseph) Washington; 3 grandchildren, Cion Washington of Saginaw, MI, Robert and Andre' Davis, both of Las Vegas, NV; god-children, Joseph and Diane Chaney, Houston (Elaine) Jackson, Keith Brown and Martha Lockhart; 4 sisters, Pearlie Johnson, Lottie Jones, Gracie Gane and Amelia McAllinster; god-grandchildren, Dwight, Kashara and Janice Rance, Letisha and Vernon Randle, Alisa and Demetrius Chaney; sister-in-law, Mamie Rowe of Clarrington, PA; a host of nieces, nephews, special cousins and friends, Mrs. Tisurene Casey and family, Arthur Gissandanner and family, Odhalia Rance, Lois Shelby, Leonza Porter, Janis Porter, Eloise Powell and Lizzie Echols, Mildred Burton, Anna Williams, Grace Reeves and Dorothy Perkins.

Mr. Matthews was preceded in death by his daughter, Debra Ann Davis; son, Eddie "Butch" Matthews; parents, Mack and Inella Matthews; father and mother-in-law, Alex and Jasie Bell Flowers; one brother and 4 brothers-in-law.

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 535 Cathay Street. Pastor P. David Saunders, host pastor. Dr. Willie F. Casey will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue on Monday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **15**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
evansbrownes@gmail.com  
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

JUN **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church  
535 Cathay Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

# Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Coley Matthews*



---

**Browne's Mortuary** - June 15, 2015 at 03:16 PM

MF

“ *Ms. Brenda Bryant-Reynolds & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Coley Matthews*



---

**Ms. Brenda Bryant-Reynolds & Family** - June 16, 2015 at 05:51 AM

BJ

“ *Brenda Jones lit a candle in memory of Coley Matthews*



---

**Brenda Jones** - June 15, 2015 at 01:00 PM

DM

“ *Deborah Mack lit a candle in memory of Coley Matthews*



---

**Deborah Mack** - June 09, 2015 at 06:47 PM

HJ

“ *Houston And Elaine Jackson, Jr. sent a virtual gift in memory of Coley Matthews*



---

**Houston and Elaine Jackson, Jr.** - June 09, 2015 at 10:57 AM

HJ

*Queen Marie, Elnora and Family: Our sincere prayers and condolences are with you at this time. We pray that the hope of Heaven and the promise of eternal life will comfort you in your loss of Mr. Coley. "We love you guys!" To God Be The Glory!"*

---

**Houston and Elaine Jackson, Jr.** - June 09, 2015 at 01:58 PM