



## Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.

February 26, 1941 - October 10, 2016

Earnest Matthews, Sr. was born to Mr. Onious Matthews and Mrs. Shirtetta Kelly on February 26, 1941 in Luxora, Arkansas. He was the third out of fifteen children. He departed this life on Monday, October 10, 2016 at the age of 75 years old.

Although Earnest received a limited education, he was very resourceful and used his sense of survival skills to provide the best life for his family. He began working as a laborer for General Motors Corp. and continued there for 33 years until his retirement in 1993. While there, he also worked as a bus driver for the Buena Vista School District for over five years. Earnest Matthews had an entrepreneurial mindset and opened his own business, Matthews & Son Used Appliances in the early 80's. He became quite the handyman, specializing initially in lawnmowers and ultimately continued to repair and sell stoves, refrigerators, washers and dryers. More likely than not he has sold or repaired an appliance for at least one person in every row here today. Those who knew him best understood that he loved his family and he would do anything for them. They called him the "right now" man because when he set his mind to do something, he had to do it, "right now". He devoted considerable time and energy towards repairing appliances, watching home movies, shooting pool, playing cards and most of all spending time with his family and friends. Earnest was baptized at Bethlehem Temple Church and served as superintendent and deacon for many years. Later in life he restored

his relationship with God at New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries.

He met and married the love of his life, Willie Ann Matthews, at a very young age, on October 3, 1958, 58 years ago. To this union four boys and one girl were born; Earnest Matthews, Jr., Bobby Matthews, Fredrick Matthews, Shawn Matthews, and Mary Wynn.

Earnest Matthews leaves to cherish his memory; wife, Willie Ann Matthews; four sisters, Irene (Leonard) Batts, Velvia (Charlie) Monroe, Felvia Holmes, all of Saginaw, MI and Bernice (Joe) Brooks of Osceola, AR; seven brothers, Onious (Ada) Matthews, Jr., Joe Kelly, both of Saginaw, MI, Eugene (Glenda) Kelly, Sr., Maurice (Janice) Kelly, Sr., Bobby (Rose) Kelly, Sr., Allen Kelly, Sr., all of Osceola, AR and Zebedee (Tammy) Kelly of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; four sons, Earnest (Brenda) Matthews, Jr., Bobby (Avis) Matthews, Fredrick Matthews and Shawn (Tina) Matthews; one daughter, Mary (Jermaine) Wynn; nine grandchildren, Antoinette Matthews, Courtney (Comesha) Wilson, Travis Matthews, Natasja Matthews, Lashelle (Leon) Cummings, Tija Matthews, Xavier (Dominique) Matthews, Jakeira (Jay) Matthews and Shondrea Matthews; nine great-grandchildren, Tyree Heath, Travion Matthews, Karma Scott, Tamia Matthews, Nia Sky Wilson, Darric & Da'Riyana Parker, Devario Matthews and Camari Boyd Jr.; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and friends.

His mother, Shirtetta Kelly; stepfather, Mr. Ernest Kelly; father, Onious Matthews; three sisters, Geneva Rutherford, Ernestine Woodson and Myra Robinson; and one brother, Myron Kelly, preceded him in death.

“He will be deeply missed.”

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue. Pastor

Otis Dickens will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home on Friday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. The family will be present to greet friends from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **14**. 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

OCT **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Browne's Mortuary - October 17, 2016 at 10:11 AM



“ Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Browne's Mortuary - October 15, 2016 at 08:31 AM

MG

“ Mary J Givan-Gage sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Mary J Givan-Gage - October 23, 2016 at 11:09 PM

BR

“ *Brenda Ryan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Brenda Ryan** - October 20, 2016 at 01:10 PM

WL

“ *May God's loving arms give you peace and comfort*



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**William Long** - October 17, 2016 at 09:13 PM

RB

“ *Rosette Blakes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Rosette Blakes** - October 17, 2016 at 04:24 PM

AD

“ *Angienell Davenport lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Angienell Davenport** - October 15, 2016 at 10:04 AM

VT

“ To the family of Earnest Matthews, Sr. I am continually praying for you, as a child I remember Brother Matthews singing in the choir at Bethlehem Temple Church, "Good Lord I'm bound". Brother Matthews was very thoughtful and kind. God blessed you with a beautiful Father, Uncle, Husband, Grandfather and friend. God Bless

*Vickie Taylor*

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**Vickie Taylor** - October 15, 2016 at 12:42 AM

SM

“ Shender McKinney lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Shender McKinney** - October 14, 2016 at 06:30 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..



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October 14, 2016 at 03:30 PM

MO

“ *Mark & Jackie Oates lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



Mark & Jackie Oates - October 14, 2016 at 03:02 PM

R0

“ *MY RERSPECTS TO YOUS ALL A VERY GOOD MAN HE WAS VERY APPRECIATED R.I.P*

riosconrad 0618@yahoo.com - October 14, 2016 at 12:49 PM



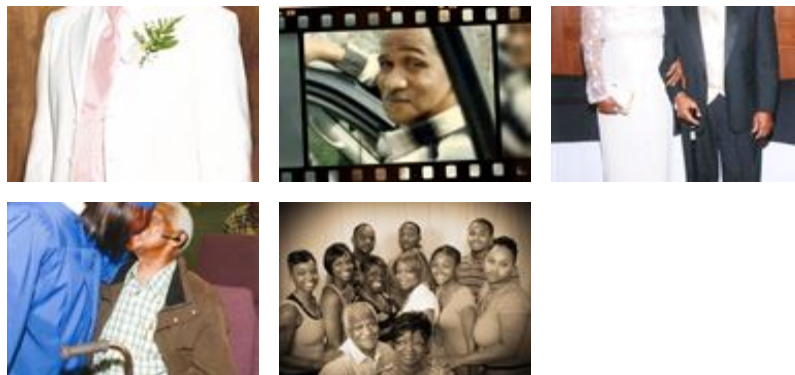
“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..*



October 14, 2016 at 11:56 AM



“ *61 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Browne's Mortuary - October 14, 2016 at 08:50 AM

  
Shawntel  
Kelley

“ *You will be missed!* ”



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**Shawntel Kelley** - October 14, 2016 at 07:31 AM

CR

“ *Carolyn Riley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.* ”



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**Carolyn Riley** - October 14, 2016 at 05:07 AM

RF

“ *Roderick & Tamika Trice And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.* ”



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**Roderick & Tamika Trice and family** - October 13, 2016 at 11:42 PM

AJ

“ *So sorry for you lost. To the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews. Our prayers are with you all.  
From Al and Luvonzell Johnson and the Corral family.* ”

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**Al and Luvonzell Johnson** - October 13, 2016 at 08:24 PM

AE

“ *Andrea, Shanta, Jennifer, Cierra, Tiffany, Erikka purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..*



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**Andrea, Shanta, Jennifer, Cierra, Tiffany, Erikka** - October 13, 2016 at 07:31 PM

LZ

“ *Linda Ziegler lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**linda ziegler** - October 13, 2016 at 05:54 PM

LZ

*May God lay Hands on the family & close friends in their time of need.  
Love Emma & Linda*

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**linda ziegler** - October 13, 2016 at 05:58 PM

NJ

“ *Natalie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Natalie Johnson** - October 13, 2016 at 05:35 PM

NJ

“ *Natalie McLaurin Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



Natalie McLaurin Johnson - October 13, 2016 at 05:32 PM

MM

“ *MICHAEL A. MARTIN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



MICHAEL A. MARTIN - October 13, 2016 at 04:31 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..*



October 13, 2016 at 03:32 PM



“ *Vonda Cook lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



Vonda Cook - October 13, 2016 at 02:17 PM

LA

“ *Life Changing Outreach Family, Jonesboro, AR purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..*



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**Life Changing Outreach Family, Jonesboro, AR** - October 13, 2016 at 01:36 PM

VJ

“ *Venice Holmes, Jr. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..*



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**Venice Holmes, Jr.** - October 13, 2016 at 01:25 PM

AN

“ *Very nice and friendly person to know anytime I needed my appliance fix he would fix it or sell me another one and if he didn't have the part you needed he would do his best to get it for you the same day. May you RIP You are missed by all who knew you. Very nice and loving person to know. Love Annette & Eddie Gamble*

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**annette** - October 13, 2016 at 11:28 AM

OW

“ *Oscar An Kimberley Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Oscar an Kimberley Williams** - October 13, 2016 at 11:26 AM

KW

“ *Mr Matthews will truly be missed. He helped others including me by fixing our appliances. He was always kind and patient. May God comfort the Matthews family during this very difficult time.*



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**Kim Caver Wright** - October 13, 2016 at 11:26 AM

FT

“ *All my love and condolences goes out to Shawn and his family. Mr. Matthews was an awesome man, and was great at his work on all appliances. He will truly be missed! God bless you all, may he comfort you all and give you peace. Love Lorrell and Felissia Thomas*

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**Felissia Thomas** - October 13, 2016 at 11:24 AM

VJ

“ *Venice Holmes, Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Venice Holmes, Jr.** - October 13, 2016 at 10:20 AM

LM

“ *I will truly miss Mr. Mathews .... I could call him to purchase a used washer & dryer for my Salon & he would give me a good price .....if it needed repairs he was (jolly on the spot) Mr. Mathews was a blessing to so many people.....love*

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**Louise Mckinnie** - October 13, 2016 at 09:47 AM

LM

“ Louise Mckinnie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Louise Mckinnie** - October 13, 2016 at 09:38 AM

JC

“ Joan Crawford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Joan Crawford** - October 13, 2016 at 09:12 AM

JC

“ Joan Crawford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Joan Crawford** - October 13, 2016 at 09:10 AM

JC

“ Joan Crawford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Joan Crawford** - October 13, 2016 at 09:03 AM

JC

“ *Joan Crawford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Joan Crawford** - October 13, 2016 at 09:01 AM



“ *Mr. Matthew was a gd man always had gd appliances. Rest up gone but never forgotten.*

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**Brenda Johnson** - October 13, 2016 at 08:33 AM

EC

“ *Eugene & Ruby Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Eugene & Ruby Clark** - October 13, 2016 at 07:22 AM

DM

“ *Derrick & Tia Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Derrick & Tia Mitchell** - October 13, 2016 at 07:21 AM

LH

“ *LaTonya Hunt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**LaTonya Hunt** - October 13, 2016 at 05:58 AM

LH

“ *LaTonya Hunt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**LaTonya Hunt** - October 13, 2016 at 05:58 AM

MM

“ *MICHAEL A. MARTIN lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**MICHAEL A. MARTIN** - October 13, 2016 at 05:54 AM

ST

“ *To my Class mates Bobby and Ernest, my condolences goes out to you and your family, I can say I know how you feel because I too lost a parent, and as time goes on the pain will be less.*

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**Shirley Taylor** - October 12, 2016 at 10:14 PM

SS

“ Sharon Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Sharon Smith** - October 12, 2016 at 09:17 PM

BR

“ Hey Uncle Earnest... You truly was an age resilient force. From Washers and Dryers to Fridges, you were the man; part of one of the last hard working generation of our time. You were a good Human being, and the Heavens will be happy to have you, a few siblings in particular will be happy to see you made it. Suffering is over... Just do me a favor, tell everyone I said "Hey."

Oh and tell my Mom she is Truly missed around here, her grandchildren would've LOVED her as a Grandmother.

Thanks for Everything Unc... And see you later Earnest. Or as you said to me before... "Uncle Earnest."

;-)

-Ben Jr.

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**Benjamin Roibinson** - October 12, 2016 at 08:50 PM

 Atricia Kelley

“ Atricia Kelley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



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**Atricia Kelley** - October 12, 2016 at 08:33 PM

KM

“ *The Morris family*



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**Kenneth Morris** - October 12, 2016 at 08:23 PM

L&

“ *To Mary Wynn (Matthews) & family..... even as kids growing up in BV your father was very nice to us and made sure we did what was right as children. My condolences to all of you. May God continue to comfort & bring this family closer together in unity. Love you all.*

*Sincerely,  
LaShawn Clemons*

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**LaShawn Clemons &Family** - October 12, 2016 at 08:08 PM

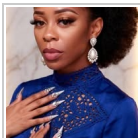
L&

“ *LaShawn Clemons &Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**LaShawn Clemons &Family** - October 12, 2016 at 07:58 PM



“ *Kyiia Rodgers lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Kyiia Rodgers** - October 12, 2016 at 07:15 PM



“ *lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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October 12, 2016 at 07:12 PM



“ *Tramece Rutherford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Tramece Rutherford** - October 12, 2016 at 07:00 PM



“ *Condolences to the Matthew family...Praying for you all.*  
*Doris Essex Taylor*

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**Doris Essex Taylor** - October 12, 2016 at 05:32 PM

BR

“ Hey Uncle Earnest... You truly was an age resilient force. From Washers and Dryers to Fridges, you were the man; part of one of the last hard working generations of our time. You were a good human being, and the Heavens will be happy to have you, a few siblings in particular will be happy to see you made it. Suffering is over... Just do me a favor, tell everyone I said "Hey."



Oh and tell my Mom she is Truly missed around here, her grandchildren would've LOVED her has a Grandmother!

Thanks for Everything Unc... And see you later Earnest. Or as you said to me before... "Uncle Earnest" 😊

-Ben Jr.

---

Benjamin Robinson - October 12, 2016 at 05:26 PM

BR

“ Hey Uncle Earnest... You truly was an age resilient force. From Washers and Dryers to Fridges, you were the man; part of one of the last hard working generations of our time. You were a good human being, and the Heavens will be happy to have you, a few siblings in particular will be happy to see you made it. Suffering is over... Just do me a favor, tell everyone I said "Hey."

Oh and tell my Mom she is Truly missed around here, her grandchildren would've LOVED her has a Grandmother!

Thanks for Everything Unc... And see you later Earnest. Or as you said to me before... "Uncle Earnest" 😊

-Ben Jr.

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Benjamin Robinson - October 12, 2016 at 05:21 PM

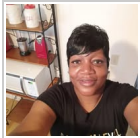


“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr..*



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October 12, 2016 at 05:05 PM



“ *Monica Hill lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Monica Hill** - October 12, 2016 at 05:04 PM



“ *Linda Hardin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Linda Hardin** - October 12, 2016 at 04:12 PM



“ *Shadana Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Shadana Smith** - October 12, 2016 at 03:45 PM

MM

“ *Moty And Geri McKinney lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



Moty and Geri McKinney - October 12, 2016 at 03:40 PM

MM

*Mr. Matthew, will be truly missed. He was a very nice person and he enjoyed helping others.*

Moty and Geri McKinney - October 12, 2016 at 03:42 PM

BK

“ *Betty King lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



Betty King - October 12, 2016 at 03:39 PM

BK

*My condolences to the Matthews' family, may God comfort the family during your time of sorrow. A great man who loved people and helped through his service of appliance repairs. God bless !!*

Betty King - October 12, 2016 at 03:46 PM

TD

“ *Tondra D.Freeman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



Tondra D.Freeman - October 12, 2016 at 03:07 PM

TJ

“ Tina Jamerson-Mata lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Tina Jamerson-Mata - October 12, 2016 at 02:11 PM



“ H.t. Thompson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



H.t. Thompson - October 12, 2016 at 01:54 PM

VL

“ Vonda Liles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Vonda Liles - October 12, 2016 at 11:48 AM

TC

“ Tracy L. Cormier lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Tracy L. Cormier - October 12, 2016 at 11:42 AM

AH

“ *Annie Fairris Holiday lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



**Annie Fairris Holiday** - October 12, 2016 at 11:41 AM

EF

“ *Eugene Blair And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



**Eugene Blair and Family** - October 12, 2016 at 10:59 AM

JB

“ *Jackie Batts lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



**Jackie Batts** - October 12, 2016 at 07:36 AM

GP

“ *Gloria Bender Peake lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



**Gloria Bender Peake** - October 12, 2016 at 04:35 AM

SS

“ *Shadana Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Shadana Smith** - October 11, 2016 at 11:09 PM

TH

“ *Tiffany Hicks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Tiffany Hicks** - October 11, 2016 at 06:41 PM

LP

“ *Loreann Gissendanner Payton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Loreann Gissendanner Payton** - October 11, 2016 at 05:22 PM

MJ

“ *To the entire Matthews family, we were so sad to hear of the passing of Bro. Matthews. I have fond memories growing up of our families coming together to fellowship with each other. He will be truly missed by all who knew and loved him. We are praying for the family.*

*Love Marcella Jones/Crudup family.*

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**Marcella Jones/Crudup/Family** - October 11, 2016 at 05:02 PM

CJ

“ Chris, Wayne Jernigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Chris, Wayne Jernigan - October 11, 2016 at 03:10 PM

YL

“ Yvonda Liles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Yvonda Liles - October 11, 2016 at 03:01 PM



“ Yvonne Sanders lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Yvonne Sanders - October 11, 2016 at 02:52 PM

VL

“ Vonda Liles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.



Vonda Liles - October 11, 2016 at 02:51 PM

VL

“ *Vonda Liles lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Vonda Liles** - October 11, 2016 at 02:32 PM

VL

“ *Please accept my deepest sympathies  
In this time of grief, you are in my thoughts  
and prayers*



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**Vonda Liles** - October 11, 2016 at 02:31 PM

BD

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest  
Matthews*



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**Brenda Doss** - October 11, 2016 at 12:19 PM

MJ

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest  
Matthews*



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**Marcella Jones/Crudup/Family** - October 11, 2016 at 08:23 AM

IM

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews*



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**Irma Mitchell** - October 11, 2016 at 08:05 AM

TM

“ *Theresa McClellon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*

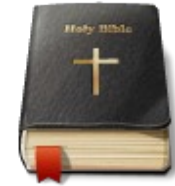


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**Theresa McClellon** - October 11, 2016 at 07:30 AM

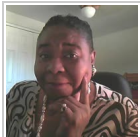
VH

“ *Sent a gift in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews*



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**Vanessa Humes-Johnson** - October 11, 2016 at 06:32 AM

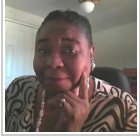


“ *Beverly Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews, Sr.*



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**Beverly Smith** - October 11, 2016 at 12:38 AM



“ *To the Matthews family, our prayers are with you that the Lord Jesus Christ comfort your hearts. Prayer is our greatest weapon in life for times like these. God will see you through, we love the Matthews, Fredrick, Shawn, Bobby, Earnest and Mary and Evangelist Willie Ann, we are here should you need anything. You are a loving family just remember we will see him again.*

*Pastor Beverly A. Smith*

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**Beverly Smith** - October 11, 2016 at 12:37 AM



“ *Lit a candle in memory of Mr. Earnest Matthews*



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**Joanie Williams** - October 10, 2016 at 09:12 PM



*Family lets pull on god like never before during such a time as this. God has left his holy spirit to be our comforter and all we have to do is call on the holy ghost to help us and he will. I am praying for everyone and i pray that others are praying because god says when we have two or more in agreement that he will answer our prayers. Family it is a lot of power in prayer. I love you all. Tinita*

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**Tinita Walton** - October 14, 2016 at 08:40 AM