



## Mr. John Lee Wilson

January 8, 1928 - June 12, 2019

John Lee Wilson went home to be with the Lord surrounded by his family in Ann Arbor, Michigan on Wednesday June 12, 2019. John Lee was born on Jan 8th, 1928 of Charles and Cleo (Dennis) Wilson in Eldorado, Arkansas. His parents moved to Saginaw, Michigan in order to pursue a better life for their family.

In 1947, John Lee joined the army and served for three years in Kobe, Japan. John Lee continued to surprise and delight friends with his fluency in Japanese, especially giving fun and eloquent greetings on holidays. John Lee was very patriotic and upon his honorable discharge, he married his high school sweetheart, Lucille Bryant, whom he affectionately called Lucy. John Lee and Lucy were married for 50 years when she predeceased him. They had four children, Lawrence Crawford, Gregory, Carlotta and Kathleen.

Upon returning to Saginaw, John Lee completed a four-year apprenticeship program at General Motors, and continued his education at Delta College. John Lee excelled at his job as a skilled tradesman, working as a Journeyman-Millwright at the Malleable Iron Plant. John Lee instilled the strongest work ethic in his children always telling them that “arriving to work early is on time and arriving on time is late.” True to his creed, he never missed a day of work until he became ill and retired from General Motors after 42 years of dedicated service. He was a humble man but one who was proud

of his work, that work and the love that he and Lucille gave to their children was the most important thing to him. He supported his family and put all 4 of his children through the University of Michigan.

Those who were blessed to know John Lee, recognize that he had the sharp mind and personality of a comedian, who could make you laugh until you cried; the sage wit of a philosopher, full of colorful stories to learn from and most importantly, the heart of a lion, strong and reigning over the family and friends. While he fiercely protected his family, he believed one should work hard but play hard. He was an avid fisherman and hunter, taking an annual fishing trip to Canada with his best friend and brother-in-law, Freddie Jones. His greatest hobby was that of a rare gun collector. He enjoyed the status of being an expert marksman and loved to show off his gun collection. John Lee was also an award-winning athlete excelling at basketball, baseball and track and was honored to have been inducted into the Saginaw Athletic Hall of Fame.

A very faithful man, John Lee was an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in Saginaw, Mi. and served as the head of the Vestry to help administer the church. He was also counted on to be the chief handyman of the church living up to his motto "If you can break it, I can fix it...got any duct tape?" He beamed with pride because he literally had the keys to the church. He loved St. Paul's and was a member of the church for more than 60 years. After moving to Ann Arbor to be closer to health care services, he became a faithful member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

John was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille Bryant Wilson and his son, Gregory Allen Wilson, his parents, Charles and Cleo Wilson, brother Freddie Wilson and sisters, Lilly Dean Wilson and Irma Lee Rodgers. He leaves to cherish his memory his children, Lawrence (Winnie) Crawford, Carlotta Wilson, Kathleen (Donald) Wilson-Thompson and his sister Christine Jones,

with whom he shared a special bond.

He also leaves to mourn his passing, his grandchildren, who affectionately called him "Old Dude", Lawrence Crawford Jr, Alan Crawford, Jonathan Wilson, Candyce Young and Taylor Wilson Thompson along with special family friends, Charles, Colette, Jihan and Anton Rush, Dr. Linda Clark and Sharon Ford, Dr. Eugene Henderson, Jr., Patricia Qualls, Denise, Angie and Stephine Jones, Liz Works and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family. John Lee was cared for by his devoted daughter, Carlotta for the past five years for which the family will be forever grateful.

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 720 Tuscola St., Saginaw, MI 48601. The Very Rev. Judith D. Boli, Priest and Pastor will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48601. Friends may call at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 N. Jefferson Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607 on Monday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m.. Family hour will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 17. 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>

## Family Hour

JUN 17. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

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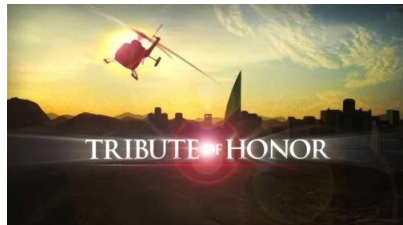
JUN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
720 Tuscola  
Saginaw, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson*



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**Browne's Mortuary** - June 21, 2019 at 10:41 AM

RF

“ *Rilla Caldwell And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson*



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**Rilla caldwell and Family** - July 01, 2019 at 03:04 PM

JH

“ *No expression of sympathy - no matter how deeply felt- can help much right now, but I had to let y'all know that my thoughts are with y'all and you have my deepest sympathy.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jewel Hall  
Post Office Box 44482  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87174-4482*

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**Jewel L. Hall** - June 26, 2019 at 09:44 PM

MM

“ We are praying for your family and hoping Gods strength will carry you through--Mary Morris ,Felecia Veal-Edmunds and family.....

mary morris - June 24, 2019 at 03:20 PM

CJ

“ C. Jarrett-Mason lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



C. Jarrett-Mason - June 18, 2019 at 11:43 AM

AK

“ Alfred Kelly lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



Alfred Kelly - June 18, 2019 at 11:01 AM

AK

To Carla ,Cathy and Larry May God bless you and give peace and comfort

Alfred Kelly - June 18, 2019 at 11:08 AM

DW

“ St. Paul Episcopal Church will never forget the love Mr. Wilson showed to his Church. Carla was an artist and also a faithful member. We continue to love and Pray for this wonderful family.



Doretta J Williams - June 18, 2019 at 08:44 AM

SP

“ Sam & Alberta Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



Sam & Alberta Pruitt - June 17, 2019 at 09:21 PM

SP

“ Sam And Alberta Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



Sam and Alberta Pruitt - June 17, 2019 at 09:04 PM



“ Grande Gourmet Fruit Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



June 17, 2019 at 08:34 PM

SL

“ SANDRA J LOWERY lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



SANDRA J LOWERY - June 17, 2019 at 06:40 PM

LF

“ Love, Scout (Sharon Ford) purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



Love, Scout (Sharon Ford) - June 17, 2019 at 12:43 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



June 17, 2019 at 12:18 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



June 17, 2019 at 10:56 AM

DI

“ Diversity-Vuteq purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



Diversity-Vuteq - June 17, 2019 at 08:51 AM

CW

“ Calvin And Delores Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



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**Calvin and Delores Williams** - June 17, 2019 at 08:10 AM

HL

“ Hillary Leisten purchased the Simply Elegant Spa thiphyllum for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



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**Hillary Leisten** - June 17, 2019 at 05:38 AM

DW

“ Mr. John Lee Wilson. He was never with a question or something witty to say. I remember him from when we moved to 19th Street up until him leaving Saginaw for Ann Arbor. Boy I remember so much fun being around him. He was a great example of a father. I remember him doing his Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve and all from Jacobson's. I could think about my interactions with Mr. Wilson. The Wilsons were my other family and I love you all to this day. I am praying for your strength knowing you had a father like Mr. Wilson.



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**Deborah Morris - Williams** - June 17, 2019 at 02:48 AM

VS

“ *Vermell Sangster lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson*



Vermell Sangster - June 16, 2019 at 09:58 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



June 16, 2019 at 08:46 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



June 16, 2019 at 08:22 PM

JC

“ *We, the Aldridge, Conner; Hill families, extend our heartfelt sympathy to the Crawford and Wilson families. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. May the endearing memories of Mr. Wilson serve as a beacon of everlasting comfort and peace.*

Janice Conner - June 16, 2019 at 06:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 16, 2019 at 06:24 PM



“ *Judge Terry L. Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson*



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**Judge Terry L. Clark** - June 16, 2019 at 03:29 PM



“ *The Global HR Leadership Team (GHRLT) purchased the Heavenly Sentiments Spray for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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**The Global HR Leadership Team (GHRLT)** - June 16, 2019 at 01:59 PM



“ *Mr. Wilson was a man of faith and deeply loved his family. Also anyone who really knew him knew he was one of the funniest people on the planet and could rival any comedian. You are loved and will be missed by all who loved you so dearly. Linda*



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**Linda Clark** - June 16, 2019 at 11:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 16, 2019 at 11:29 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 16, 2019 at 10:45 AM



“ *Stephanie Hall lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson*



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**Stephanie Hall** - June 16, 2019 at 09:18 AM



“ *Kathy, Carla and Larry, we are deeply sorry to hear of your loss. I have good memories and thoughts your dad, he was a real trooper and a kind and thoughtful man. You all have a lot to be proud of being able to call him your Dad. RIP*

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**Frances Ham Zackrie** - June 16, 2019 at 04:24 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



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June 16, 2019 at 01:03 AM



“ Mr N MS Sylvester N Nina Hayes lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



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Mr n MS Sylvester n Nina Hayes - June 15, 2019 at 10:31 PM



Our Uncle was a funny entertainer who always come bk on U wit sumthg funny to say or would greet you with the craziest sayings!!! He was a loving n caring man....we will miss him dearly!❤️Wear Ur crown with the Lord👑

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Mr n MS Sylvester n Nina Hayes - June 15, 2019 at 10:36 PM



“ Sheryl Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



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Sheryl Jenkins - June 15, 2019 at 10:04 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



June 15, 2019 at 07:13 PM



“ *My condolences and prayers to the families of my friend, he was a great and likable person in which we worked together over the thirty years , his memories will always be with me forever.*



**Herbert Flournoy** - June 15, 2019 at 04:36 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



June 15, 2019 at 03:12 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



June 15, 2019 at 01:57 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 15, 2019 at 11:26 AM



“ *Kathleen and Carla, your dad was so sweet and funny. Those memories of Saginaw visits during and after law school will be highlights forever. Rick and I will continue to pray for your family. Joyce (Herron) and Rick Taylor*

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**Joyce Herron-Taylor** - June 15, 2019 at 09:44 AM



“ *Sorry, Carla , Kathy, Lawrence and Wilson/ Crawford/ Jones family. I wish I could be there to attend the memorial service for your dad and grandpa. He lived an enviable life. I wish you continued grace through all your wonderful memories of John Wilson.*

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**Geordie Wilson** - June 14, 2019 at 11:10 PM



“ *To the Wilson and Jones families in your time of loss and grief, may the memories you hold in your heart bring you comfort and peace.*

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**Glendorah Lawrence** - June 14, 2019 at 10:48 PM

TH

“ Larry, Carla, and Kathy, So sorry about the lost of your father, My prayers are with you guys ,God will keep his arms around you. Gone but not forgotten. Your cousins Tina Houze and Susan Cooper.

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**Tina Houze** - June 14, 2019 at 08:14 PM

DD

“ Debra Dillard lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



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**Debra Dillard** - June 14, 2019 at 06:06 PM

DD

*Remembering Mr. Wilson with a smile. He was such a sweet man and always spoke his mind of truth with me. God will step in when ever you need him most. Blessing and love for the family Of Mr. Wilson. I love you all.*

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**Debra Dillard** - June 14, 2019 at 06:11 PM

LF

“ L D Frierson lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson



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**L D Frierson** - June 14, 2019 at 05:14 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



June 14, 2019 at 05:04 PM



“ Walgreens Boots Alliance purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



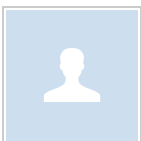
**Walgreens Boots Alliance** - June 14, 2019 at 10:33 AM



“ What can I say about Mr. John Lee, a wonderful man. He took good care of us growing up and always made us laugh but at the same time taught us valuable life lessons. Kathleen and Carla thanks for sharing “John Lee” with us. He’ll never be forgotten!

*May you find comfort in knowing that God will keep us in perfect peace now and in the days ahead!*

**Karen Cork** - June 14, 2019 at 09:46 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.



June 14, 2019 at 09:27 AM

TL

“ *Someone so special can never be forgotten. May your memories of John Lee give you peace and comfort. Sharing in your sorrow with love and friendship.* ”

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**The Littles** - June 14, 2019 at 08:06 AM

BL

“ *There is no one like Mr. John Lee. I hold fond memories of years of fun, laughter, family togetherness, love, and friendship.* ”



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**Betsy Little** - June 14, 2019 at 08:01 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.* ”



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June 14, 2019 at 01:57 AM

CR

“ *Kathleen and Family,*

*Take comfort in knowing that your father is resting comfortably, free from the troubles of this world. He has accomplished much, given much, and now he reaps the benefits of his labors. My prayer is for your peace and understanding that he is one of God's children and now he has claimed his place in God's "Eternal Kingdom".*

*Cheryl F. Roberts  
Battle Creek, MI*



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**Cheryl Roberts** - June 13, 2019 at 10:00 PM

PQ

“ *I'll miss you Uncle Johnny. You were truly one in a million!*

*Your niece,  
Pat*



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**Pat Qualls** - June 13, 2019 at 09:34 PM



“ *Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 13, 2019 at 08:59 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 13, 2019 at 08:22 PM



“ *Audra A. purchased the Sunny Memories for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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**Audra A.** - June 13, 2019 at 05:37 PM



“ *Annie Lowery lit a candle in memory of Mr. John Lee Wilson*



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**Annie Lowery** - June 13, 2019 at 04:08 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. John Lee Wilson.*



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June 13, 2019 at 03:38 PM