



Joseph Atwater

September 22, 1929 - November 11, 2012

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m on Saturday, November 17, 2012 at the Mt. Olive Institutional Missionary Baptist Church, 1114 North 6th Street. Rev. Dr. Marvin T. Smith will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at Evans & Browne's Funeral Home , 441 N. Jefferson Ave. on Friday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. The family will be present to greet friends from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m.

Joseph W. Atwater, loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend, made his transition on Sunday, November 11, 2012 after spending a beautiful day with his family.

Joseph was born to Jeff and Learo (May) Atwater on September 22, 1929 in Jackson, TN. He was a veteran of the United States Army having served during the Korean Conflict. He met and married Cora Reese and from this union four sons were born. Joseph retired from the Grey Iron Foundry and was a member of the UAW Local #668. He was a faithful member of the Mt. Olive Institutional Missionary Baptist Church where he served on the usher board for almost 60 years. He also served with the Heavenly Hands Ministry and wherever else he could be helpful in the church.

Joseph's community activities are too numerous to mention. However, the A. Philip Randolph Institute, United Auto Workers and the Old Timers Club are organizations that were extremely special to him. Joseph was also an avid bowler and fisherman. When he wasn't throwing strikes in the alley, you could

find him fishing on a lake trying to catch, in his words, “anything that bites”. Joseph’s memory will be cherished by his loving wife of 60 years, Cora Atwater; four sons, Clarence (Sherri) Atwater of Baton Rouge, LA, Kenneth Atwater of Minneapolis, MN, Bernard (Kimberly) Atwater of Saginaw, MI and Anthony (Pamela) Atwater of Farmington, MI; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; one brother, Charles Atwater of Flint, MI; one sister, Doris (John) Hinton of Saginaw, MI and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Mr. Atwater was preceded in death by his parents, Jeff and Learo Atwater; one brother, Willie B. Hutch; two sisters, Mattie Erwin and Mary Doster and one grandson, Rashad Atwater.

Special thanks are extended to the staff of Fresenius Medical Care of Saginaw Riverside for the special care and attention they provided to Joseph.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Tribute Wall



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



Browne's Mortuary - November 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ *I am so very sorry for your loss. I wanted to share an encouraging thought from the bible. The scripture is found at John 5:28,29. It says," . 28 Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice 29 and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life, those who practiced vile things to a resurrection of judgment." I found these very comforting in times of mourning.*

Betty Curtis - November 20, 2012 at 06:34 PM

GS

“ *I want the family to know we're thinking of all of you, during this difficult time.
With deepest sympathy,
Norma Jean Snow & Family*

Grandma Snow - November 19, 2012 at 04:36 PM

AA

Thanks grandma snow

Andrea Atwater - November 24, 2012 at 01:42 PM

SB

“ I'm offering my condolences to the Atwater family during this time of grief. May GOD be your strength. Love & Prayers, Burt & Snow Family.

Silvia Burt - November 19, 2012 at 04:26 PM

TJ

“ To the entire Atwater family you are in my prayers and I so sorry for your loss. May God continue to give you comfort in this time of sorrow and grief.

Tracy Jacqmain

Tracy Jacqmain - November 18, 2012 at 08:54 AM

RT

“ To the entire Atwater family, you are in our prayers at this time, may GOD bless your family, The Tuckers



Raymond Tucker - November 18, 2012 at 06:45 AM

RT

“ To the entire Atwater family, you are in our prayers at this time, may GOD bless your family, The Tuckers



Raymond Tucker - November 18, 2012 at 06:44 AM

SC

“ To the extended Atwater Family. May the arms of angels keep you uplifted as you celebrate the life and love of Mr. Atwater. I have many fond memories of times spent with members of your family and know that God will help you through this time of remembrance.

Shari (Haithco) Clarke, Fayetteville, GA

Shari (Haithco) Clarke - November 17, 2012 at 08:05 PM

KR

“ *Kimberly Rohde lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Kimberly Rohde - November 17, 2012 at 06:41 PM

ML

“ *My deepest condolences to Mrs. Atwater and the family, and especially Clarence. A wonderful, giving, and cheerful man is gone but the good memories will forever remain. God be with you all. May HE comfort and strengthen during the days ahead.*

Michael L. Welch Lawrence - November 17, 2012 at 02:29 PM

TA

“ *May God keep you and shine his face upon you and give you peace during this difficult time of the loss of your beloved Husband, Father, and Grandfather. Keep your loving memories of him close to your heart and know he is forever with you.*

Theresa Askey

Theresa Askey - November 17, 2012 at 10:31 AM

AA

nice to hear from you Theresa and thanks for your love!

Andrea Atwater - November 18, 2012 at 08:50 AM



“ *Arthur Williams lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Arthur Williams - November 17, 2012 at 08:49 AM

AH

“ *Tony, I would like to express my sincere condolences to you and your family during this most difficult time in the loss of your father. I pray for your comfort in this time of sorrow and grief. God is with you all.*

*Althea Hale,
Raytheon Professional Services*

Althea Hale - November 16, 2012 at 03:52 PM

TM

“ Aunt Cora, Clarence, Kenny, Bernie and Tony:

A life well lived is one worth honoring. I think that statement certainly applies to the Christian lifestyle Uncle Joe embraced and exemplified -- thus revealing his great love for family, his devotion to friends, his dedication to the community and his commitment to God. For these reasons and many others, we share with you in the celebration of the life of Joseph W. Atwater. May the Lord bless and keep you all, and make His face to shine upon you with the everlasting light of peace and healing. Amen!

Trish, Jennifer and Merissa Meridy - Cincinnati, OH

The Meridys - November 16, 2012 at 02:25 PM

CM

“ Charlotte McMillan-Harper lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Charlotte McMillan-Harper - November 16, 2012 at 01:38 PM

TS

“ Theresa Smith lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Theresa Smith - November 16, 2012 at 01:30 PM

HF

“ *Hollistine Bell And Famioly lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Hollistine Bell and Famioly - November 16, 2012 at 01:27 PM

HF

Keeping you all lifted in prayer knowing our Heavenly Father will provide the peace and comfort in the days ahead.

Hollistine Bell & Family - November 16, 2012 at 01:35 PM

CK

“ *Cheryl, Damario, Shannon, Jayda, And Kim lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Cheryl, Damario, Shannon, Jayda, and Kim - November 16, 2012 at 12:55 PM

CB

“ *Cleveland M. Burks sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Cleveland M. Burks - November 16, 2012 at 12:26 PM

CM

“ *Chaka McMillan lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Chaka McMillan - November 16, 2012 at 08:26 AM



“ *Quiet Expressions was purchased for the family of Joseph Atwater.*



November 16, 2012 at 07:38 AM

ET

“ *Edmond & Cynthia Taylor lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Edmond & Cynthia Taylor - November 15, 2012 at 05:02 PM

GL

“ To Mrs. Cora Atwater and children
You are in my thoughts and prayers during
this very sad time. Mr. Atwater will certainly
be missed at Mt. Olive and the Saginaw
community. May God strengthen and keep
you during this time of bereavement.

Glendorah Lawrence



Glendorah Lawrence - November 15, 2012 at 04:40 PM

M(

“ Ms. Brenda Bryant-Reynolds (Bren-Bren) sent
a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Atwater



Ms. Brenda Bryant-Reynolds (Bren-Bren) - November 15, 2012 at 02:23 PM

SM

“ Sam & Deborah Mack lit a candle in memory
of Joseph Atwater



Sam & Deborah Mack - November 15, 2012 at 11:16 AM

BC

“ Billy And Karen Cork lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Billy and Karen Cork - November 15, 2012 at 10:31 AM

TS

“ Tamera Sangster lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Tamera Sangster - November 15, 2012 at 09:15 AM

KN

“ Karen Martin-Brodnex, Raleigh, NC lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Karen Martin-Brodnex, Raleigh, NC - November 14, 2012 at 09:42 PM

JW

*Will be greatly missed at the UAW monthly union meeting and lunch !!!
Bingo won't be the same. Prayers, Jan and Dave Wiles*

Janet and David Wiles - November 15, 2012 at 08:10 AM

AA

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Andrea Atwater - November 14, 2012 at 08:59 PM

MR

“ to all of the family,i'm praying for u all knowing
GOD is in complete control.



mittie russell - November 14, 2012 at 06:58 PM

RI

“ *The St. Paul Baptist Church, Reverend Larry and Joy Blackmore Pate, Reverend and Mrs. Glasper Cobb and the congregation send heartfelt words of condolences to the Reverend and Mrs. Clarence Atwater as they bid farewell to a beloved father. God is able to subdue all things unto himself.*



Reverend and Mrs. Pate

Reverend Robert L. Johnson, III - November 14, 2012 at 05:47 PM

RI

“ *The Western New Orleans-Baton Rouge District Ministerial Alliance, The Reverend Joe Chaney, President The Reverend Leona Fisher, Vice President The Reverend Victor H. McGhee, Acting Treasurer*



The Wall of love that you posted your heart on here in the Eighth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is grieved over the passing of your loved one but consoled by his relationship with the Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. May the candle of the Lord shine the light of peace in the family as you celebrate the homegoing of your dear father. John 14:1-5

*The Reverend Joe Chaney , President
The Reverend Herman Kelly, Dean
The Reverend Bland Washington, District Finance Officer
The Reverend Herbert Spears, Christian Education Director
The Reverend David James Campbell, Presiding Elder*

Reverend Robert L. Johnson, III - November 14, 2012 at 05:41 PM

TC

“ *Life is a book that we study and while many of the leaves bring a sigh, they also bring many happy memories that light up your lives.*

Joseph Atwater lit many lives with the candle of the LORD that was a shining star in his life.

May you and your family enjoy the sunshine that will continue to reflect brightly because he passed your way. THEY THAT TRUST IN THE LORD SHALL BE AS MOUNT ZION WHICH SHALL NOT BE REMOVED BUT ABIDES FOREVER. PSALM 125.1

REVEREND THOMAS, REVEREND LARRY PATE, REVEREND RONALD JOHNSON, REVEREND LARRY CROCKETT, REVEREND HERMAN O. KELLY, REVEREND LINDA BROOKS, REVEREND LEONA FISHER.



The Reverend Marjorie Cobb-Thomas - November 14, 2012 at 05:30 PM

EB

“ *The Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church Family acknowledges with this Resolution of Support the death of Mr. Joseph W. Atwater father of The Reverend Clarence Dale Atwater, Pastor: Gtr Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church West Feliciana Parish, St. Francisville, Louisiana*

And, Whereas:

Mr. Joseph W. Atwater
441 North Jefferson Avenue Saginaw, Michigan
Found joy and comfort in the Ordination of this first son called to Christian ministry

Whereas:

The church family has elected to join as extended Members by sending heartfelt condolences

Be it therefore Resolved:

Our hearts join our beloved pastor and family in their moment of bereavement. May God’s love encompass you in His Homegoing Celebration

Earline Blackmore Lionel C. Sanders
Joseph W. Mitchell, Official Body

Earline Blackmore - November 14, 2012 at 05:12 PM

PS

“ *Patricia & Justin Snow lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Patricia & Justin Snow - November 14, 2012 at 01:40 PM

CG

“ *Charles & Evelyn Hardy Garrett lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Charles & Evelyn Hardy Garrett - November 14, 2012 at 12:00 PM

DA

“ *Dona Austin-Bigby lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Dona Austin-Bigby - November 14, 2012 at 11:00 AM



“ *To the Atwater Family,
We send our heart felt condolences to you. 2 Corinthians 5:8 says
We are confident, I say and WILLING rather to be absent from the
body and to be present with the Lord.*

*May God comfort you in your time of need
Sonandra, Semaj, Semariya, and Syair Mounger*

Sonandra Mounger - November 14, 2012 at 10:48 AM

VT

“ *Vickie (Burley) Taylor lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Vickie (Burley) Taylor - November 14, 2012 at 09:24 AM

TW

“ Sincere Condolences to the Atwater Family during this time. God's Peace and Love to you all~

Tracy, Melody and Brielle Woods~Detroit Michigan

Tracy Woods - November 14, 2012 at 08:31 AM

C6

“ Clara Martin, Secretary, UAW Local 668 lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Clara Martin, Secretary, UAW Local 668 - November 14, 2012 at 08:24 AM

GK

“ It shall be the duty of each member to render aid and assistance to brother or sister members in cases of illness, death or distress, and in every way acquit her/himself as a loyal and devoted member of the International Union, UAW.

The dedication and commitment demonstrated by "Mr Atwater" to the cause of social justice shall never be forgotten.

Our prayers and thoughts are with the family. May God Bless You.

In Solidarity

Gerald Kariem

Gerald Kariem - November 14, 2012 at 06:45 AM

MW

“ *Atwater Family,
My prayers are with you all, we are all one big family!
Love and prayers
Myra Coleman-Williams*

Myra L. Williams - November 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ *I'm so thankful that you were so happy on Saturday just to be
around us grandpa. That is the fondest memory that I could never
forget. I love you grandpa and may your spirit and memory live on!!!*

Andrea Atwater - November 13, 2012 at 10:36 PM

LS

“ *Larry & Carrie Campbell Sr lit a candle in
memory of Joseph Atwater*



Larry & Carrie Campbell Sr - November 13, 2012 at 10:08 PM

LJ

“ *Lela And Wilson Jones lit a candle in memory
of Joseph Atwater*



Lela and Wilson Jones - November 13, 2012 at 09:31 PM

CP

“ *Cornelius Overton Chapter President lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Cornelius Overton Chapter President - November 13, 2012 at 08:08 PM

WB

“ *Walsezetta BENNETT lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Walsezetta BENNETT - November 13, 2012 at 05:32 PM

JJ

“ *Jocelyn Jackson lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Jocelyn Jackson - November 13, 2012 at 04:53 PM

JM

“ *James And Ola McMillan lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



James and Ola McMillan - November 13, 2012 at 04:10 PM

BC

“ Bobby And Debra Cork lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Bobby and Debra Cork - November 13, 2012 at 03:43 PM

VB

“ Valerie Foster Baker lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Valerie Foster Baker - November 13, 2012 at 02:39 PM

PJ

“ To the Atwater Family, My condolence and prayers maybe with you all. We will always be praying from Paul Jones and Family.

Paul Jones - November 13, 2012 at 02:00 PM

KL

“ Karen Lawrence-Webster lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater



Karen Lawrence-Webster - November 13, 2012 at 01:53 PM

HJ

“ *Houston & Elaine Jackson, Jr. lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Houston & Elaine Jackson, Jr. - November 13, 2012 at 12:07 PM

VC

“ *Virginia Coleman lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Virginia Coleman - November 13, 2012 at 12:03 PM

LA

“ *Letha Adams lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Letha Adams - November 13, 2012 at 11:57 AM

MV

“ *Mr. & Mrs. Robert Veasley lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Mr. & Mrs. Robert Veasley - November 13, 2012 at 10:48 AM

CJ

“ *Chris Jernigan lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



chris jernigan - November 13, 2012 at 10:45 AM

CT

“ *Charles E. Taylor lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Charles E. Taylor - November 13, 2012 at 08:27 AM

VJ

“ *Vera Jones lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



vera jones - November 13, 2012 at 08:21 AM

AP

“ *Alberta Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Alberta Pruitt - November 12, 2012 at 08:16 PM

DW

“ *Deborah A. Williams lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Deborah A. Williams - November 12, 2012 at 07:14 PM

DT

“ *Deborah Toney lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



deborah toney - November 12, 2012 at 04:26 PM

LH

“ *Lois Holiday lit a candle in memory of Joseph Atwater*



Lois Holiday - November 12, 2012 at 04:04 PM