



## Leo Blanchard,

October 27, 1958 - May 18, 2006

Family hour will take place at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 24, 2006 at Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 721 Johnson Street, with the funeral commencing at 1:00 p.m. Pastor Rodrick Smith will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the Browne's Mortuary, 441 N. Jefferson Ave. on Tuesday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. Our beloved husband, son, brother, uncle, cousin and brother-went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, May 18, 2006 following a courageous fight with a terminal illness at the age of 47 years. Leo Blanchard, Jr. was born October 27, 1958 in Flint, Mich. to Charity Blanchard and the late Leo Blanchard, Sr. He was the youngest of five children. Leo was a graduate of Northwestern High School, class of 1976. He also graduated from Central Michigan University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Leo was employed with Citizens Bank from 1989 to 2005, his last position held was Vice-President Corporate Product Manager. Leo served the community in various capacities including serving as a Board of Director of Minority Business Development Center, Health Source Advisory Board, Junior Achievement, Saginaw Valley State University Board of Fellows and Saginaw County Community Action Committee. Leo also served in an advisory capacity to the local Opportunity Industrialization Center of America and on a local Municipal Downtown Development Authority. He was a member of the Zion's Trustee Board and an active member of Zion Missionary Baptist Church until his health failed. His memory will be cherished by his devoted wife of 24 years, Gloria Blanchard;

mother, Charity Blanchard; two brothers, Maurice (Cassandra) Brown of Wisconsin and Michael (Diana) Blanchard of Flint; two sisters, Leotha Blanchard of Oklahoma and Cynthia (Elder Theodore) Colbert of Rochester Hills. His memory will also be cherished by his three sisters-in-law, Lela (David) Beane and Dorothy Townsel, both of Saginaw and Carrie Jackson of Wyoming, Mich.; four brothers-in-law, Hubert Gills of Saginaw, J. B. Gills of Orlando, Fla., George (Willie Jean) Gills of Atoka, Tenn. and James Gills of Joliet, IL; a special niece, Courtney Jackson; one goddaughter, Kionna McBride; one godson, Larry Barnett, Jr.; one godsister, Robin Hunter; special friends, Dr. Surge and Roma Thurin, Rev. Roland and Jean Hendricks, Elder Alvin and Helen Jones, Jim and Denise Henris, Pam Winters, Bobby Norman, Dianne Barnett, Sheila McBride, Debra Sangster and Gloria Williams and many other relatives and friends. The family would like to extend a special thanks to Leo's barber, Lester Lewis and the VNA Covenant Health Care Hospice, Nancy (AKA Connie), Paula, Chris, Toni, Lesley, Charlie, Lisa, Barb and Marty.

# Tribute Wall

AB

“ Uncle Leo,

*You are loved and will be deeply missed by myself and all of us. I am grateful for all the times we shared and all the encouragement that you gave me. I know that you will keep Granddaddy company until we all meet again.*

*I love you,*

*Angela*

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**Angela Blanchard** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ We never met Leo in person, but we knew of him through Carrie, and from what she shared with us he was a special person, so the Blanchard Family you have our deepest sympathy during your time of bereavement. May God continue to uphold you. The Clarke Family

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May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Leo was always so nice in school. Although we have not seen him in years, it is still in our hearts to not forget about our classmates. The class of '76 was a great class with lots of class. May peace be with you during this time.

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**Michael & Oretha Harris** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Sometime you would like to hold someone, sometime you would like to touch someone, sometime you would like to listen to someone, but when you can?t do these things we will be thinking of you. Our pray is that God will strength you in this time of bereavement and that you will fine His love is forever strong. We grow up with the Blanchard Family, we worshiped and played together, always having a great time. Leo, we will miss you but we know that you?re in the hands of the one that the New Covenant Family taught us about when we were younger. My God bless the family and trust Him always.

*Be encouraged  
Terrence & Lanette Redmond Family  
Flint Mi.*

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**Terrence & Lanette Redmond** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ May it comfort you to know that others care,  
  
We think of you (the family) often and in every prayer  
  
We ask God to bless you with strength to bare  
  
The sorrow that now fills your hearts.  
  
You are in our hearts, thoughts and prayers.

*The Bethlehem Temple Church Family  
District Elder Gentry W. Richardson and  
Lady Mary Richardson*

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**Dr. Gentry W. Richardson, Sr.** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ *My dear Gloria,*

*Know that God will never leave you, nor forsake you. Go with God. He is the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. God is in Control! (Hebrews 13:5,8).*

*Read Psalms 139.*

*Remember that Death is not the end. Pray without ceasing; know that there is hope in God. "I Thessalonians 4:13  
But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." There is hope through Salvation.*

*We love you Gloria and we shall continue praying for you. Remember to always seek God first (Matt. 6:33) in all of your endeavors. Your comfort comes from your Maker (as you will read about in Psalms 139). We all will miss Junior and we will all stick together as family. You are not alone.*

*Your Cousin and family,  
Clara Rodgers*

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**Evangelist clara Mae Rodgers** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *To the family of Leo Blanchard you are in the thoughts of so many people right now. Please know that support, love, and sympathy are with you during this difficult time.*

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**Deborah Shipp-Brackins** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

N1

“ *To the Blanchard Family:*

*On behalf of Leo's class mates, Flint Northwestern Wildcats, Class of 1976 we extend to you our deepest condolences in the loss of your son, brother and husband.*

*Leo "Butter" was kind, soft spoken and well respected amongst his class mates. He will always be special in our hearts. We offer our prayers and God's comfort to your family in your time of sadness.*

*Leo will be missed and we will extend a special tribute in his memory him during our 30th reunion in August 2006.*

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**Northwestern Class of 1976** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dear Gloria and the Blanchard family,

*Our prayers and deepest sympathies are with you and your family. Leo will always be remembered as a "fighter!" His courage and faith sustained him throughout his life, I truly admired him for those traits. His character never waivered nor faltered, his view of life always remained positive. He was always upbeat, this was always encouraging. He valued his friends and family, I truly count it a blessing to have known him and to be considered to be one of his friends.*

*Gloria, your courage, strenght and support of Leo is to be commended and applauded. Leo could not have asked for a better mate/best friend. It is our prayer that God will continually strenghten and bless you, throughout life's journey as we mature, we learn that "earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal." Though it is painful and difficult now, as time passes the hurt you feel will subside, it never goes away, just becomes more bearable. Again, God bless you and your family*

*With Deepest Sympathy,*

*Adrian, Phyllis, Alyse and Lauren*

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**Adrian and Phyllis Jones and family** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ To The Blanchard and Colbert Family

*Blessed is he whose hope is in the Lord his God, the Maker of Heaven and earth... As you go through your greatest sorrow my your own faith in God sustain you, and bring you peace and comfort in your heart. With Deepest Sympathy. Sis. Jacqueline Coker*

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**Sis. Jacqueline Coker** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ *Gloria & Mrs. Blanchard*  
*Just wanted the both of you to know that I have been praying for you and will continue to pray for you. Leo was a wonderful person and a great boss who really cared about his employees. He made us feel important and he had a compassion for affordable housing and community development that went beyond the call of duty. He will truly be missed. The Joy of the Lord is our strength and it was proven through Leo's courage and faith. May God continue to Bless you and Keep you is my prayer.*

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**Melissa Overton** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ *Hello*  
*Im a old friend of leo,s from the flint area and I send my condolense. We grew up together in church at new covenant c.o.g.i.c. Im sorry we lost touch when he moved to Saginaw but I will always remember the fun times we shared as young teens. Mrs Blanchard,you and your family will be in my prayers.*

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**Kenneth Perkins** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *Gloria and family,*  
  
*May God's strength and love uphold you. Know that you are in our prayers.*

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**Sugar Rodgers** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Gloria,  
Our thoughts of sympathy are and will be with you always. Leo was a wonderful neighbor and we all missed you very much when the time came and you moved. I remember talking to Leo when I would see him at the Citizen's Bank corn-beef luncheons and we renewed our friendship every time. We always complimented him on his lawn and he enjoyed it very much. He was an asset to our community. I'll miss him stopping by the house but now he shares in God's great glory. May his blessings be with your entire family.

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**JERRY, PAM & PAT BOISSONNEAULT** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Leo was one of the most caring, conscientious individuals that I have ever met. He was a special friend and I miss him dearly. I will keep his spirit and smile in my thoughts always. My thoughts and prayers go out to Gloria and the family.

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**Lori Rock** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Jr. we love you always and forever. Your light and love will never be forgotten.

*Love Gladys, Penny, Enka, Earl*

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**Gladys Carter and Family** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

EC

“Gloria, what can I say when you loose someone you love. You have been a faithful wife, friend and a woman who love God. I know without a doubt that you're a woman of God, I have watch your walk and know what kind of family you came out of. Leo was blessed to have you as his help mate,as well as a soulmate. All I can say time will heal the pain of your loss. As the days goes on it get better. I didn't think , I would get over Mama leaving so soon, and I know, I love God, but I wanted to be selfish. People would make remarks that Mama was in a better place and I knew that. But I wanted her here with me in this life, that was my reality at that time. So what I will tell you is hold on and if it get hard know that God know how much each of us can bear. All I know that our thoughts are not HIS thoughts or our ways are HIS, just as the heavens are above the earth. His Glory & Divine will is beyond our earthly mind and HE see and knows our beginning and ending. So cry if you must and laugh if you need to, but know that this to will pass. I will be sending a more personal card later. My prayers & thoughts are with you and Bea,Dot,Carrie and Leo Family. Love yours in Christ, Elder William Dean Cooper Aka,Peter of Dallas-Ft.Worth(Metro)TX.

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Elder,Peter Cooper - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

BH

“To Mother Blanchard and Colbert family:

*May God's strength be with you during your time of need.*

*Remember to always "Trust in the Lord with all thy might and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

*In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall surely direct your path!"*

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Betty Harris - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ We the members of the Stephen Temple Deacon Wive's Circle would like to extend our deepest sympathy to you in the lost of your loved one.

*May God's grace and mercy be with you in your time of need.*

*Love you,  
Stephen Temple Church of God in Christ  
Deacon Wive's Circle*

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**Deacon Wives Circle** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Our sympathy and prayers are with you and the family. Lean unto God and he will give you the strength to make it through in your time of sorrows.

*May God bless you and keep you safely in his care!*

*Deacon & Missionary Robert Hamilton & Family*

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**Deacon Robert & Valerie Hamilton** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Our hearts are with you today. I knew Leo growing up at my father's church, in Saginaw. My husband was his roommate at Central Michigan, he was a good friend to my husband Tobin. Our prayers are with this entire family, and all those whose lives have been touch by this young man. We rejoice in knowing that he has joined that great cloud of witnesses! We know that we will all meet again, "on that great day!"

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**Mrs. Myra Coleman-Williams** - May 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM