



## Rudolph Skillman

February 7, 1935 - November 25, 2007

Family hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 1, 2007, with the funeral commencing at 11:00 a.m. at Victorious Believers Ministries C.O.G.I.C., 624 S. Outer Dr. Bishop Marvin C. Pryor will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the Browne's Mortuary, 441 N. Jefferson Ave. on Friday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m.

RUDOLPH HENSON SKILLMAN, Sr. Born: Feb 7, 1935 - November 25, 2007

"Well done my good and faithful servant" Matthew 25:23 Dearly beloved father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend Rudy, age 72, of Essexville, MI expired suddenly on Sunday morning, November 25, 2007 at his home. Rudy was born to the late Leonard Henson Skillman and Marjorie Fristoe on February 7, 1935 in Omaha, NE. He received his formal education at Lake Elementary School and Omaha Technical High School. He was active at the Omaha YMCA, working diligently with area youth. He played baseball and was the only person who could catch the fast balls thrown by Bob Gibson. Rudy was also the undefeated Nebraska State Table Tennis Champion, and was an expert pool player. He joined the U. S. Navy and served for four years. After returning to Omaha he worked for the U.S. Post Office until joining the Omaha Police Department. He married Joyce L. Twyman and together they reared seven children. In 1969, Rudy and his family moved to Saginaw, MI where he was recruited to work at Saginaw Manufacturing as a Sergeant of Security until he transferred to Delphi where he was currently employed. Rudy loved to play bridge with the late Mr. Harry W. Browne, Ruben Daniels, and

Mr. U. D. Killen. All who knew him were aware that he was an avid fisherman who would share his catch with everyone. Rudy traveled the United States & Canada to fish with his fishing club, The Saginaw Fish Masters. He loved to read and had an extensive collection of books and jazz music dating back to the early 1920's. To his children and others he was The Barbecue King, known for his top secret homemade barbecue sauce and grilling expertise. In 2004, The Lord sent an Angel into his life, Ms. Barbara Williams-Sane, his fiancée whom he was preparing to marry. During this courtship, Rudy dedicated his life to Jesus Christ, and became a member of Victorious Believers Ministries, C.O.G.I.C. under the auspices of Bishop Marvin C. Pryor, his Pastor. He whole heartedly served on the Usher Board, Security Staff and Men's Fellowship. Rudy faithfully attended Sunday School/Couples class, Monday evening prayer, Wednesday Bible Institute and reading and studying his Bible. Rudy has left to cherish his memory his fiancée, dear friend and companion, Barbara Williams-Sane, and his children and her children: Rudolph H. Skillman, Jr., Bay City, MI, David W. Skillman San Francisco, CA, Randolph H. Skillman and Alicia J. Skillman, Detroit, MI, Sgt. Carter V. Skillman, Eureka, CA, Felicia E. (Andre) Pyatt of San Diego, CA, Marisa J. (Anthony) Jackson, Lansing, MI and the mother of his children, Joyce Twyman-Skillman, Andrae L. Williams, Saginaw, MI; and MarQuita S. Williams of Lawrenceville, GA. Rudy is also survived by three granddaughters, Jessica M. Garcia, Alma, MI, Meagan Mauer, Kalamazoo, MI and Alia J. Pyatt, San Diego, CA. Three grandsons, Adam Skillman, Midland, MI, Aaron J. Pyatt, San Diego, CA and Nasaan J. Jackson, Lansing, MI. He is also survived by four loving sisters and two brothers; Dorothy Cartwright of Wilmington, IL; Jean (Nathaniel) Jackson of Cleveland, TN, Katheryn (LaFane) Battle of Houston, TX, Henry Hobson and Elizabeth Hobson of Atlanta, GA; and Leonard Henson of Omaha, NE. He also leaves to mourn his passing three great-granddaughters a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, friends and co-workers throughout the country. He was preceded in death by his mother, father, beloved step-father Henry Hobson, Sr. and two

brothers James Skillman and Ray Skillman.

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ Rudy a very good man and a friend to all i worked with Rudy in security we both was Sargeants i was at steering gear and he was at Transmission Plant in the later years we worked together at Steering Gear Security we would go out and eat from time to time at Memphis Pete Place and have a Slab of Ribs and a couple of beers I will truley miss Rudy a GOOD Persons, I will miss you . Luther

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**Luther Harrell** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ Mr. Skillman was a blessing to our family and will be missed.

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**Stacy Erwin Oakes** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FI

“ What do I say? Rudy was a man of valor, excellence, integrity, a man who exemplied real ministry. He was a total gentlemen and just seeing and appreciating the way he doted on Barbara was truly amazing. Thank you God for having known Rudy, he will be sorely missed. Family, you are blessed to know, Rudy's latter years were full of God's kind of love.

*Frances Irvin*

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**Frances Irvin** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ *To my dear Cousins:  
My love thoughts and prayers to you as you grieve the death your  
Dad.*

*My childhood memories include the unique texture of Uncle Rudy's  
laughter, his smile and his occasional story telling.*

*Love,  
Nathan*

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**Nathan Woodruff** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ *My prayers go out to the Skillman family. I didn't know your Father,  
but I attended high school with Randy.(SMC c/o 79) I just wanted to  
let him know that time passes but friendships don't fade. Stay  
focused on the Almighty and forever place your trust in HIm. For  
there is where you'll find your strength. And the strength of family.  
The beauty of your memories will always place your Father close,  
so hold him where you'll never forget; your heart. Gods blessing  
always.*

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**Christine Watkins** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ *To the Skillman family. I'm very sorry for your loss, I'm Andrae &  
Marquita's father. I thank God for Rudy, He was a very loving  
person and good to my children, So I say to you Trust in the Lord  
with all your heart, lean not to your own understanding,  
acknowledge Him in all things and He shall guide your path.  
Proverbs 3rd chpt.*

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**Andrew Williams Jr.** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To be absent from the body, is to be present with the Lord. We all know that if anybody made it into heaven, surely Rudy did. He was such a kind and considerate person. Isn't it amazing how God showed him so much love? He didn't allow Rudy suffer one day. Barb, we know it's hard to bear the loss of someone that was so dear to you and although there is so little that we can say or do, may you find comfort knowing that your loss is shared by those who care and love you. We already know that you have found your comfort in God. Just continue to trust him with all your heart and lean not until your own understanding. Your faith will see you through.

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**David & Debbie Burt & Family** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ I WILL MISS YOU.YOU WERE SUCH A QUIET STORM.IT WAS NICE KNOWING YOU.YOU WERE SUCH A GREAT PERSON.I WILL BE PRAYING FOR THE FAMILY THAT GOD WILL KEEP THEM STRONG.I KNOW GOD WILL SEE THEM THRU THIS TIME OF SORROW.LOVE YOU ALL  
SIS.PAT WILLIAMS

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**PATRICA WILLIAMS** - November 25, 2007 at 12:00 AM