



Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden

January 7, 1936 - May 13, 2018

Willie Murl Tolden was born on January 7, 1936, in Magee, Mississippi to Elijah Holliway and Leola (James) Williams. She passed away on Sunday, May 13, 2018 at the age of 82 years. She was the eldest of four children, and was raised from birth by her grandparents, Web and Dosha James. She spent most of her childhood in Mississippi and being the first grandchild, she was able to get her way in many things therefore she didn't have to work in the fields like her aunts and uncles unless she wanted too. As a child, because she was so little, her family began calling her, "Peewee", and she later adopted the name of "Pete."

Before settling in Saginaw, Michigan Pete lived in Chicago, IL, worked in a Diaper Factory and a Nursing Home. She relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, married the love of her life, Joe Willie Robinson and became a stay at home wife, mother and grandmother. Once the family moved to Saginaw she and Joe Willie bought their first home on Roberts Street. She was known as "Granny" in the neighborhood. She loved to work in her yard and all the neighborhood kids knew not to walk across her grass. She loved flowers and plants, she never seemed to have too many, there was always a place for them even if it was in a jar in her window. If you gave her a flower, she would bless that flower with your name. Willie Murl loved to cook. All the family gatherings would be at Pete's house and she would cook almost everything on the menu. She loved music, dancing and being around her family.

Willie "Pete" will forever be loved and celebrated by those she left behind, her children, Beulah (Willie) Clayton of Saginaw, MI, Curtis (Betty) Robinson of Louisville, MS, Brendia Hayes of Magee, MS; bonus daughter, Bettie (Ed) White of Bedford, OH; sister, Carrie Jean McNair of Gulfport, MS; brother, Terry James of Ripley, MS; a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and close friends.

Besides her parents, Elijah Holliway and Leola Williams; grandparents, Web and Dosha James; husband, Joe Willie Robinson; Pete was preceded death by her brother, John D. James; bonus son, Joe Alvin Robinson; two daughters, Mary Kay Robinson and Elaine Davis; her great-grandchildren, Daun-Te R. Dottery, Jr. Amrijah Davis, DeQueveon D. King, Jr. and DeKari King.

Funeral Service will take place at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at New Friendship Baptist Church, 3404 Sheridan Avenue. Pastor Eddie Jackson will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington, Saginaw, MI 48601. Friends may call at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48607 on Tuesday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. Family will be present to greet friends from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 22. 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

MAY 23. 12:00 PM (ET)

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3404 Sheridan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602

Tribute Wall



“ *Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden*



Browne's Mortuary - May 24, 2018 at 01:48 PM

DJ

I don't know her and never met her. But God will continue to let that light of LOVE FROM YOU TO US ALL SHINE FOREVER MORE. GOD IS STILL IN CHARGE OF HER LIFE. I sent a prayer up to God for you also Elder Sister.

David Lee Hardy Jr - May 26, 2018 at 08:56 PM

VE

“ *Veronica lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden*



Veronica - May 28, 2018 at 09:46 PM

SS

“ *Shannon And Teresa Surles lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden*



Shannon And Teresa Surles - May 24, 2018 at 09:48 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden.*



May 23, 2018 at 08:48 AM



“ *The Family of R.B & Beulah James Mcleod Magee, MS purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden.*



The Family of R.B & Beulah James Mcleod Magee, MS - May 22, 2018 at 06:27 AM



“ *Karen Turner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden*



Karen Turner - May 21, 2018 at 08:21 PM



“ *My heartfelt condolences to the James Family. May God in his infinite power comfort and keep your family in perfect peace. King Family*



Betty King - May 21, 2018 at 07:11 PM

BP

“ My Granny loved to cook for her family and work in her yard. I will miss and cherish all of our many long talks and laughs. Forever in my hearts kiss everyone for me love you always



BELINDA (Punkin) - May 21, 2018 at 05:58 PM

GR

“ My Granny loved to work in the garden... missing you!!!



Gwann Ross - May 21, 2018 at 05:48 PM



Karen
Turner

The family has our love prayers and support during your loss. Your Highway church family, Wilmington, DE

Karen Turner - May 21, 2018 at 06:16 PM

EL

“ Fly High Bigmomma.. We love you and miss you and i know your ahinning down on us from heaven like so many friends we lost along the way and i know eventually we'll be together one sweet day....

Ericka Lashawn - May 21, 2018 at 05:46 PM

DM

“ DIANA MIREE sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden



DIANA MIREE - May 19, 2018 at 03:33 PM

JE

“ Jean lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden



Jean - May 19, 2018 at 06:38 AM

TC

“ Fly with the angels big momma you will truly be missed. Love always Shell and the teins💕💕💕💕



Trishell Crawford - May 16, 2018 at 12:56 PM

RC

“ Ralph & Shirley Culpepper lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Murl "Pete" Tolden



Ralph & Shirley Culpepper - May 15, 2018 at 08:05 AM

DA

“ *David lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie
Murl "Pete" Tolden*



David - May 14, 2018 at 05:50 PM