



Melvin Williams, Jr.

February 25, 1943 - November 8, 2018

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch

Mr. Melvin Williams, Jr., 75, passed away quietly at home on Thursday, November 8, 2018, in Hernando, MS. Visitation will be Saturday, November 17, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Bethel Presbyterian Church (3810 Bethel Road, Olive Branch, MS), with a funeral service immediately following. Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Williams was born in Houston, TX, on February 25, 1943, to Melvin, Sr., and Hester Fruge. He was educated in Sunnyside; Pre-K through High School. Mr. Williams graduated with Honors and Special Achievement awards in ROTC. He attended Texas Southern University in Houston, which he left early to accept a business opportunity at Weiners Corporation. He was the first African-American to manage a department store in Houston in the 1960's.

Mr. Williams met his wife, Mary D. Peoples, and they were married June 23, 1966, in Houston. Two children were born to this union, Tequa Francine and Melvin Williams, III. Mr. Williams changed careers to radio sales which included moving to Memphis, TN. He worked in several positions during his radio sales career, culminating with starting his own business. He and Mary D. were members of Bethel Presbyterian Church in Plainfield, NJ, where he served as a Lay Person and active Elder. Melvin and Mary retired in 2009,

moving to Hernando to enjoy spending time with his daughter and granddaughters. Mr. Williams worked for Costco briefly after moving to Mississippi.

Mr. Williams and Mary D. joined Bethel Presbyterian Church in Olive Branch, MS. He was an active member of the church. Mr. Williams participated as an Elder, in Sunday school workshops, at the soup kitchen, and visited the sick.

Mr. Williams was preceded in death by his parents, Melvin Williams, Sr., and Hester Williams.

Mr. Williams leaves behind his wife of 52 years, Mary D. Williams of Hernando; daughters, Tequa Francine (Eric) Johnson of Hernando; and Cathy (Steven) Cole of Hernando; son, Melvin (Patrice) Williams, III, of Los Angeles, CA; sisters, Nina Clay of Houston, and Jackie (Thomas) Steele of Flemington, NJ; brother, Clyde Williams of Houston; grandchildren, Amara and Kiara Johnson of Hernando, Brenton and Adia Cole of Hernando, Maximus Jon Melvin and Parker Jon Williams of Los Angeles; nieces, Niki Clay, Tyler and Wintress Williams of Houston; sister-in-laws, Thelma Williams, Willene (Randy) Neyland and Glenda (Terrel) Thomas; godchildren, Kaitlin Thomas, Melissa McNeal and Denise Sanders. Mr. Williams leaves many loving extended family members and friends who will miss him dearly.

Donations and memorials in honor of Mr. Melvin Williams can be made to Bethel Presbyterian Church (3810 Bethel Road, Olive Branch, MS 38654).

Online condolences may be left on the Tribute Wall at www.colemanfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Melvin Williams, Jr..*



November 15, 2018 at 02:46 PM



“ *Tim and Sondra Harris & Family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Melvin Williams, Jr..*



Tim and Sondra Harris & Family - November 14, 2018 at 04:00 PM



“ *Al & Karen Johnson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Melvin Williams, Jr..*



Al & Karen Johnson - November 14, 2018 at 02:02 PM



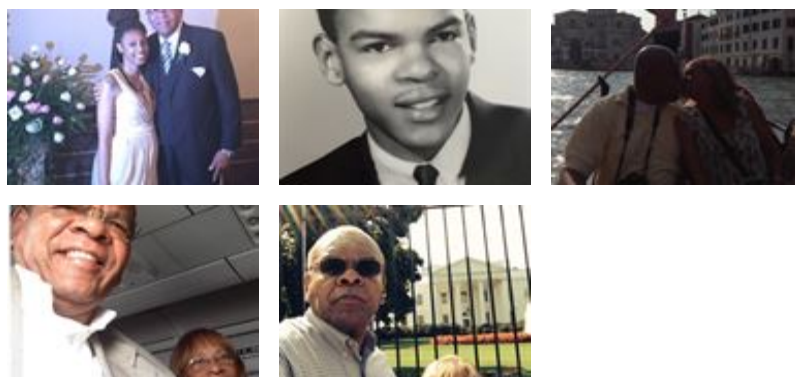
“ *Gregory and Deloris Stewart purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Melvin Williams, Jr..*



Gregory and Deloris Stewart - November 14, 2018 at 09:46 AM



“ 42 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Coleman Funeral Home - November 13, 2018 at 11:24 AM

GH

“ *Mrs. Williams and Family,*

Although I met you all at a difficult time in your lives, Mr. Williams was so gracious and kind to all he met. Mrs. Williams, you to have a beautiful legacy you and Mr. Williams built together. That I know with God's help will give you strength in the coming weeks and months to come. Your beautiful family is truly blessed to have had Mr. Williams as your patriarch.

May God lift you up and bring back the beautiful memories you have.

Gene Holliman

Gene Holliman - November 13, 2018 at 08:49 AM

HY

“ Our deepest sympathies to Mary, the family, and the congregation at Bethel Presbyterian Church in the loss of Melvin Williams. For the time I served the church as its Pastor, I thoroughly enjoyed my relationship to this wonderful Christian man. His consistent upbeat personality, winsome smile, and warm faith made him a superb leader in business and church. Melvin touched many, many lives with his encouragement and positive outlook. He deeply loved Mary, his family, and his church. Truly, heaven's gain is earth's loss. His life and mark on the lives of others will stand as his true legacy. God bless and comfort Mary and the family. Know that there are many people holding them up in prayer and thoughts.

Hershel Don Yancey - November 13, 2018 at 07:29 AM



MY prayer and condolences to my friend and Sister in Christ Elder Mary Williams in the passing of Melvin we did miss you when you relocated, missing you more now knowing that we've loss our dear brother in Christ, Elder Williams will be missed and be remembered of his commitment and hard work in every area in Bethel Presbyterian Church here in Plainfield, NJ before relocating, Mary D, may the God of all comfort who is also your refuge and strength be trusted by you knowing that He is ever near

Hernel Braham - November 14, 2018 at 07:03 PM

LB

“ My name is Larry Langford I was a member of Mel's radio family he represented my radio station WGTO in his adverting business. But we were also friends. He taught me a lot about the sales side of broadcasting and we had great exchanges on the industry and how underrepresented us black folks are in advertising and ownership. I miss him terribly. My best wishes to his entire family

Larry Langford. Langford Broadcasting - November 12, 2018 at 02:34 PM



Elysa
Denise

“ I must say that my Godfather, Melvin Williams, was the best that a girl could ever hope for, imagine or dream of! From New Jersey Summer visits, to back to school shopping in New York City, subscriptions to educational magazines, encouraging talks and words of wisdom, my Debutante presentation and purchasing my prom dress; so many wonderful memories were created! I truly loved him with all my heart and thank God that my parents chose he and Mary to be in my life! I will miss him and will cherish him in my heart and memories forever and ever.....Rest in peace! The world is a better place because of the seed you've sown in love.....~elysa 'denise' sanders-jackson (houston, texas)

Elysa Denise - November 12, 2018 at 12:08 PM



“ Dearest Family, this is your cousin Lolita from Houston and I'm so sorry to hear about cousin Melvin's passing. We are sending our condolences and please know that you guys are in our thoughts and prayers. Cousin Melvin had such a beautiful soul and was very passionate about our family history. We are definitely going to miss all of his family knowledge and genealogy info he so eloquently shared with us at the Family Reunions. Asia and I pray that God will give you all the strength and a sense of peace during this very difficult time.

Love you guys dearly, 💕💕💕

Lolita Johnson and Asia Johnson, Houston, Tx

Lo Johnson - November 12, 2018 at 11:05 AM

JS

“*Mary, Tequia, and Melvin, 111 it is with a heavy heart that we have to share our deepest sympathy to each of you on the passing of your father and our dearest friend. We will miss him dearly, however, we will have memories of things we all did together. Going to Off Broadway shows, hanging out at each other's house eating, talking and laughing. our thoughts, prayers and love will forever be with you. Jackie & Tom Steele (Auntie & Uncle) Fleming, New Jersey*



Jacqueline C. & Thomas M Steele - November 12, 2018 at 10:11 AM

MJ

“*My deepest sympathy on the passing of cousin Melvin William. I'm thankful for the opportunity to have met him at the family reunion. May God continue to give the family strength during this time of sorrow.*



Magoie Johnson - November 12, 2018 at 09:59 AM

YC

“*Mary my deepest condolences go out to you and your family, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Cousin Melvin. I am so grateful that I had the pleasure of meeting him at the last family reunion I attended in Houston, Texas. My prayers are with you and your family.*
- Yolanda M. Clark, Houston, TX

Yolanda Clark - November 12, 2018 at 09:14 AM

FH

“ We are sending our deepest condolences. We shall continue to keep all of you in our prayers. I am certain that, with Melvin's courage, he served his church, city, state and country with lots of enthusiasm, hard work and pride. We are praying that the comfort of family and friends will see you through this difficult time. LOTS OF LOVE FROM COUSIN FRANCES HUFF-MCNEALY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

FRANCES HUFF-MCNEALY - November 12, 2018 at 02:19 AM

CW

“ Dear Mary and Family, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Cousin Melvin. I send my deepest condolences. I will forever cherish the time we shared at the family reunions. I truly appreciate all of the research he did to bring us all together and share his knowledge of our family history. I am forever grateful.

Charlotte Evans Williams - November 11, 2018 at 07:56 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Brenton Cole - November 11, 2018 at 09:50 AM

BC

I'm going to miss you so much. You're a great uncle. You'll always be a great uncle. I'll miss you so much. We've great had times like going to movies and watching football together. And teaching and showing me about your radio station sales in New York City.

Brenton Cole - November 12, 2018 at 06:33 PM