



## Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr.

August 30, 1947 - April 10, 2016

GRACEY, Mr. Donald "Butch" Sr. - Age 68, passed away Sunday April 10, 2016 at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital. Family Hour 10:00AM Monday April 18, 2016 at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 113-123 Wessen St. with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM. Rev. Coley Gracey, Eulogist. Dr. John D. Tolbert, Senior Pastor. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200 North Belford Road. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Monday. Mr. Gracey will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 N. Perry St., and may be viewed from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Sunday. In lieu of flowers, please make monetary donations to consider making a donation to Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in care of the Donald Gracey Sr., Scholarship Fund.

Mr. Donald Gracey, Sr., known to most who loved him as "Butch," was born on August 30, 1947 in Pontiac, Michigan, to the union of Coley and Anna Mae Gracey. He was one of 10 siblings.

At a young age, Donald joined Trinity Missionary Baptist Church under the tutelage of Reverend Richard H. Dixson, Jr. Donald graduated from Pontiac Central High School in 1966. He then enlisted in the United States Air Force in July 1966 and was honorably discharged from the Air Force in June 1970. He re-enlisted twice more and was honorably discharged after each term of service, serving for a total 21 years. During that time he earned the

Meritorious Service Medal on January 16, 1969, the Air Force Achievement Medal on July 8, 1983, the Meritorious Service Medal on December 30, 1983; and an Award for outstanding contributions for being a part of the “founding fathers” of Air Force Systems Command from October 1978 to October 1986; as well as many others too numerous to list.

While in the military, Donald met the love of his life, Carolyn. They married on September 21, 1973 and from this union they became the proud parents of two sons, Donald and Michael. Donald enjoyed traveling, reading (especially his newspaper), and eating out. He was a true family man and his biggest joy was spending time with his sons to whom he passed on his love of all sports (especially NASCAR).

After moving back to Pontiac Michigan, Donald earned an Associate’s Degree of Applied Science from Oakland Community College (OCC) in 1989 and he graduated Cum Laude. In June of 1989 he became the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police in Pontiac, while also teaching computer classes at Oakland Community College. Continuing his trend of hard work, Donald continued to model hard work and leadership for eighteen years with the Pontiac Police Department before retiring on December 1, 2007.

Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Carolyn; his two sons Donald, Jr. (Keela) Gracey and Michael (Alana) Gracey; his brother, Larry “Duck” (Belinda) Gracey; mother-in-law, Lossie Martin Whitley; brothers-in-law, Charles R. (Joyce) Martin and Wayne D. (Valorie) Martin; his aunt, Joan (Jimmy) White ; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and friends.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents, Coley I and Anna Mae Gracey and his siblings, Coley II “Sam” Gracey; Thomas “Ick” Gracey; Leonard “G-boy” Gracey; Beverly “Sis” Ellsworth; James “Pete” Gracey; Michael “Mike”

Gracey; Janet Threlkeld, Roger "Bill" Gracey.

The family would like to express special thanks to: Sheila Hawkins, Vicki and Zina Sasnett, Marion Scott, Rebbie Walker, Theresa Hubbart, William and Sarah Ware and Dr. Minnie Phillips.

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

G-4200 Belford Rd.  
Holly, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 17. 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac  
268 North Perry Street  
Pontiac, MI 48342  
(248) 758-1913  
lemoonfhpontiac@gmail.com  
<https://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhomepontiac.com>

## Family Hour

APR 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Trinity Missionary Baptist Church  
113-123 Wessen Street  
Pontiac, MI 48341

## Funeral Service

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APR **18**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Trinity Missionary Baptist Church  
113-123 Wessen Street  
Pontiac, MI 48341

# Tribute Wall

HC

“ Carolyn, Donny and Michael, I was very sadden to learn that Don passed away last month. I am a better person because of his wisdom, intellect., humor, and willing to help others. I bet he has a special place in heaven organizing the books and keeping everything in order. That would be just like him. My wife Mary and I will always have a special spot in our hearts for all of you and hope to see you one day soon. Hank Calloway.. callhank@aol.com

Hank Calloway - May 13, 2016 at 11:42 PM

RM

“ To the family,  
We the "3" R's, Rosalind, Renee, and Robin, grew up running in and out of the Gracey home, in addition to having the best and loving family reunion's in Clarkston on Big Lake Rd., with Daddy LJ, "Jake" Garner making sure the BBQ was straight and that everybody was having a good time. Good times that will always remain in our hearts.

Blessings and sympathy,  
Rosalind Thomas Lemons (L.A., Cal.)  
Renee Garner (San Diego, Cal.)  
Robin (Albert) McCoy (Pontiac, Mi.)

Robin McCoy - April 17, 2016 at 06:58 PM

BH

“ Continue to hold onto God's unchanging hand for He will see you through this. Keep and cherish precious memories of the life you and Donald shared together. I will keep you lifted up in prayer and in my heart for we know prayer changes things. Much love

Bertha Hayes - April 17, 2016 at 03:00 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr..*



April 16, 2016 at 04:29 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr..*



April 16, 2016 at 03:20 PM



“ *May God continue to bless and keep you and your family during this difficult time.*



**Yolanda Pope** - April 16, 2016 at 10:08 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr..*



April 16, 2016 at 09:32 AM

AB

“ All my love, Michelle Boldt purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr..



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**All my love, Michelle Boldt** - April 14, 2016 at 11:32 PM



Michelle Boldt

“ Mr. Gracey was the first person I met on my first day as a Pontiac Police Officer. I was blessed to have had the opportunity to be welcomed into the Gracey home over the years and share a part of his life that will always remain in a special place in my heart. I am grateful and a better person for having known Donald Gracey Sr.



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**Michelle Boldt** - April 14, 2016 at 10:38 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr..



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April 14, 2016 at 07:16 PM



“ 39 files added to the album Life Tributes



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - April 14, 2016 at 03:17 PM

CT

“ Beverly's little brother. How sad I feel. You and Duck used to "pester" us and we didn't want to be bothered. After all we were big girls and I use the term "big" loosely. I remember you being SO cute. I live so far away and I wish I could communicate with the family better. I am comforted by my faith that lets me know that these times will pass and when HE returns there will be no more tears, pain or sorrow and we WILL see him again..

*A prayer to "Butch's" family: "Stand up and lift up your heads. Standing firm and rejoicing and praying unceasingly. Standing on the promises of God. Rejoicing in HIS return. HE loves us and has freed us from our sins by HIS blood."*

*In HIS love,*

*Callie Barge-Holloway*

Callie Barge-Holloway, Nacogdoches, TX - April 14, 2016 at 01:39 AM

RH

“ Carolyn, I have a heart heavy with sorrow over Don's passing. May the Lord ease your sorrow and replase it with continuous golden memories of Don.

*Rex Hagood*

**Rex Hagood** - April 13, 2016 at 10:17 PM

SM

“ Shirley Mason-Cooper lit a candle in memory of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr.



**Shirley Mason-Cooper** - April 13, 2016 at 11:49 AM

SM

“ MY PRAYERS TO THE GRACEY FAMILY  
Mrs. Shirley Mason-Cooper



**Shirley Mason-Cooper** - April 13, 2016 at 11:48 AM

SA

“ MY PRAYERS ARE WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY

*SANDRA TYMES*

**SANDRA** - April 13, 2016 at 08:35 AM

RS

“ Robert & Renee Smoot lit a candle in memory of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr.



Robert & Renee Smoot - April 13, 2016 at 08:29 AM

DO

“ Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and may your perpetual light shine upon him.



Dr Brenda OBrien - April 12, 2016 at 04:44 PM

AH

“ Adele Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr.



Adele Hopkins - April 12, 2016 at 02:11 PM

TA

“ The Davis, Hill, Arnold and Covington families are standing in the gap for you through prayer. We thank God for Bro. Gracey's life and witness. Please take comfort in knowing that he is healed and whole. We love you all!



Tammy Davis Arnold - April 12, 2016 at 08:44 AM

AP

“ *Sorry for your loss. Praying for you and your family.* ”



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**Angela Parks** - April 12, 2016 at 06:39 AM

DJ

“ *So sorry for your loss! You have our deepest sympathy at this hour of bereavement! Praying for your continue strength!* ”



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**Deacon Rayfus and Joyce Jones** - April 12, 2016 at 01:09 AM

JA

“ *I Miss You So Much..... Rest Up Uncle Butch* ”



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**jatlia** - April 11, 2016 at 06:15 PM

JH

“ *My prayers are with you Gods grace is more than enough* ”

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**jeffrey Hawkins** - April 11, 2016 at 04:36 PM

MH

“ *Miss. M Hurner sent a virtual gift in memory of Donald "Butch" Gracey, Sr.*



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**Miss. M Hurner** - April 11, 2016 at 11:29 AM