



## Eugene "Gene" Cox

June 4, 1923 - January 10, 2016

COX, Mr. Eugene "Gene" - age 92, passed away, Sunday, January 10, 2016 at Waterford Oaks Senior Care. Family hour 10:00 AM Friday, January 15, 2016 at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, 113-123 Wessen St., with funeral service commencing immediately at 11AM. Dr. John D. Tolbert, Officiating. Family and friends will assemble at the church 10:00 AM Friday. Mr. Cox will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 N. Perry St., and may be viewed from 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Thursday.

Mr. Eugene (Gene) Cox was born June 4, 1923 in Verona, Mississippi, to the late John and Cora Cox. He departed this life on January 10, 2016, after a brief illness. Eugene confessed Christ at an early age. He received his formal education at Verona High School in Mississippi. He served his country in the US Army during World War II. After the war he moved to Cincinnati, OH and later relocated to Pontiac, MI.

Mr. Cox was united in holy matrimony to the late Barbara Garling Cox on December 1, 1951. Two sons were born from this marriage, Eugene Brian Cox and the late Cabot Eugene Cox. Eugene has been a faithful member of Trinity Missionary Baptist Church since the early 1950's, when he joined under Rev. Richard H. Dixon. He sang bass in the Sanctuary Choir and Men's Chorus; drove the church bus as part of the Bus ministry; was a member of the Men's Fellowship; and served as a Trustee. In 1996 he was named

Trustee Emeritus under the leadership of Dr. Robert E. Bailey.

Eugene was employed by the City of Pontiac where he worked in the Water Maintenance Department for 38 years. He completed Barber School and opened "Our Barber Shop" in 1956. He maintained this business until the 1990's. Eugene also started a sewer cleaning business called "Our Electric Sewer Cleaners" of which he managed until failing health prevented him from working. In baseball, he was affectionately known as Gene. He loved playing and managing baseball. He played with the Cincinnati Crescents in the American Negro League before locating to Pontiac in 1947. Once in Pontiac, Gene continued to play baseball. While most of the praise was earned for his managing abilities, he was named Class A's MVP in 1958 for his efforts on the field. His accomplishments with "Cox's Clippers" in the Class A Adult League and the "Little Clippers" in the Pontiac Little Leagues were known by sandlot enthusiasts throughout the state. In 1979 the Detroit Tigers honored him at Tiger Stadium for 30-plus years of participation in amateur baseball in the state of Michigan. Eugene was quiet hero. He motivated and influenced many young men through baseball during their formative years.

Eugene leaves to cherish his memory his devoted son, Eugene Brian Cox of Pontiac, MI; sister, Cora (Richard) Baker of Detroit, MI; nieces, Lori Williams of Pontiac, MI, Kathi M. (Harold) Evans of Rochester Hills, MI, Maedell (Wayman) Howard of W. Bloomfield, MI, Doris (Richard) Gibson of Farmington Hills, MI, Jill Perry of Detroit, MI; nephews, William A. Garling, Jr. of Seattle, WA and Richard J. Garling of Desoto, TX; extended family, niece, Karen Lane Wilson of Pontiac, MI, special friends, Hattie Mathis, Jamila Kai Mathis of Shelby Township, MI, and many other relatives and friends.

Mr. Cox was preceded in death by his parents, John and Cora Cox; wife, Barbara Garling Cox; siblings, Bessie Cox Williams, Jerry Cox, Mary Cox Baker, John Cox, and Birdie Cox Seals; and son, Cabot Eugene Cox .



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **14**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 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

JAN **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

JAN **15**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

JK

“ I just learned of Gene's passing; I fell completely out of touch with him since playing on his Pontiac A league baseball team back in the early/mid-80s. He was a good coach and good man. I've always looked back on my time with him on his team very fondly, some of the best times of my life, really. Very belated condolences to Brian/family. -- John Klees

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**John Klees** - October 28, 2021 at 10:46 AM

MH

“ Miss. M Hurner sent a virtual gift in memory of Eugene "Gene" Cox



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**Miss. M Hurner** - January 23, 2016 at 11:14 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Cox.



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January 14, 2016 at 01:23 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Cox.*



January 14, 2016 at 07:40 AM



“ *When Brother Cox sang you could hear his deep bass voice over the rest of the voices. He was dedicated to Trinity Missionary Baptist Church's ministries for decades and I'm sure he will be terribly missed there and in the Pontiac community.*



**Shaylor Ray** - January 14, 2016 at 06:08 AM



“ *38 files added to the album Life Tributes*



**Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home** - January 13, 2016 at 10:19 AM

PJ

“Extremely sorry to see that Gene passed on. He and I spent many days and hours at Jaycee Park involved in baseball. I will always remember that we won the City and District Championship in Class A adult baseball in 1968 for the Pontiac Clippers and represented Pontiac well in the State Regional in Battle Creek. Gene sponsored teams in the Pontiac City league for many years and was always a gentleman. I considered him my good friend. My sincere condolences to his family. Paul Johnson

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**Paul Johnson** - January 11, 2016 at 08:50 PM

JK

*I really going to mis Mr. Cox. Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends*

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**Jean Kennedy-Neeley** - January 11, 2016 at 09:56 PM

EJ

*I've be grateful and BLESSED always to have spent time in his ORA, You could always depend on you and be excited to see you and hear you open the gift of his soul for singing. The Male Choir was much better in your presense. A humble and giving man we want have to miss any longer because we have the assurance of knowing where you are now in the arms of God.  
I Loved you and most of all respected you as a man born of God.  
Bro. Eddie B. Johnson Sr.and Family*

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**Eddie B, Sr and Cornelia Johnson** - January 13, 2016 at 02:53 PM