



James B. "Chicken Eater" Latham

April 9, 1935 - April 15, 2014

LATHAM, Minister James B "Chicken Eater" - age 79, passed away, Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at William Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak. Family hour 9:00AM Saturday April 19, 2014 at Berea Family Tabernacle of Faith Church, 68 W. Walton Blvd., with funeral service commencing immediately at 9:30AM. Bishop Rosezell Rutley, Eulogist Pastor Charles E. Thompson, Officiating. Entombment Christian Memorial Cemetery, 521 E. Hamlin Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 9:00AM Saturday. Mr. Latham will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, and may be viewed from 1-8PM Friday.

Minister James Buford Latham, was the third child born to Alf and Syrena Berry Latham in Grenada, MS on April 9, 1935. James attended Grenada, MS schools.

In 1952 he met his beloved Hosie Bell Caldwell after a church service at Sweet Home A.M.E. Church, where they later wed on August 31, 1954. A few years later James and Hosie moved to New Haven, MI where they began their family. To this union seven children were born.

James landed a job at Sneed's Nursery and Garden in nearby Richmond, MI where he developed a passion for gardening. Even though, growing up James always seemed to find a way to get out of completing his gardening chores when his father Mr. Alf went into town. For many years his neighbors and co-

workers enjoyed the fruits of his labor from his fresh seasonal vegetables and the beautiful flower gardens.

James eventually obtained a job at New Haven Foundry as a Core Machine Operator where he diligently worked for 33 years, until he retired with perfect attendance. The company appreciated his many years of loyal service and strong work ethic, a legacy which he instilled in his children and grandchildren.

James accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at Bethlehem Temple of New Haven, MI. Even in the midst of his beloved wife Hosie's illness, James and the children seldom missed a church service. Guaranteeing that his children had a strong spiritual foundation. James' final assignment in the Lord's house, prior to stepping down to care for his loving wife, was as a Minister on the Baptismal Committee at Greater Grace Temple of Detroit, MI under the leadership of Bishop Charles H. Ellis III. He was passionate about explaining the benefits of salvation to new converts. He also found great pleasure in sharing with others the blessings of being married. Even in his final days as dementia set-in the two questions he was guaranteed to repeatedly ask ANYONE that came into his presence were "are you married" and "do you have any children". A simple reminder to us of how important marriage and family were to him.

James' children fondly admired their loving father as an example of a true man of God. Also, for his commitment to our beloved mother, his dedication to teaching us what it meant to be responsible, to have integrity, and for us girls, even how to change a tire!

Minister Latham leaves to cherish his memory: five daughters and two sons, Denise Thompson of Pontiac, MI, James (Rose) Latham Jr. of Eastpointe, MI, Bernard (Marshella) Latham of Auburn Hills, MI Cynthia (David) Scales Pontiac, MI, Theresa (Isaac) Jefferson of St. Clair Shores, MI, Diane (Michael)

Lloyd of Detroit, MI and Carol Latham of Auburn Hills, MI; twenty grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; four sisters, Ola Mae James, Velma (Willie) Barnes of Champaign, IL, Gladys Gray, Louise (Willie) Dockery of Grenada, MS; two brothers, Leo Latham and Ray Latham; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and special friends.

Minister Latham preceded in death by his wife, Hosie Bell Latham; parents, Alf and Syrena Berry Latham; three sisters, Willie Paul Burl, Beulah Caldwell, and Lucinda Ellis; son-in-law, James Thompson.

Cemetery Details

Christian Memorial Cemetery

521 E. HAMLIN RD.
ROCHESTER HILLS, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 18. 1:00 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>

Service

APR 19. 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (ET)

Berea Family Tabernacle
68 West Walton
Pontiac, MI

Tribute Wall

SA

“ To the Family of Mr. James B. Latham,
During this time of difficulty, may you all find comfort by considering
the finest basis of encouragment, God's Word the Bible. May you
find comfort by considering psalms 146:5,9 which assures us that
God has loving concern for us all when we lose a loved one in
death. My sincere condolences to the Family of Mr. James B.
Latham.

Sandra - April 25, 2014 at 05:57 PM

CG

“ Cathy And Matt Gruber lit a candle in memory
of James B. "Chicken Eater" Latham



Cathy and Matt Gruber - April 18, 2014 at 11:54 AM