



Mr. William H. Gathers

May 10, 1932 - February 11, 2021

Mr. William Henry Gathers was born May 10, 1932 in Charleston, South Carolina. The youngest son of the Late Abednego and Corine Wilson Gathers of Charleston, SC, William gained his wings on Thursday, February 11, 2021. His parents and siblings: Mrs. Mable Moultrie, Mrs. Mary Simmons, Mrs. Mildred Washington, Mrs. Mattie Singleton, Ms. Betty Gathers and Mr. Edward Gathers in addition to two sisters in-law and six brothers in-law preceded him in death.

William was educated in the Charleston County Public Schools and was a 1950 graduate of Burke High School where he excelled on the football field as well as in the classroom. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Studies from North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro, NC. Upon graduation from college, he received a commission into the United States Army as a 2nd Lieutenant and proudly served this country for two years before answering his true calling as an educator. He later matriculated to South Carolina State College where he earned a Master of Education degree in 1970.

William met the former Bessie Mae Allen while teaching at Bonds-Wilson High School. They were married on November 22, 1960 and to this union, two daughters were born – Carlise and Crystal. William was a life-long member of Morris Brown AME Church, having accepted Christ as his personal Savior at

an early age. A faithful servant and willing worker, he was a member of the Junior Steward Board, a Class Leader, and Vice-Chairman of the Senior Trustee Board. In later years, he served as a Trustee Emeritus of the Senior Trustee Board.

William was an esteemed educator and administrator for 28 years in the Charleston County Public Schools. He was able to share his love for learning with countless students as a teacher at Bonds-Wilson High School, North Charleston, SC; principal of Murray Hill Elementary School, North Charleston, SC; assistant principal of Dorchester Road Elementary School, North Charleston, SC; principal of Jennie Moore Elementary School, Mt. Pleasant, SC; and as an administrator at the Charleston County School District Office, before retiring in 1985. William and Bessie enjoyed traveling and spent several weeks every year at their home-away-from-home in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Left to cherish his precious memories are his loving and devoted wife of 60 years, Mrs. Bessie Allen Gathers; daughters Mrs. Carlise G. Shedrick (Charlie) and Ms. Crystal R. Gathers of North Charleston, SC; five sisters in-law, Mrs. Justine W. Allen of Rochester, NY; Mrs. Elizabeth Buckner of Ridgeland, SC; Mrs. Eliza Fitts (William) of Allendale, SC; Mrs. Janie Ramsey of Coram, NY; and Mrs. Denise Hartley (John) of Columbia, SC; five nieces, Ms. Barbara A. Gathers and Mrs. Dawnelle G. Wright both of Charleston, SC; Mrs. Mildred G. Swinton (Randolph) of Mt. Pleasant, SC; Dr. Angie M. Daniels (Gordon) of North Charleston, SC; and Dr. Shawn W. Clark (Lance) of Annapolis, MD; two nephews, Mr. Earl Washington, II of Charleston, SC and Mr. James Simmons, III of Columbia, SC; and a host of other nieces, nephews loving relatives and friends including two special friends who visited him regularly, Rev. Rita V. Bass and Ms. Yvonne Bellinger.

Live stream for the service may be viewed at: <https://www.facebook.com/kingdomgrafixbyty/>

Cemetery Details

Sunset Memorial Gardens

2915 Ashley Phosphate Rd
North Charleston, SC 29418

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB 18. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

W.M. Smith-McNeal Funeral Home
2119 Dorchester Road
North Charleston, SC 29405

Tribute Wall

CD

“ *Uncle William will be missed, I will always remember the good times you and Aunt Bessie showed us when we visited Charleston. Rest in Heaven*

Carl Devine - February 19, 2021 at 06:01 PM

SJ

“ *Samuel L Devine Jr lit a candle in memory of Mr. William H. Gathers*



Samuel L Devine Jr - February 19, 2021 at 02:24 PM

SJ

“ *To Aunt Bessie, and my cousins Carlise , Charlie, and Crystal we are so sorry for your loss.*

Samuel L Devine Jr - February 19, 2021 at 02:22 PM

RD

“ *Please accept my deepest sympathies over the death of a wonderful husband and father. May God keep the entire family close to his heart.*



Robert Drury - February 19, 2021 at 12:48 PM

VS

“ To Mrs. Bessie Gathers, Carlise (Charlie) and Crystal may God be with you all during this sad time and lean on Him for strength. Our love is with you.



Vincent and Francine Smith - February 19, 2021 at 11:23 AM

JS

“ To my Aunt Bessie Gathers, Cousins Carlise & Charlie Shedrick, & Crystal Gathers, I was sadden to hear of the passing of my favorite Uncle William Henry Gathers. May GOD continue to richly bless you all in the days ahead & the years to come. Jimmy Simmons

Jimmy Simmons - February 19, 2021 at 09:27 AM

RB

“ My sincere condolences to the family of Mr. William Gathers! Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal! Continue to lean and trust in the Lord truly He will keep you and direct your path!



Rev. Anna Lane of Gunter's Chapel Baptis - February 19, 2021 at 02:12 AM

IT

“ Ike And Nita Thompson lit a candle in memory of Mr. William H. Gathers



Ike and Nita Thompson - February 18, 2021 at 11:08 PM

SW

“ To The Gathers Family:
You all have our Deepest Sympathy &
Prayers. A loving Church Brother.



Sister Ethel White-Goodwine - February 18, 2021 at 11:06 AM

JW

“ My sincere condolences to Mrs. Gathers and her family
on their loss. May he rest in eternal peace.

Joyce Crawford Wright
Champaign, Illinois

Joyce Crawford Wright - February 17, 2021 at 08:16 PM

NM

“ Nathalie Murray purchased the Sweet Tranquility
Basket for the family of Mr. William H. Gathers.



Nathalie Murray - February 13, 2021 at 02:17 PM

AP

“ My sincere sympathy to the Gathers Family in the passing of your
husband and father. May God comfort you in this time of sorrow.

Arthur L. Pinckney

Arthur L Pinckney - February 12, 2021 at 09:29 PM



“ *Mr.Gathers was my Elementary School Principal the memories of him I will always cherish especially when I got in trouble he would take out his wooden paddle and make me put my hands on his desk oh boy couldn't sit down but I thank him for making me the person I am today. I will miss you “Big Cheese” Carlisle and Crystal you guys had a wonderful dad just know God is in control and you have my condolences*

Kelly Campbell-Black - February 12, 2021 at 05:56 PM

CJ

“ *My deepest sympathies for the Gathers family. May God give you peace.*

Clifford Graham Jr.

Clifford Graham jr. - February 12, 2021 at 11:30 AM

MK

“ *Bessie and family are in our prayers. Our deepest condolences for the passing of William Gathers.*

The Kithcart family

Mabel Kithcart - February 12, 2021 at 11:21 AM

BG

“ *William was, not only my uncle, but he played a number of roles in my life. He was my big brother, my friend, my advocate, my confidant, and my advisor. And he had a wonderful sense of humor. Really gonna miss him.*

Barbara Gathers

Barbara Annette Gathers - February 11, 2021 at 10:32 PM