



Mr. Charles Edward Peterson

August 27, 1933 - August 15, 2017

Celebrating The Life Of Charles Edward Peterson:

Charles Edward Peterson was born on August 27, 1933 in Greenville, South Carolina, to Annie and Floyd Peterson. His parents passed when he was a child, and “Sonny” (as he was affectionately known) was raised by his maternal grandmother, Elton McBrier. He accepted Christ at a young age and began serving the Lord at Antioch Baptist Church.

After graduating from Sterling High School in 1951, he moved to Detroit, Michigan. His lifelong, childhood friend, the late Jafogie “Jake” Vernon, also relocated to Detroit. Their families remain close.

Charles enlisted in the U.S. Army on January 19, 1955. He served as a Military Policeman and was honorably discharged in 1957. He married briefly during that time, and his eldest daughter, L’Tanya, was born. Charles continued governmental service and joined the United States Postal Service. While working, Charles obtained his Associate of Arts from WCCC in 1980. When he retired after 33 years of service in 1989, he had worked as a letter carrier, EEO counselor, and sixteen years as a postal police officer. Still, Charles continued to work, managing switching operations for several Ford plants in southeastern Michigan.

Charles met, and later married the love of his life, Shirley Ruth Emerson, on

June 30, 1965. Together, they joyfully raised two daughters, Angela Bernice and Kristen Jeanette. Charles Edward Peterson was an affectionate and devoted husband and father.

Charles' passion for music was evident at an early age. He was a super smooth tenor, and sang in several groups and choirs. He had a broad appreciation of all genres of music, and even indulged in a few acting roles over the years. His musical legacy lives on in his children and grandchildren.

Charles was incredibly athletic throughout his life, specifically in softball and bowling. Popularly known as "Pete," he participated in many leagues and national tournaments over the years. He was most committed to Fellowship Chapel's bowling league, which he helped organize to support scholarships for high school graduates and college students. Charles bowled a perfect 300 game in 1997 (coming very close several times), and his name is inscribed in the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame. He cherished his commemorative ring and wore it at all times.

Charles was a strong and kind man, rarely seen without a smile or something funny to say. He was adored by all who knew him. He forever loved the Lord, and in his later years found much joy as a Greeter at Amplify Christian Church and a member of the Men's ministry.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, August 15, 2017, Charles made a peaceful transition, surrounded by his family, with music he loved and warm, and even comical, reflections.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

19975 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48203

Previous Events

Family Hour

Friday, Aug. **25**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hartford Memorial Baptist Church
18700 James Couzens
Detroit, MI 48235

Funeral Service

Friday, Aug. **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hartford Memorial Baptist Church
18700 James Couzens
Detroit, MI 48235

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Charles Edward Peterson*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *My sympathy to family. Recall the pleasant memories that you shared with your loved one. May you find comfort in Jesus words, I am the resurrection and the life."-John 11:25*

M. Tuffy - September 01, 2017 at 09:46 AM



“ *The Ferguson's and the Lewis's purchased the W ith Distinction for the family of Mr. Charles Edward Peterson.*



The Ferguson's and the Lewis's - August 23, 2017 at 09:04 PM



“ *Charles, our beloved brother-in-law, has always been there for us in good times and not so good times. He was so inspirational with words and kindness to help us through our trials and tribulations . Thank God for Charles "He's One of a Kind!" and will always remain in our hearts forever!*

Ron and Lois

Ron - August 23, 2017 at 08:48 PM