



## Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr.

April 13, 1971 - October 3, 2020

... Never Tired of Doing Good

Cornell Mathis, Jr. lived a life dedicated to service to the community and family; never tired of doing good.

Born April 13, 1971 in Southwest Detroit to loving parents Jacqueline and Cornell Mathis Sr., Cornell was always an inquisitive child, challenging the status quo, while making plans to change the world. His determination, resilience and joy of life were mere signs for a great future for Cornell.

Growing up in Ecorse Michigan, Cornell graduated from Saint Thomas Aquinas High School (Southgate, Michigan) and forged a path that led him to Western Michigan University (WMU). In keeping with his inquisitive nature, Cornell majored in sociology and led a robust life working with many student organizations. On February 16, 1992 was initiated into the prestigious service organization, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He graduated from WMU with a Bachelor of Arts degree (1994) and Master of Arts degree (1998) in Sociology. He also attended the University of Southern California and pursued a Master of Arts degree in Teaching (2011). He also and started a journey of service to his community.

Cornell's passion for helping people continued as he started his career with

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Kalamazoo as a counselor. Although, he was able to effectively encourage underprivileged and disenfranchised children, he continuously felt an urge to help more people be the best versions of themselves. Cornell worked briefly as a Corrections Officer for the Michigan Department of Corrections. However, for more than 20 years, Cornell worked in the financial industry and masterfully assisted individuals, families, and businesses achieve their financial objectives utilizing insurance, investments, mortgages, and business strategies. His work at several banks in Michigan as well as his work as an Independent insurance agent for various companies solidified him as an expert in his field.

In 1996, Cornell met CaShawnda Range and married her on September 3, 2005. To this union, Morgan Lynette and Payton Korren were born. Cornell was a wonderful husband, loving father, friend, colleague and so much more. Cornell was a sports enthusiast that loved watching his daughters swim most and was their number one fan.

A truly civic minded person, Cornell loved debating politics with those he encountered. His passion for politics led him to run for Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners in 1996. Later, he ran for the Michigan House of Representatives, District 21, in 2014 with his wife and children by his side.

On October 3, 2020, Cornell joined his father, Cornell Mathis, Sr., and was welcomed into the loving arms of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He leaves a host of family and friends to celebrate his life: wife CaShawnda Range Mathis; daughters Morgan Lynette and Payton Korren; special adopted daughter Mackenzie Swart; mother Jacqueline Mathis; sister Simone Bright (Alonzo); God brother George Goff; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Cornell's ability to make everyone feel comfortable, secure, and loved were

his greatest strengths. The warmth and confidence of his laugh and smile will be deeply missed but not forgotten. For those of us who remain, we are fortunate to be his legacy and walk proudly as we strive to never tire of doing good!

## Newspaper Obituary

### Longer version

Cornell Mathis, Jr. lived a life dedicated to service to the community and family; never tired of doing good.

Born April 13, 1971 in Southwest Detroit to loving parents Jacqueline and Cornell Mathis Sr., Cornell. Growing up in Ecorse Michigan, Cornell graduated from Saint Thomas Aquinas High School (Southgate, Michigan) and forged a path that led him to Western Michigan University (WMU) and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree (1994) and Master of Arts degree (1998) in Sociology. He also attended the University of Southern California and pursued a Master of Arts degree in Teaching (2011).

Cornell's passion for helping people continued as he started his career with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Kalamazoo as a counselor. Most recently, he worked as a Corrections Officer for the Michigan Department of Corrections. However, for more than 20 years, Cornell worked in the financial industry and masterfully assisted individuals, families, and businesses achieve their financial objectives utilizing insurance, investments, mortgages, and business strategies. His work at several banks in Michigan as well as his work at Nationwide solidified him as an expert in his field.

On October 3, 2020, Cornell joined his father, Cornell Mathis, Sr., and was welcomed into the loving arms of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He leaves a host of family and friends to celebrate his life: wife CaShawnda Range Mathis; daughters Morgan Lynette and Payton Korren; special adopted daughter Mackenzie Swart; mother Jacqueline Mathis; sister Simone Bright (Alonzo); God brother George Goff; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Strolling Visitation-Thursday, October 15, 5-8p: O. H. Pye III Funeral Home (17600 Plymouth Road, Detroit, MI 48227). Service Live Streamed-Friday, October 16, 9:30a: YouTube (Pyefhch2). Interment: Westlawn Cemetery: 31472 Michigan Avenue. Wayne, MI 48184. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the PH1LL Foundation, <https://PH1LL.org>

#### Short Version

Cornell Mathis, Jr.

April 13, 1971-October 3, 2020

Cornell leaves a host of family and friends to celebrate his life: wife CaShawnda Range Mathis; daughters Morgan Lynette and Payton Korren; special adopted daughter Mackenzie Swart; mother Jacqueline Mathis; sister Simone Bright (Alonzo); God brother George Goff; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Strolling Visitation-Thursday, October 15, 5-8p: O. H. Pye III Funeral Home (17600 Plymouth Road, Detroit, MI 48227). Service Live Streamed-Friday, October 16, 9:30a: YouTube (Pyefhch2). Interment: Westlawn Cemetery: 31472 Michigan Avenue. Wayne, MI 48184. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the PH1LL Foundation, <https://PH1LL.org>



# Previous Events

## Strolling Visitation

Thursday, Oct. **15**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

## Family Hour

Friday, Oct. **16**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

## Funeral Service

Friday, Oct. **16**. 10:00 AM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr.*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *Your children just missed their first Father's Day with you. Supporting the family in prayer!*

**The Greens** - June 22, 2021 at 08:52 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..*



December 03, 2020 at 04:48 PM



“ *I was shocked to hear that Mr. Mathis has passed away. he was a true humanitarian- gave me my first opportunity in the insurance industry. Even after I moved on, he sent me business! He was a blessing to those who came in contact with. I remember working for him and all of the clients absolutely adored him because he was an honest businessman and he delivered his promises one of the finest quality of man that you can honestly say word is bond! I don't know why God took you so soon Mr. Mathis but I'm awfully happy he saw fit to allow you to bless my life*

**Ms Wells** - October 28, 2020 at 11:37 AM

BL

*Hi Ms Wells ,do you know what happened to him* 📄📄

**Boitumelo Lesabane** - November 30, 2020 at 07:28 AM

BE

*BL was he your agent?*

**Bee** - February 02, 2021 at 02:02 PM

RT

“ *Roby, La Shirl & Roshi Turner purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..*



**Roby, La Shirl & Roshi Turner** - October 15, 2020 at 11:02 AM

YF

“ *Your Henry Ford High School Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..*



**Your Henry Ford High School Family** - October 15, 2020 at 09:14 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..*



October 14, 2020 at 05:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..



October 14, 2020 at 03:50 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..



October 14, 2020 at 08:18 AM



“ The Counts family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..



**The Counts family** - October 13, 2020 at 02:26 PM

SS

“ To Cash, Morgan and Peyton Words cannot express the heartache and sincere sympathy for your loss. Cornell was an amazing husband, father, and friend. I can remember meeting you guys in North Carolina and I felt like we knew you forever so welcoming to us. Cornell always with a smile and taking his time to visit with us at swim meets. He was one of Marty and mine favorite! Thinking of you guys everyday you have our love and continued support and prayers. Love Marty and Sue Schlitt from part of your swim family  
❤️❤�

Susan and Marty Schlitt - October 13, 2020 at 01:33 PM

TK

“ Morgan and family - I just wanted you to know that my parents and I are thinking about you and send our most heartfelt thoughts during this difficult time. I loved when you, Joann, and I would swim the fly together at meets and have our parents there cheering for us all. I never met your dad but his smile and love for you and your swimming always was shining through. May peace come with time and through shared memories with family and friends. Many thoughts - Trilian Krug and my parents

The Krugs - October 13, 2020 at 10:48 AM

TK

“ The Krugs lit a candle in memory of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr.



The Krugs - October 13, 2020 at 10:44 AM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..*



October 12, 2020 at 02:24 PM



“ *Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr..*



October 11, 2020 at 02:47 PM



“ *Walter Teamer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr.*



**Walter Teamer** - October 11, 2020 at 12:07 PM



“ *Our most sincere prayers are flooding heaven's gates for your family. - The Revs. F. and G. Timmons*



**Revs. G. and F. Green** - October 10, 2020 at 04:38 PM

RG

“ *Revs. G. And F. Green lit a candle in memory of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr.*



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**Revs. G. and F. Green** - October 10, 2020 at 04:35 PM

RF

“ *Rev. Faith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Cornell Mathis, Jr.*



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**Rev. Faith** - October 10, 2020 at 08:47 AM

EF

“ *We would like to share our condolences with Mr. Mathis family. It's never easy saying goodbye to a love one. The pain of loss can be unbearable. Our creator promises that one day this pain will be a memory. Thinking of you all.*

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**Evans family** - October 09, 2020 at 05:44 AM

WT

“ Cornell was my roommate for two years at Western Michigan University. We became roommates in the summer of 1989 to enter college through the Martin Luther King (MLK) program, a way for minority students to get a head start on college before entering the fall semester. We lived in French Hall and had a great time studying, getting to know each other, and partying.



*I remember Cornell having a love for football and wrestling. During football season, we would have classmates over watching football games. We would laugh to no end at some of his favorite players, who became mine, because of the things they would do and say on the field. Football players like Deacon Jones, Lawrence Taylor, and John Elway are the most memorable. Cornell and Kerwin, a classmate of ours, would talk about football players and their careers for hours. I used to wonder how they became so knowledgeable about players' stats and profession. It was incredible.*

*Wrestling is a sport Cornell told me he studied in high school. As such, me and other classmates and schoolmates wrestled with him learning a trick or two. With this being a rough sport along with football, it made some of us portray a hardcore personality sometime and having skills to fight. Some people might consider a few of us kind of rough.*

*It is unbelievable that my old roommate passed away. I had a great time going to college with him. The memories I have are priceless.*

*My condolences are sent to his family with deepest sympathy.*

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Walter Teamer - October 07, 2020 at 08:54 PM