



## Mr. Erlin Clement, Sr.

February 8, 1917 - August 20, 2021

Repast Information: Tapestry Banquet hall

Address: 24580 Evergreen Rd, Southfield, MI 48075

Obituary for Erlin Clement Sr.

Departed us after 104 years and 6 months sharing his life with us.

Erlin Clement was born to Adriana Graves and Norman L. Clement on February 8th, 1917, in Balboa, Panama. Erlin was the fourth out of seven children, Conrad, Hamble Selvyn, Darnley, Wilfred, Litchfield and Enid. Young Erlin was brilliant, as he excelled in science and mathematics. In 1936, he was awarded a scholarship to Howard University in Washington, DC for engineering. Erlin, however, turned the offer down and decided to pursue another skill in which he was gifted, carpentry. While working on the Matton Dam in Panama, Erlin met and married Rose Elaine Johnson in 1948. The young couple had their first child and named him Erlin Jr. In 1950, still in Panama, Erlin decided to bring his young family to the United States, in search of job opportunities.

The couple settled in Detroit, Michigan where Erlin soon began working at Chevrolet-Detroit Gear and Axle, then the City of Detroit. Once settled in

Detroit his family began to grow, Norman Jesse, John Lester, Walter Robert, Richard Carl and Charles Anthony were all born shortly thereafter. Erlin was a terrific father who was always eager to help his sons create, as he helped them make soapbox derby carts for competition. Whether it was as a woodworking teacher with Detroit Public Schools, or as a math tutor to neighborhood kids, Erlin always shared his knowledge with others. Education and the desire to never stop learning was something that he instilled in his sons. Erlin encouraged each of them to pursue higher education as each of their college diplomas are proudly displayed in his home to this very day.

Erlin retired from the City of Detroit in 1977 as a Senior building inspector. He oversaw projects such as the Belle Isle Nature Center and other major infrastructure projects throughout the City of Detroit. Retirement did not slow Erlin down. He and wife Rose joined a travel group and they set out to explore every continent with the exception of Antarctica. Erlin also never stopped creating, as he holds two U.S. patents and founded Clemson Home modernization, building and renovating homes for clients. Erlin's mantra was, if he could not buy it he would make it. He built things that made his sons happy, such as a kayak, radios, a wooden Jeep and an airplane. As a gift, he made each of his granddaughters a Tudor style dollhouse.

Much later in life, Erlin could be found golfing, completing crossword puzzles or catching up on new inventions as a subscriber to Popular Mechanics and other scientific publications. His desire to never stop learning showed when he taught himself to play the piano at the age of 95. Before his departure, he was able to teach the latest generation of Clement's the piano. There are even photos of each grandchild sitting on his lap playing the piano with him. Hopefully these photos will be a lasting memory of their beloved granddaddy.

On Friday, August 20th, Erlin transitioned after 104 years and 6 months of a life well lived.

Erlin will be remembered for his kindness, intelligence and wit. In his passing he will be joining his beloved wife Rose Elaine, his parents, siblings and beloved daughter in-law Linda. He leaves behind his six sons; Erlin Jr., Norman (Evelyn), John (Belinda), Walter (Saundra), Richard (Cynthia) and Charles(Linda). Elodis (Tony) Elam worked alongside Erlin for decades and is considered his 7th son. Twelve grandchildren; Norman (Jaye), Andenika (Anthony), Richard, Jelani (Charis), Robert, Raphael (Robyn), Shenita, Rose, Gabrielle, Alaina, Erlin Daniel and Carlito. Eleven great-grandchildren; Trina, Victoria, Zoe, Anthony, Ameena, Amaya, Heru, Alana, Ayanna, Jazzlyn and Noble. A quote he tried to follow:

“Wherever you are; be noble.

Whatever you do; do well.

Whenever you speak; speak kindly.

Bring joy wherever you dwell.”

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Erlin Clement, Sr.*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *In loving memory of our dear unle Erlin  
Clement Sr.  
From his niece Octavia Clement-Beezer,  
grand niece Margot Beezer and great grand  
niece Sanai*



**Margot Beezer** - September 03, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ *JOHN L. MIMS III lit a candle in memory of  
Mr. Erlin Clement, Sr.*



**JOHN L. MIMS III** - September 03, 2021 at 01:32 PM



“ *To the Clement Family, I want to tell you how sorry I am for you loss.  
My deepest sympathy goes out to you. I got to know Mr Clement  
when he built my walk-in closet in 2009. He was funny, sweet and  
caring. I just really liked him. I was a "Big Fan". I'm sure he touched  
many as he touched me. Ondrea Williams*

**Ondrea Williams** - September 03, 2021 at 12:28 PM

GM

“ He is a Superstar great great life 104 years young wow let's celebrate that great great life every day all day that were still on this earth...Hallelujah...



Garnett Austin MIMS - September 03, 2021 at 10:09 AM

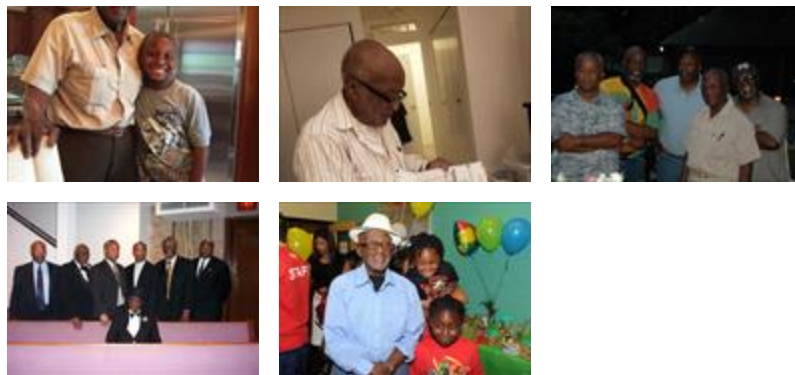
GM

“ The MIMS family and the Clement family are one great family our uncle Mr E.Clement it's one of the greatest man in Detroit real 8Mile Who gave back to the community so he could get back to Jesus he's in heaven for real love you all peace and blessings

Garnett Austin MIMS - September 03, 2021 at 10:04 AM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



O.H. Pye III Funeral Home - September 03, 2021 at 09:58 AM

GM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Garnett Austin MIMS** - September 03, 2021 at 09:58 AM

FW

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



**Frieda Weed** - September 03, 2021 at 02:25 AM

GC

“ Norman,  
Please accept my condolences on the lost of  
your Father.  
You and your family are in my thoughts and  
prayers.

*Glenda Chambliss-Crockett*



**Glenda Chambliss-Crockett** - September 02, 2021 at 11:16 PM

MC

“ My sincere condolences and prayers are sent to the Clement Family today from Princella Clement ( Montgomery, Alabama) via online. It has been an honor to know Mr. Erlin Clement, Sr. and the Clement Family. May God be with you during your time of bereavement and continue to Bless The Clement Family.



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**Ms. Princella K. Clement** - September 02, 2021 at 11:13 AM

EF

“ We would like to extend our condolences to the family. May the God of all comfort help to ease the pain of your grief. Truly sorry for your loss.

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**Evans family** - September 02, 2021 at 06:46 AM

NC

“ We can not express to the family how deeply their loss id felt. Our family will always remember the great time we spend in Africa. Mr. Clements was so knowledgeable and fun to be around. We are honored to have been able to cross journeys with him in 2013. Sorry about some of the pictures; I wasn't able to flip them.

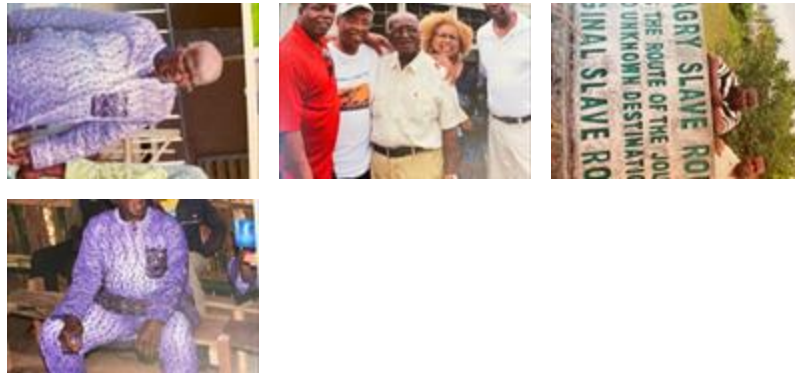
*Rest IN Heaven  
Nedra*

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**Nedra Cooper** - September 01, 2021 at 07:22 PM

NC

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Nedra Cooper - September 01, 2021 at 07:16 PM

JJ

“ Jeri, Lynn, Nedra, Deion, Renee, Janice purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Erlin Clement, Sr..



Jeri, Lynn, Nedra, Deion, Renee, Janice - September 01, 2021 at 07:10 PM

LR

“ Long lived Erlin Sr, a life full of achievements and responsible for 6 men who will continue both his legacy and that of the Johnson. Blessings and much love to the entire Clement family.  
-Luis Rollins

Luis Rollins - September 01, 2021 at 12:38 PM

RC

“ 2 files added to the album Erlin Clement Sr in the House!



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**Richard Clement** - August 31, 2021 at 01:45 PM

RS

“ Dad.. you and Mom are together again.. job well done.. Richard

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**Richard Clement Sr** - August 30, 2021 at 03:00 PM