



## Mr. James E. Ivory Sr.

June 6, 1940 - December 11, 2024

### In Loving Memory Of

James Earl Ivory Sr. was born on June 6, 1940, in Tiptonville, Tennessee, to his loving parents, J.D. Ivory and Katherine Caldwell Ivory.

At the age of 20, James heard the gospel and accepted Christ as his personal Savior, dedicating his life to serving the Lord. In 1956, he moved to Detroit, Michigan, and joined the Indiana Avenue Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Pastor Ozie Evans. Throughout his years of unwavering devotion, James served faithfully in various roles, including deacon, YPWW teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, Church Treasurer, and, later, as an ordained Elder in 1990.

James also exemplified faithfulness in his professional life. He worked at J.L. Hudson for 30 years as a high-lo driver until his retirement. His dedication to service extended beyond his career; for 15 years, he volunteered as the beloved Thanksgiving Turkey in the J.L. Hudson Thanksgiving Parade.

A passionate minister of outreach, James was deeply committed to prison ministry, serving as Chaplain for 20 years and bringing hope and God's Word to countless inmates. Every Monday, he would take public transportation to visit and minister to inmates, where many found salvation, healing, and deliverance through his efforts.

On September 25, 1965, James married Carolyn, the love of his life. Together, they shared 59 years of marriage and raised seven children: Lois, James Jr., Vincent, Sylvia, Marc, Patrice, and Jonathan. James cherished traveling with

his family to destinations such as Niagara Falls, the Irish Hills, and his hometown of Tiptonville, Tennessee.

Anyone who knew James knew how deeply he loved the Lord. He never left a conversation without asking, "Do you know the Lord as your Savior?" His passion for leading others to Christ was unwavering.

James had a strong personality and an unshakable faith, which his family often remembered with humor. Everyone knew he was stern and firm, but also certain and steadfast. If we could, we might give him the nickname "The Basement Monitor for Jesus." No one could hang out in the church basement without him coming downstairs and yelling, "Y'all stop eating them pop and potato chips and get back in service!" It didn't matter whether you were an adult or a child—he meant for everybody to come upstairs. His stern but loving nature was always rooted in his deep care for others and his devotion to the Lord.

James departed this life on December 11, 2024, at 5:20 PM, surrounded by his loving wife and children.

He leaves to mourn his passing his devoted wife, Carolyn; his children, Lois, James Jr. (Crystal), Vincent (Anita), Sylvia, Marc, Patrice, and Jonathan (Syreeta); his grandchildren, Vincent II, Dominique, Caleb, Christopher, Joelle, Ethan, Caitlyn, Donald, Shaylynnkinne, Niyeria, Jaivyn, Jaleah, and Jamya; and two great-grandchildren, Ila and Juniper. He is also survived by his siblings, Herbert (Joyce), David, and Judy.

James' memory will also be cherished by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, the Johnson Family, his goddaughter Lisa, adopted son Mike, his best friend Pastor Alvin Jackson, friends, and the Indiana Avenue Church Family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, J.D. Ivory and Katherine Caldwell Ivory, and his siblings, J.D. II, Cleveland, Clarence, Katherine, and Billy Jean. Though James will be deeply missed, his legacy of love, dedication, and service will continue to inspire all who were blessed to know him.

A special thank-you is extended to James' caregivers: Deborah Hollis, Lois Ivory, Denise Gibson, Kim Butler, and Mike Walker, for their compassion and

dedication in his time of need.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

Friday, Dec. **20**. 3:00 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

Saturday, Dec. **21**. 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

## Celebration of

Saturday, Dec. **21**. 10:00 AM (ET)

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

## Burial

Saturday, Dec. **21**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Acacia Park Cemetery  
31300 Southfield Road  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ Love and prayers are with you. Mrs Ivory God bless and continue to keep you and your family. .. absent from the body Elder is present with The Lord 🙏🎵❤️

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**susie Binion williams** - December 21, 2024 at 10:10 AM

AB

“ Mr. Ivory, a long time neighbor and member of of the Monte Vista St family will be remembered as man who loved the Lord. Prior to his illness he was on his way to church / or returning from service;, he fought a good fight and has now finished his course. . Our prayers and love continue for Sis. Ivory and the family.  
Alfreda “ Fredi “ Binion



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**Alfreda P. Binion** - December 20, 2024 at 05:13 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..

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December 19, 2024 at 11:30 AM



“ Amazing Arboricola was purchased for the family of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..



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December 19, 2024 at 11:30 AM

FA

“ *From the Albrecht's purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..*



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**From the Albrecht's** - December 18, 2024 at 07:07 PM

LI

“ *By faith Uncle James offered to God an acceptable sacrifice, through which he was commended as righteous. Therefore, we know Uncle James has inherited the kingdom of God. Love you Family, Darin & Liz Thomas Panama City, FL*



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**liz** - December 18, 2024 at 10:57 AM

MA

“ *Many Condolences To The Ivory Family: James will be in your Hearts Forever. He will be Remembered and Truly Missed by all family and friends who knew and loved him. May the God of all Comfort be with your family at this Difficult time: 2Cor 1:3.4.*

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**Maria A** - December 17, 2024 at 01:52 PM

RD

“ Robert & Shawntell Dunlap purchased the *Strength & Solace Spray* for the family of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..



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**Robert & Shawntell Dunlap** - December 17, 2024 at 10:55 AM

RD

“ Robert & Shawntell Dunlap planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..

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**Robert & Shawntell Dunlap** - December 17, 2024 at 10:55 AM

DO

“ Doe O'Neil lit a candle in memory of James Ivory



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**Doe O'Neil** - December 15, 2024 at 07:23 PM

TA

“ The Allen's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..

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**The Allen's** - December 14, 2024 at 02:51 PM

TA

“ *The Allen's purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. James E. Ivory Sr..*



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**The Allen's** - December 14, 2024 at 02:51 PM