

## Mr. Ralph Waldo Mason Sr.

September 29, 1921 - May 16, 2013

Ralph Waldo Mason, Sr., beloved son of John and Ruby Mason was born on September 29, 1921 in Savannah, Georgia. He moved from Savannah with his family to Detroit, Michigan in 1922.

He received his education through the Detroit Public Schools, Henry Ford Trade School in Dearborn, Michigan and Lawrence Institute of Technology, Highland Park, Michigan. His major was Aero Engineering, Drafting and Toolmaking.

Ralph was hired at Ford Motor Co., Dearborn, MI as a Toolmaker Apprentice Jan 1940-42; Dependable Engineering Co.; Acme Engineering Co., Detroit, MI, Jan 1942 as a Tool Designer; and worked at Lee Engineering Co. Detroit, MI, May 1944.

Ralph married Maxine Harris in 1942. Four children were born to this union, Beverly, Pamala, Ralph II and John.

Ralph was deferred from the draft due to his work at Lee's Engineering firm designing parts for airplanes.

He volunteered to enlist into the service in May 1944 to attend the Tuskegee Airmen, Class 45 fighter pilots training and received his rank of Second Lieutenant Fighter Pilot. He was trained on the AT-6, P-47N, Twin Engine, B-

25 and Advanced, single engine. Ralph was involved with the Tuskegee Airmen Detroit Chapter until his health would no longer permit him to attend.

Ralph received the American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal and the Act of Congress Medal of Honor for Tuskegee Airmen, 2006.

Ralph and his wife traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and overseas to China and Japan.

His hobbies included playing the piano in the key E-flat, an avid golfer, bowling, drawing and going to karaoke. After retiring from Prudential Insurance Co. as a sales manager, he received his flight and ground instruction licenses and taught flying at the Detroit City Airport for many years.

# Previous Events

## Family Hour

Saturday, May **25**. 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

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

## Memorial Service

Saturday, May **25**. 3:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Ralph Waldo Mason Sr.*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *3 files added to the album The Best Flight Instructor*



**Dave K.** - May 03, 2014 at 03:09 PM



“ *Annette Diggs purchased the Written in the Stars for the family of Mr. Ralph Waldo Mason Sr..*



**Annette Diggs** - May 20, 2013 at 03:31 PM



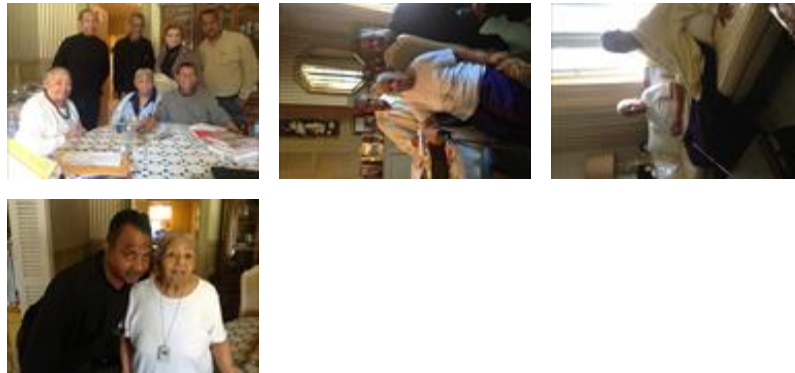
“ *3 files added to the album New Album Name*



**sandra mason** - May 19, 2013 at 11:15 AM

SM

“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**sandra mason** - May 19, 2013 at 11:12 AM

SM

“ *Sandra Mason lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ralph Waldo Mason Sr.*



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**sandra mason** - May 19, 2013 at 11:05 AM

KH

“ *Karen Harding lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ralph Waldo Mason Sr.*



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**Karen Harding** - May 18, 2013 at 10:07 PM

PM

“ *Paula Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ralph Waldo Mason Sr.*



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**Paula Moore** - May 17, 2013 at 09:54 PM