



## Mr. Robert Lee Elsberry, Sr.

May 21, 1914 - November 14, 2013

Mr. Robert Lee Elsberry Sr. was the eldest of seven siblings, born on May 21, 1914 in Montgomery, Alabama to the late George and Sarah Elsberry.

Robert Elsberry Sr. accepted Christ as his personal Lord and Savior at an early age. He attended Christian Faith Missionary Baptist Church, initially under the pastoral guidance of Rev. R.D. Brown, and later under the guidance of Levert Shell. Mr. Elsberry was very active in the ministry, serving as a trustee and member of the choir. Mr. Elsberry was one of the founding members of Christian Faith Missionary Baptist Church in 1966, where he served as a member for 47 years. He also spent an abundance of time doing repairs and janitorial work around the church during his off time.

Growing up, Mr. Robert Elsberry Sr. was an entrepreneur who worked very hard to support his grandmother and his six siblings after the loss of their mother at an early age. Mr. Robert Elsberry Sr. was a very sharp and well-mannered Christian man who brought joy to all who knew him. He was a very stylish dresser who loved fine automobiles, but Mr. Elsberry was also a very frugal man who managed his personal affairs wisely.

While working hard to provide for his wife and children, Mr. Elsberry still managed to attend the Detroit Public Schools system at night to further his education.

From 1926 through 1932, Mr. Elsberry lived in Montgomery, Alabama, where he worked in farming, as a caddy, at lumber mills and as a chauffeur. In 1932, Mr. Elsberry moved to Detroit, Michigan leaving his family behind while he searched for work. He began working at the Packard Plant on E. Grand Boulevard in 1932, and continued working there through 1952. While at the Packard Plant, Mr. Elsberry initially built cars, and later built airplanes in support of the United States and its allies in World War II. In 1952, Mr. Elsberry began working at the Ford Plane Dealership, where he repaired and detailed automobiles until 1959. In 1959, Mr. Elsberry began working for the Burroughs Corporation, and he retired from Burroughs on June 4, 1979 as a janitorial supervisor.

On March 4, 1933, Mr. Elsberry was joined in holy matrimony with the late Annie Mae Williams-Elsberry, and their marriage endured for 46 years. To their union four children were born. Mr. Elsberry married the late Jerene Dale Lee in 1985, and their marriage of 11 years ended with the late Mrs. Jerene Lee-Elsberry passing on February 8, 1996.

Mr. Elsberry's favorite sports were golfing and baseball. He enjoyed golfing most of all, and won several tournaments. Mr. Elsberry also enjoyed hobbies such as fishing and bike riding.

Mr. Elsberry Sr. departed this world on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

19807 Woodward Ave  
Detroit, MI 48203

# Previous Events

## Visitation

Wednesday, Nov. **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

## Visitation

Thursday, Nov. **21**. 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

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Friday, Nov. **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Faith Missionary Baptist Church  
8301 Puritan  
Detroit, MI 48238

## Funeral Service

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Friday, Nov. **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Faith Missionary Baptist Church  
8301 Puritan  
Detroit, MI 48238

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Robert Lee Elsberry, Sr.*

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January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *To the family we are praying for you during this time . Granddad will be missed remember all the fun memories that you shared with him over the years .*

*Mr. & Mrs . Michael Ledbetter .*

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**denise** - November 21, 2013 at 11:11 AM



“ *To the family and dear friends, Mr. Elsberry was like a Grandfather to also. I cherished the many days we talked about so many neighborly things. He reminded me of my Grandfather, I missed him everyday after I moved. The one thing I know he is watching over us more now than ever. He was a true friend & mentor.. and a terrific neighbor. I love you all..send God' s Love & Blessings..."Regina"*

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**Jeanie Vance** - November 20, 2013 at 04:36 PM

CF

“ To the family of Robert L. Elsberry, When I first met Mr. Robert he was a very polite man very soft spoken and quite a gentleman. He reminded me of my Dad and my Great-grand father, real men, So I started calling Robert Granddaddy. He made me feel just that comfortable around him. I use to ask Donna " How's granddaddy", every time that I saw her. . To Robert's family he's will loved and he left a great impression on everyone that he encountered, and you are all in my prays. God Bless, Carolyn Foster

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**Carolyn Foster** - November 18, 2013 at 10:12 PM

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“ To Donna, Robert, Tony and the Elsberry Family, I was sadden to hear about the loss of your Grandfather. He was a mighty man of 99 long, and strong lived year. I know Granddad was proud of all who took care of him, and supported him emotionally, physically, and mentally along his life's journey. Please know in your hearts that your Grandfather loved you all. Be proud and stand tall for the legacy Mr. Robert Lee Elsberry's leaves behind. He surley will be missed.

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**Patricia Mack-Matthews (Tish)** - November 17, 2013 at 05:50 PM

MB

TO DONNA AND FAMILY, JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I'M PRAING FOR YOU ALL. DONNA GOD BLESSED YOU ALL TO HAVE HAD HIM HERE 99 YEARS, WHAT A BLESSING.MAY GOD STRENGTHEN EACH OF YOU AT THIS TIME. .

**MOTHER WILLIE BAKER-GARRETT (WILLIEBAKER)**

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**MOTHER WILLIE BAKER-GARRETT** - November 20, 2013 at 11:35 PM