



Mr. Thomas David Harper

November 15, 1947 - December 2, 2018

His Story:

Thomas, was always a thinker and problem solver. Those invaluable character traits may have come from being the middle child in a family of eight. Thomas was born to James and Olivia Harper in 1947, not long after they moved from Tennessee to Detroit Michigan at the end of WWII. He grew up with his three brothers and two sisters in a little community on the Detroit side of West 8 Mile Road.

Thomas rarely made a mistake when dealing with numbers. He could make the most complicated calculations in his head. His other prized character trait of problem solving, however, often landed him in trouble because he liked to argue. His quick mind and strong intelligence allowed him to win most of the arguments and that got him into trouble with the bigger older kids. Win or lose, he held his own. He loved estate sales, gardening and creative cooking. He was uniquely irascible, but genuinely lovable. To quote his loving daughter, Happy, as she affectionately lamented on one of his subdued returns from hospital care, "Oh where, Oh where is my loud cussin' Daddy?"

Even as a very small boy he lived in a world of his creation. On occasion he would get dressed in his best Sunday suit and treat himself to a sit-down restaurant lunch in the adjacent Jewish neighborhood as reward for a good week on his newspaper route. Thomas was among the first black kids to

participate in Detroit School Integration in the mid-1950's. He was a determined dreamer and went on to earn a degree in political science from the University of Michigan. His talent was recognized by the US Army and he was easily promoted during his military service and government posts after an honorable discharge. He retired from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Previous Events

Visitation

Sunday, Dec. **9**. 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Family Hour

Monday, Dec. **10**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

Monday, Dec. **10**. 12:30 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Thomas David Harper*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *To Happy and family, I was so sorry to hear of the lost of your dad. I am praying for you and your family during this default time. No words or task can ease how you are feeling at this time, continue to be supported in your faith along with the support of others and hold dear your dad memories! God Bless and sending you hugs, your friend Paulette*



Paulette Gaines - December 10, 2018 at 10:06 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Thomas David Harper.*



December 06, 2018 at 01:12 PM



“ *I am so very sorry for your loss. May the God of all comfort embrace you with peace and hope during this difficult time. Rev 21:4*

Ms Laverne - December 06, 2018 at 07:09 AM



Condolences and prayers goes out to the family; may God comfort you all during your time of grief .

Rudolph Ross - December 08, 2018 at 01:39 AM