



## Mr. Willie Joe Thomas

October 8, 1946 - January 13, 2017

Celebrating The Life Of Willie Joe Thomas:

Willie Joe Thomas (aka Frenchie) was born on October 8, 1946 in Woodward, Alabama to the union of Ras Ester and Mary Lou. Joe and Mary Lou moved to Detroit with Albert Crockett. Joe attended First Baptist Church SW under the leadership of Rev. Nathaniel Jackson where he accepted Christ at an early age. Joe attended the Detroit Public School system. While in high school, he participated in a trade program earning credits toward a trade specialty. Joe graduated from Southwestern High School in January 1965. Shortly after graduating, Willie was employed by Ford Motor Company for 40 plus years with various positions and working with the UAW, ending with the title of Press Operator upon his retirement in 2007.

In April of 1966, he was joined in holy matrimony to Frances Yvonne which lasted for over 50 years. Joe and Yvonne had three beautiful girls. Joe enjoyed traveling, watching and attending sporting events, playing pool, bike riding, photography, cooking, barbecuing and drag racing cars. His most prized possession was his 1965 black and white Ford Mustang GT350. He enjoyed most of all spending time with family and friends.

Joe was the glue that held this family together. He had a special gift of friendship, an everlasting impact on whomever he came in contact with. His

Howell family was a blessing in his life and he in theirs. He kept in touch with family members daily as well as close friends. Joe was a faithful member of Hidden Springs Ministries in Howell, MI under the leadership of Pastor Matt Parks. He enjoyed cooking for the church once a month and on occasion.

The one thing you could not get Joe to say was good-bye on the phone he just hung up.

Well Joe we have to now say good-bye to you. Because on Friday, January 13, 2017 when the phone rang you answered the call of the Lord and went home to be with Him. Knowing that he is safe in the Lord's arms is all any of us could ever ask for.

# Previous Events

## Family Hour

Saturday, Jan. **21**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

New Testament C.O.G.I.C.  
15003 Joy Road  
Detroit, MI 48228  
(313) 582-1610  
<http://www.newtestamentchurchdetroit.org>

## Funeral Service

Saturday, Jan. **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Testament C.O.G.I.C.  
15003 Joy Road  
Detroit, MI 48228  
(313) 582-1610  
<http://www.newtestamentchurchdetroit.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Willie Joe Thomas*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *Ryan Ricardson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas*



**ryan ricardson** - January 22, 2017 at 12:05 PM



“ *Geoff, Quin, Jennifer and Jeremy purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas .*



**Geoff, Quin, Jennifer and Jeremy** - January 20, 2017 at 12:56 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



**James Tisdale** - January 20, 2017 at 11:39 AM



“ *My extended family, The Thomas. Words cannot express my heartfelt sympathy or give relief to the pain and loss you suffer.*

*Know you are loved and death has no victory. as this warrior was summoned and marched forward to be in the presence of God.*

*Be strengthened by each other, joyed by memories, encouraged by faith, and comforted in the word of God. Will (GrandDad) Thomas' legacy lives in the love and life in each of you.*

*Love and Peace,*

*James Tisdale*

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**James Tisdale** - January 20, 2017 at 11:20 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas .*



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January 19, 2017 at 10:19 AM



“ *John & Michelle Coleman purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas .*



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**John & Michelle Coleman** - January 18, 2017 at 02:52 PM

ML

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. May the God of all comfort embrace you with peace and hope now and in the days to come when as Rev 21:4 promises - all of our sorrows will soon be far behind us. You have my sincerest sympathy.

Ms Laverne - January 18, 2017 at 05:56 AM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas .



January 17, 2017 at 07:48 PM

TF

“ Tanya Griffin on behalf of The Estes-Lewis Family. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas .



Tanya Griffin on behalf of The Estes-Lewis Family. - January 17, 2017 at 07:27 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. Willie Joe Thomas .



January 17, 2017 at 03:48 PM

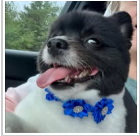
MC

“ Keeping the Thomas Family in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

*John & Michelle Coleman and Family*

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**Michelle Coleman** - January 17, 2017 at 02:51 PM



“ Willie had such a quiet strength about him. I admired his love and dedication towards his wife Yvonne and his children/grandchildren. Mostly, His great faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends at Hidden Springs Church in Howell.

*11 Corinthians 5:8*

*We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.*

*Debbie Stuhrberg*



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**Debra Stuhrberg** - January 17, 2017 at 10:41 AM