



Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.

December 12, 1963 - May 9, 2017

Anthony V. Gulley, Sr., 53, of Peoria, IL passed away suddenly at 9:45 pm on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at Unity Point Proctor Health Center.

Anthony was born on December 12, 1963 in Peoria, IL to Paul D. and Learlena (Vance) Gulley. "Big Tony" as he was affectionately known, was a 1983 graduate of Manual High School where he was an amazing well known shooting guard and star basketball player. He was a Sun Times, UPI, IBCA, Chicago Tribune All-State and McDonald's All American. Under the leadership of Coach Dick Van Scyoc, Anthony set scoring records and contributed to the beginning of what we know as Manual's Basketball Dynasty. He attended Casper College in Casper, Wyoming where he was also a first team All American and Illinois Southern University at Edwardsville, IL. Anthony married his High School sweetheart, Maria Hayes, on April 6, 1990 in Peoria. Anthony worked as a forklift operator for many years while also working at the family business, Gulley's Barbecue. Anthony was loving, kind hearted and a funny person. He enjoyed listening to music, basketball, football, swimming, billiards, cars and barbecuing. He loved spending time with his family and friends. Anthony you will truly be missed!

Anthony leaves to cherish his most precious memories his loving wife of 27 years, Maria Gulley; three children, Anthony "Lil Tony" Gulley, Jr., Paris Gulley and L'Trice Gulley all of Peoria; a god-son, Marcus (Brooke) Jackson of New Berlin, WI; two brothers, Willie Williams of St. Louis, MO and Calvin Buffington of Chicagoland; one sister, Barbara A. Williams of St. Louis, MO; his best

friend through grade school to college, Alphonso Alexander, Jr., of Peoria; 10 grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents; one son, Bryson Kelly; two brothers, Clarence Williams and Alfred Williams.

Funeral services will be held at 1 pm, Saturday, May 20, 2017 at Mt. Olive M.B. Church with a visitation beginning at 12 noon. Pastor Chuck Brown will officiate. Anthony will be laid to rest at Swan Lake Memory Gardens. Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at simonsmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Swan Lake Memory Gardens

4601 W War Memorial Dr.
Peoria, IL 61615

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 20. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Mt. Olive M.B. Church
603 W. Nebraska Avenue
Peoria, IL 61604
cyntgilk2@aol.com

Funeral Service

MAY 20. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Mt. Olive M.B. Church
603 W. Nebraska Avenue
Peoria, IL 61604
cyntgilk2@aol.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*



Simons Mortuary - May 19, 2017 at 04:54 PM



“ *Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *12/12 Is considered a holiday for my family for the rest of our lives. The day God created my father. I miss my dad a lot he's my hero and someone i truly looked up too, he was the true definition of a father figure, always was there when i needed him the most. One day we will meet again. Love you truly your baby boy.*

Paris - December 12, 2019 at 12:55 PM

TR

“ *he my grandpa and my best memory was when he taught me how to shoot a basketball*

TRE/ANTHONY - March 07, 2019 at 03:20 PM

SM

“ *1 file added to the album Memories*



Simons Mortuary - December 05, 2017 at 04:01 PM

FH

“ *Thank you Lord for the rain yesterday and for the sunshine. My brother in law was smiling yesterday. It was a pleasure seeing everyone and thank you all for the love and prayers. Love you Tony you will be missed but not forgotten. God Bless everyone and pray for the Family.:)*

Frederick Hayes - May 21, 2017 at 09:50 PM

AN

“ *May God grant you his peace and strength. Fields and Williams Family.*

Angela - May 20, 2017 at 12:45 PM

MP

“ *To my precious cousin I am so sorry to hear about your passing I am going to miss you but I will be praying for our family I love you. Mary Ann Pittman*

Mary Ann Pittman - May 19, 2017 at 11:56 PM

MP

“ *Mary Ann Pittman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*



Mary Ann Pittman - May 19, 2017 at 11:53 PM



“ *To the family of Tony Gulley,
Tony was a great guy with a kind heart. He will be missed by all.
May God comfort you during your time of bereavement. God is our
strength in the time of sorrow. My prayers are with you.*

*Virgil Marshall
"Rams for Life"*

Virgil Marshall - May 19, 2017 at 11:44 PM

EJ

“ *To the Gulley Family,
I am sorry to hear of the passing of TG . I played ball at Galesburg
High School in the same years Tony did and we used to have some
great battles with Manual High and what a player he was that's for
sure. I can remember going to the All State Banquet in Champaign
in 83 and just hanging out with him and Dennis Douglas from
Quincy. Just being around him for that weekend you could sense
what a Humble and great guy he was off the court as well. Anyway i
wanted to share a little story with the Gulley family and the great
memories i had of TG. God Bless the Gulleys. Eric Johnson
Galesburg*

eric johnson - May 19, 2017 at 07:36 AM

JJ

“ Johnny Lee Williams Jr. sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.



Johnny Lee Williams Jr. - May 18, 2017 at 10:57 PM

JJ

“ Johnny Lee Williams Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.



Johnny Lee Williams Jr. - May 18, 2017 at 10:57 PM

DS

“ Coach Van Scyoc and Mrs. Van send our deepest sympathy to The Gulley family. May God watch over you and your family in these troubled times. God Bless.



Dick & Karen Van Scyoc - May 18, 2017 at 12:29 PM

AB

“ Condolences to the Gully family, Maria stay strong you and your family. God bless you guys. The Batton Family.



Anthony Batton - May 17, 2017 at 10:42 AM

MH

“ *Ms.Darlene Horton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*



Ms.Darlene Horton - May 17, 2017 at 09:35 AM

VD

“ *My condolences to you and your family Marie. Vickie Donaldson and family*



vickie donaldson - May 17, 2017 at 02:25 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr..*



May 16, 2017 at 04:07 PM

SA

“ *Condolences to the family of Tony Gulley, praying God will give you strength in your time of need and continue to watch over each and everyone of you.*



Shirley Abner and family

Shirley Abner - May 15, 2017 at 11:48 PM

TF

“ *Condolences to the family
from the Sommer Family*



The Sommer Family - May 15, 2017 at 02:34 PM

KA

“ *Karen Ashby sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr.
Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*



Karen Ashby - May 15, 2017 at 02:10 PM

LI

“ *Linda sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr.
Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*



Linda - May 15, 2017 at 08:20 AM

AL

“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Anthony "Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.*



Annette Lucy - May 13, 2017 at 05:32 PM

LI

“ Linda lit a candle in memory of Mr. Anthony
"Big Tony" Vincent Gulley Sr.



Linda - May 13, 2017 at 06:08 AM

LI

“ Even though it wasn't funny at the time, my dog bit another neighbor
in the (a#:) as Tony would say. we laughed at that every time we
saw him. (you had to be there) gonna miss u. No cheating from
above when the Steelers and Bears play this year in Chicago.

Linda - May 13, 2017 at 06:06 AM

MO

Rip!!!!!! Maurice hutt

Mohutt - May 16, 2017 at 05:20 PM

EH

True legend in the P..... Rip

Eric Housley

Eric Housley - May 19, 2017 at 06:55 AM

JL

“ My condolences to the family.....
J.Lovingood

Jeffery Lovingood - May 12, 2017 at 12:32 PM

RB

I'm so sorry for your loss, God Bless you Maria, and children 💕

Rhonda Boone-Morris - May 14, 2017 at 12:54 PM



To one of the greatest friend and basketball players i new i played with him at trewyn grade school 1979 City Champs go Tigers. RIP my good friend till we meet again in heaven. Ghlee Mulvaney

Ghlee Mulvaney - May 14, 2017 at 09:38 PM