



## Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr.,

November 20, 1933 - May 8, 2013

Pastor Jeffery Ivory, Sr., 79, of Peoria, IL passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving and devoted family at 4:30 PM on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center.

Reverend Ivory was born on November 20, 1933 in Gainesville, Alabama. His parents, the late John L. and Sephronia (Grice) Ivory raised their family in York, AL. He married Gladys Sturdivant on August 20, 1953 in Meridian, MS. Reverend Ivory leaves to cherish his precious memories his beloved wife of almost 60 years, Gladys Ivory of Peoria; four sons, Ricky (Carolyn) Ivory of York, AL, Larry (Janis) Ivory, Rodney (Jennifer) Ivory and Darren Ivory all of Peoria; four daughters, Lorraine (William) Sephus, Teresa (Lonnie) Hayes, Beverly (Eric) Cameron and Ariel Ivory all of Peoria; one sister, Marjorite Shelton of Livingston, AL; 18 grandchildren; 22 great grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; one god son, Jamar Thomas; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, friends and his Grace Baptist Church family. He is preceded in death by his parents; one son, Jeffery Ivory, Jr.; one daughter, Erica Dawn Ivory; three brothers and two sisters.

Reverend Ivory retired from Allied and Hyster's Construction Companies in 1973 before being called to pastorship. He was Pastor of Grace Baptist Church for 40 years and directed the activities for the purpose of building up the kingdom of God. During Pastor Ivory's leadership, the church has grown to

over 800 members. As a pastor, he was a fisher of man, a shepherd of his flock. His aim has not been merely the salvation of souls but also the salvation of society. He carried the spirit of faith, hope, and love with him into every home he entered and left a great benediction. As a leader Rev. Ivory had been a journalist interpreting current events, an author of literature, teacher instructing us in truth, an executive head in our business affairs, and a pastor regenerating our society.

As a past Moderator of the Central District Association, past President of the Baptist Ministerial Alliance and the Central District Congress of Christian Education, and a member of the Peoria Christian leadership Council, Rev. Ivory was a man of dedication to improving the condition of the city of Peoria. Rev. Ivory was also a past Board Member of the Minority Affairs Council for the Illinois Department of Transportation for District 4, dedicated to improving minority participation for black contractors and a past Board Member of the Central Illinois Black Expo. As one of the most highly respected ministers in the Peoria area and the oldest pastor in the Central District, he was known by many as the "Godfather". This man of God was respected by not only the Baptist ministers but also the ministers of other denominations. As a community leader he championed many causes, people have known that if Rev. Ivory was involved in something, it was definitely something worth getting involved in.

Pastor Ivory was an avid Cubs fan. He enjoyed spending time with wife, children, grandchildren and his church family. He had a great passion for fishing and cooking; he's known for his peach cobbler throughout the community.

Pastor Ivory's visitation will be held at Grace Baptist Church from 3 PM to 6 PM on Friday, May 17, 2013 with a religious ceremony immediately following beginning at 6 PM. Funeral services will be held at 10 AM on Saturday, May

18, 2013 at New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church with a visitation beginning at 9 AM. Rev. Cleveland Thomas, Sr., Pastor of New Morning Star will officiate. Reverend Ivory will be laid to rest at Springdale Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Pastor Ivory's name to the Grace Baptist Church Building Fund. Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to [www.simonsmortuary.com](http://www.simonsmortuary.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 17. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Grace Baptist Church  
405 N. Richard Pryor Place  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Service

MAY 17. 6:00 PM (CT)

Grace Baptist Church  
405 N. Richard Pryor Place  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Visitation

MAY 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
413 W. John H. Gwynn Jr. Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Funeral Service

MAY 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church  
413 W. John H. Gwynn Jr. Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,*



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**Simons Mortuary** - May 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,*

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January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,*

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January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *I remember growing up and going over to my grandmas n grandpas for Sunday dinner n my grandpa ivory would be in his room laying on the bed watching espn and I would just lay at the foot of the bed and we would just watch game after game together as he would state fact after fact of each team and name all the star players they ever had.. I miss these moments with him so much*

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**Terrence Marshall** - October 11, 2014 at 11:34 PM

MW

“ I have known Rev. Ivory since I was a little girl. I was married by Pastor n 1981 @ the beautiful old church on Reed & Maple. I will always miss him dearly but I hv some beautiful pictures of the old Grace Baptist & also. My entire immediate family attend Grace. He fought a good fight and was an excellent Sheppard. I am His Majesty servant Mrs. Lou Washington.

Mrs. Lou Washington - August 19, 2013 at 03:06 AM

BV

“ Barbara Vinson lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



Barbara Vinson - May 23, 2013 at 07:34 PM

DI

PASTOR IVORY YOU ARE GREATLY MISSED.THERE IS A BIG VOID AT GRACE.I PRAY TO GOD EVERYDAY THAT WE MAY COME TOGETHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY. WE NEED TO REMEMBER EVERYTHING THAT YOU PREACHED ABOUT AND TAUGHT US,AND THAT ONE THING WAS LOVE FOR EACH OTHER.WE NEED TO PRAY FOR EACH OTHER AND STOP THE FIGHTING.IAM NOT ASHAMED TO SAY IT.YOU TAUGHT US WHERE THERE IS TWO OR THREE ASSEMBLED IN GODS NAME THAT GOD WOULD BE IN THE MIDST.I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE TAUGHT SOME OF US BETTER THAN THIS AND THEY KNOW IT.WHAT EVER HAS TO BE DONE MUST BE DONE IN THE NAME OF JESUS.SOME OF US ARE GETTING PRETTY TIRED OF ALL OF THIS,BUT WE HAVE TO TRUST GOD AND LET HIM DO HIS WILL.I WILL NEVER FORGET THE WPRD OF GOD OR YOUR TEACHING.

DIANA - August 09, 2013 at 06:03 PM

GB

“ To the Ivory family , we are so sorry for your lost. Weeping may endure for nite but joy cometh in the morning. The Bass, Norman, and Ross families



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**gbass** - May 16, 2013 at 10:34 AM

HJ

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all as you go through this journey! He will be truly missed but forever warmly remember in all are hearts.



*God's grace for the Journey,  
S. David and Helen Jenkins*

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**Helen Jenkins** - May 15, 2013 at 11:13 PM

TC

“ Tristyn Cornish lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



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**tristyn cornish** - May 15, 2013 at 02:37 PM

TA

“ Our prayers go out to the entire Ivory family. From the Alexander Family: Sheree, Sandra, Todd, Angela, Lisa and Mickey.

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**The Alexanders** - May 15, 2013 at 09:18 AM

MW

“ *Praying for you!!!!*



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**Ms. Pat Ward** - May 15, 2013 at 08:52 AM



“ *Annette Lynn lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,*



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**Annette Lynn** - May 15, 2013 at 02:15 AM

CH

“ *Cheryle Hayes lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,*



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**Cheryle Hayes** - May 15, 2013 at 12:53 AM

DS

“ *Dorita & Mierra Sturdivant lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,*



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**Dorita & Mierra Sturdivant** - May 15, 2013 at 12:38 AM

NP

“ Nicole Proctor lit a candle in memory of  
Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



Nicole Proctor - May 14, 2013 at 11:04 PM

JW

“ Janell Walker-Willis lit a candle in memory of  
Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



Janell Walker-Willis - May 14, 2013 at 10:25 PM

SK

“ Sharon King sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



sharon king - May 14, 2013 at 10:06 PM

MC

“ Michelle Claudon lit a candle in memory of  
Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



Michelle Claudon - May 14, 2013 at 10:06 PM

SK

“ Sharon King lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



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**sharon king** - May 14, 2013 at 10:04 PM

PF

“ To the Family of Pastor Ivory, may God continue to comfort you all in your time of need.

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**Pamela Farmer** - May 14, 2013 at 09:40 PM

RT

“ Rev L.G. & Johnnie M Trammell lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



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**Rev L.G. & Johnnie M Trammell** - May 14, 2013 at 06:37 PM

SM

“ Stephanie Moredock lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



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**Stephanie Moredock** - May 14, 2013 at 06:32 PM

TM

“ Tanya & Kourtney Mack lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



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**Tanya & Kourtney Mack** - May 14, 2013 at 04:26 PM

SH

“ Stephanie Hines-Green lit a candle in memory of Pastor Jeffery Ivory Sr,



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**Stephanie Hines-Green** - May 10, 2013 at 10:06 AM

PA

*The warmest and most caring congregation. I will always remember Rev Ivory's kind and gentle spirit. May God be with you during this time. May his face shine upon you and may his grace and mercy embrace you. You are in my prayers.*  
*Patrice*

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**Patrice** - May 13, 2013 at 01:42 PM