



## Mr. Robert "Bob" D. McQuirter

January 13, 1942 - June 7, 2014

Robert "Bob" McQuirter, 72, of Peoria, IL passed away peacefully at 3:08 PM on Saturday, June 7, 2014 at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

Bob, the oldest of nine children - seven brothers and one sister - was born on January 13, 1942 in Clinton, Mississippi to Reverend Wroten McQuirter Sr. and Annie Mae (Murriel)

McQuirter. Bob was a 1959 graduate of Sumner Hill High School in Clinton, MS. He married Shirley Davis on July 5, 1968 in Jackson, Mississippi and to that union two sons and one daughter were born.

Bob spent three years in active military service in the Army starting January 1964 (U.S. Army Paratrooper) followed by three years of inactive reserve duty. Bob's military service presented him with many challenging assignments. After basic training and military correspondence school, he was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company III Corp, Fort Hood, Texas for approximately six months. After eight weeks of parachute training at Fort Benning, Georgia, his next assignment took him to the infamous "All American" Airborne Paratrooper unit, the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg North Carolina. After 30 days at his new unit, he experienced his first introduction to military combat in the Dominican Republic. He was later awarded the National Defense Service Metal and Combat Infantryman Badge for service from April to July 1965. Following his service in Dominican

Republic he was assigned to the infamous “Screaming Eagles,” the 101st Airborne Brigade in the Republic of South Vietnam. He served 12 months in the Republic of South Vietnam. He was awarded the Army Commendation Metal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Metal and his second Combat Infantryman Badge.

Following his military service, Bob attended Jackson State University where he received a B.A. Degree in Business. He accumulated further hours in Accounting and Economics. In June 1970, his professional interest took him north where he worked at Caterpillar Inc.’s worldwide headquarters in Peoria, Illinois. His career at Cat gave him the opportunity to experience challenging and diverse assignments in economic analysis where he charted and graphed economic data for nine Latin and Central American Countries. At one point, during the Asian downturn, he tracked and reported currency changes for 42 global countries. He spent the last eleven years of his career in Human Resources where his assignment gave him the opportunity to help company employees going on and off global assignments. Additionally, he had the opportunity to apply company policies to difficult employee and leader differences. February 2009, he retired from Caterpillar after 38.5 years of full time service.

Over the years, Bob made significant contributions to his Peoria community; advisor to Black Achievers (young African American teenagers) at the YMCA. He was founder and served as past president of the Heart of Peoria Neighborhood Association. He was past Chairman of the Peoria Housing and Property Maintenance Commission; Neighborhood Development Commission, Peoria Police Community Relations Advisory Group. He was a Children Home Association board member. He recently served as Board of Commissioner at Peoria Housing Authority (PHA) and was a member of CAAR (Concerned African American Retirees). During January 2007, Bob and wife Shirley were co recipients of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. “Drum Major” award.

Bob leaves to cherish his precious memories his loving and devoted wife of 45 years, Shirley McQuirter of Peoria; two sons, Brian McQuirter of San Francisco, CA and Vincent (Tanesha) McQuirter of Normal, IL; and one daughter, Erin McQuirter of Bloomington, IL; his mother, Annie Mae McQuirter of Clinton, MS; seven brothers, James (Sue) McQuirter, Sr., of Dallas, TX, Dr. Wroten McQuirter, Jr., of Marion, IL, Dr. Joseph (Dorothy) McQuirter of Los Angeles, CA, Paul (Louise) McQuirter of Detroit, MI, Gerald McQuirter of Chicago, IL, Rev. Dr. Dwight McQuirter of Lansing, MI and Rev. Darrel (Janice) McQuirter of Clinton, MS; one sister, Dr. Limmie (Henry) Flowers of Clinton, MS; four grandchildren, Diamante, DaVion, DeAris and NaShyla; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his father, Wroten McQuirter, Sr.

Funeral services will be held at 12 Noon on Saturday, June 14, 2014 at Grace Baptist Church with a visitation at 11 AM. Pastor Claude White, Jr., will officiate. Bob will be laid to rest on Soldier Hill at Historic Springdale Cemetery. Military Honors will be rendered by the US Army and the Tazewell County Ceremonial Rites Team.

Memorials can be made to the Katherine Murriel Education Fund Inc. at Illinois Central College Education Foundation, One College Dr. East Peoria, 61635-1000

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to [simonsmortuary.com](http://simonsmortuary.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Historic Springdale Cemetery

3014 N. Prospect Road  
Peoria, IL 61603

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 14. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

JUN 14. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Robert "Bob" D. McQuirter*



---

**Simons Mortuary** - June 18, 2014 at 11:39 AM



“ *Mr. Robert "Bob" D. McQuirter*

---

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. Robert "Bob" D. McQuirter*

---

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM

CC

“ *" OMG! " I'm saddened from, just now, discovering the loss of this dear friend and within a week of losing my beloved mother. I've had the, distinct, pleasure of knowing Bob and Family for decades. Few people did I appreciate being around and having conversations with like him. He was such a wise and compassionate man who did a lot of good for his family, friends, and community. I miss him greatly. My, heartfelt and sincerest, condolences and love to his dear wife Shirley - another dear friend and their wonderful children. Robert ' Bob ' was a blessing to us all!*

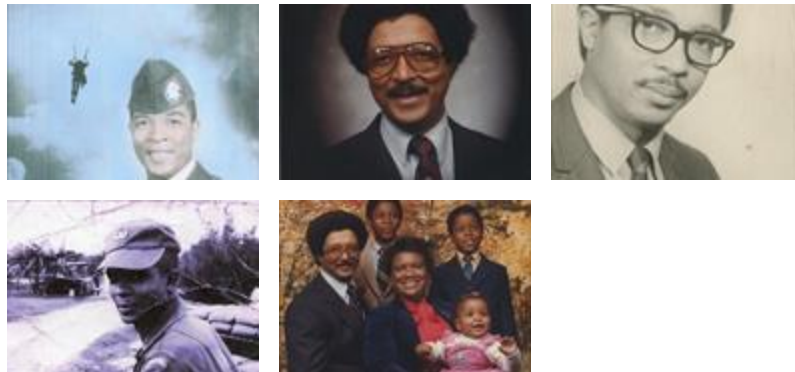


---

**Christopher Callen** - November 16, 2015 at 03:57 PM

SM

“ *5 files added to the album New Album Name*



---

**Simons Motuary** - November 07, 2014 at 10:24 AM

CK

“ *Bob was a great co-worker at Caterpillar. Very nice and always helpful. He always seemed so proud of his family when speaking about them. RIP, Bob.*

*Cheryl Kinsinger*

---

**Cheryl Kinsinger** - June 14, 2014 at 10:05 AM

RB

“ Our sympathy goes to the McQuirter Family, we send our love & prayers of peace that surpasses all understanding. The Vinson/Burns Family

Rita Burns - June 13, 2014 at 03:59 PM

MC

“ Shirley, We were students workers at Jackson State College (JSU), Office of Plant Operations. I was so sad to hear of your loss. However, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what GOD has prepared for those who love HIM" 1Corinthians 2:9.

Maudene W. Coleman, Jackson, MS

Maudene W. Coleman - June 13, 2014 at 03:55 PM

KS

“ Shirley and family - I won't be able to be there Saturday, but I wanted to let you know that I am so very sorry for your loss. Robert was a gentle spirit and always had a smile for everyone. We all share in your grief.

Kay Sutton - June 13, 2014 at 12:16 PM



“ Rose Tribute was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert "Bob" D. McQuirter.



June 12, 2014 at 07:42 PM

GG

“ Shirley,  
So sorry for your loss. Although this is a difficult time, know that the peace of Christ will comfort you and that His love endures. One day the two of you will be face to face again in shining glory. Peace to you and your family.

---

**Guy Goodman** - June 12, 2014 at 10:18 AM

CS

“ We have lost a great Man of God! There are no longer men like Mr. McQuirter to be found anywhere. He was a man of integrity and honor that helped shaped his community and the lives of others. He put God and his family first while taking a stand and fighting for those who could not fight for themselves. His character and presence demanded and commanded respect because he was the first to give it. He was a man of few words but when he spoke wisdom was imparted to the hearer. He was loved by many and cherished by all who knew him. He personally helped to shape my life and the man I became without even trying. Just being around him and his family was a blessing. He will truly be missed! God buries His Workman but His work goes on!

Christopher Stewart

---

**Chris Stewart** - June 12, 2014 at 07:46 AM

SS

“ I worked with Bob at Cat many years ago, before he went into HR. He was so kind to me and taught me a lot about graphs and charts, but also about how to treat people and how to live your faith. I valued his quiet humor and solid strength. He talked so much about his family, you could hear the love in all he said. I know you will miss him, but, assuredly, he is in Heaven waiting for the rest. RIP Bob McQuirter! Susan Sommars

---

**Susan Sommars** - June 11, 2014 at 12:54 PM

BE

“ *Bob, I will miss your smiling face and your funny jokes! R.I.P. Shirley and family, you have my sincere condolences. Dr. Beverly Johnson Thomas*

---

**Beverly** - June 11, 2014 at 01:12 AM