



Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley

January 17, 1959 - September 12, 2020

Mr. William "WC" Charles Colley, also known as Cornbread, 61, of Peoria, IL passed away at 12:36 am on Saturday, September 12, 2020 at his home. WC was born on January 17, 1959 in Augusta, Arkansas to proud parents William, Sr., and Reba Mae (Grady) Colley. He was educated in Arkansas and later moved to Peoria, IL where he graduated from Manual High School. He last worked for Caterpillar, Inc as a forklift operator. He married the love of his life, Ruby Gene Allen on June 10, 2005.

WC loved sports, his family and had a special connection with his grandchildren. He was an exceptionally kind and soft-spoken man that always had words of wisdom to encourage people. He never would complain, even in the midst of his illness. He would just say, "I'm hanging in there, just pray for me." WC was very proud of being clean and sober for over 21 years and was a lead conductor of AA meetings every Saturday over the years helping others overcome their addictions.

WC leaves to cherish his most precious memories his loving and devoted wife, Ruby G. Allen-Colley of Peoria, IL; his children, Kiondra Allen of Galesburg, IL and Cionna Allen of Peoria, IL; step-children, Daphine (Paul) Howard of Chicago, IL, Eronda Allen, Sheronica Allen and Lerone Allen all of Peoria, IL; one sister, Theresa Colley of Peoria; his favorite uncle, Jessie (Pearlie) Russell of Indiana; two special aunts, Dorothy (Harrell) Williams of Peoria, IL and Faye (Robert) Paige of East St. Louis, MO and three special cousins, Derrick Jackson, Terrance Jackson and Lonnie Edwards all of

Peoria, IL; and a host of grand and greatgrandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents; four siblings, Donald Colley, Wanda Mitchell, Marilyn Colley and Linda Sims. A private funeral service will be held at 11 am on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at Simons Mortuary Chapel with a visitation beginning at 10 am. Brother Robert Williams of Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witnesses will bring words of comfort to the family.

Simons Mortuary is entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at simonsmortuary.com.

The funeral service will be live-streamed on Simons Mortuary's Website or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Simons-Mortuary-232095303487150> promptly at the time of the service. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, social distancing and attendance limits will be observed. The chapel can socially distance and seat a limit of 30 or less people. All others will be able to flow through and view prior to beginning the Celebration of Life Ceremony.

As the States begin re-opening in response to the Global Coronavirus Pandemic, some people are returning to their previous normal living standards. Unfortunately, we are now in our new normal as unreal and sometimes uncomfortable as the socially distancing and continuous use of protective masks may feel.

*In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we ask that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them). Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

*It is our responsibility as Funeral Directors, to do everything we can to advise families in order to honor our beloved Families and to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **19**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Simons Mortuary Chapel
912 W. John H. Gwynn, Jr. Ave.
Peoria, IL 61605
(309) 674-2638
info@simonsmortuary.com
<https://simonsmortuary.com>

Funeral Service

SEP **19**. 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (CT)

Simons Mortuary Chapel
912 W. John H. Gwynn, Jr. Ave.
Peoria, IL 61605
(309) 674-2638
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Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley*



Simons Mortuary - September 21, 2020 at 11:10 AM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley*



Simons Mortuary - September 18, 2020 at 03:40 PM

KJ

Miss you cuz. Love you. Karen D Jackson

Karen D Jackson - September 19, 2020 at 12:00 PM

JB

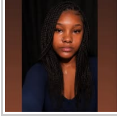
Fly high

JoAnn Bryant - September 19, 2020 at 03:43 PM

MP

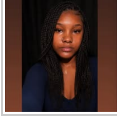
Sending My love 💕 and prayer to The Williams Family.

Marvina Pate - September 21, 2020 at 01:35 AM



I love you grandpa ❤️

Cionna Allen - October 25, 2020 at 06:42 PM



Hey Grandpa!! I Love You ❤️ Just Thinking Of You. I Miss You So Much.

Cionna Allen - November 29, 2020 at 07:07 PM



Hey grandpa!! Thinking of you. I love you 💕 I'm doing good down here. I'm making you proud. ❤️

Cionna Allen - January 05, 2021 at 10:26 AM



“ Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley

January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley

January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ Sorry for your lost my heart and prayers go out for family and friends in Jesus name amen rip May the grace of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ be with you all amen



Dorotha Williams - October 26, 2020 at 05:33 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Funeral Program



Informal in Address and later moved to Prairie, IL, where he graduated from Mansfield High School. He later worked for Campbell, Inc., as a Forklift operator. He married the love of his life, Betty, Louise Allen on June 10, 1949.

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Simons Mortuary - September 21, 2020 at 03:25 PM



“ My Poppi. If I didn't call you, you would called me. You transitioned on Saturday. On Sunday, I felt as if it was a dream and prayed that you would call me just one more time. You were my gentle giant, your soft spoken words of encouragement will always be with me. The last time I saw you, you hugged me harder than ever before and gave me a big kiss on the cheek, and left me with the words, "I love you too. You keep praying and take care of yourself." You struggled each day, but pushed on with a smile. We love you, but God loves you more.

Daphine Howard - September 19, 2020 at 08:36 AM



“ Nancy Pittman lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley



Nancy Pittman - September 16, 2020 at 12:52 AM

BB

“ WC, You were a trusted friend and I truly enjoyed our get togethers and phone conversations. God always knows when a person needs someone like you to enter their lives and bring them peace of mind. You were and continued to be that special someone in my life and I am eternally grateful. I will conclude by saying " I will see you again , just not yet!"
Brian Barkley

Brian Barkley - September 15, 2020 at 10:19 PM

RL

“ Renessa Watkins So Sorry For Loss lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley



Renessa Watkins so sorry for loss - September 15, 2020 at 09:14 PM

MP

“ As a children raised up in Augusta, Arkansas we had great memory playing outside with each other. To my family we was raised as a lil village, what a fun time we had as kids Charles and my brothers played in that waterhole where they water the fields they thinking they were swimming. Those were the fun days R.I.L.

Martha Pryor - September 15, 2020 at 08:43 PM

AL

“ Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley



Annette Lucy - September 15, 2020 at 12:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley.*



September 15, 2020 at 12:19 PM



“ *JOYCE KENNEDY HOWARD lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley*



JOYCE KENNEDY HOWARD - September 15, 2020 at 08:46 AM



“ *Evelyn Tate-Clayton lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "WC" "Cornbread" Charles Colley*



Evelyn Tate-Clayton - September 14, 2020 at 06:48 PM



“ *He was the most loving person you could ever know. Also, the best grandfather in the world! I will miss our laughs*

Cionna - September 14, 2020 at 06:30 PM

JH

CHARLES WAS ONE OF A KIND ALWAYS HAD A BIG SMILE FOR WHICH MADE YOUR DAY HOW WE MET WE GOT TO TALKING AND ABOUT WHERE WE WAS FROM COME TO FIND OUT WE WAS FROM ARKANSAS AND HIS AUNTS DOROTHY AND EMMA SENDING MY CONDOLENCES CHARLES WAS A FRIEND TO EVERYBODY HE ALWAYS SAY JOYCE I,M HANGING IN THERE GOING TO MISS HIM.MAY GOD BLESS HIS FAMILY.MUCH LOVE.JOYCE KENNEDY HOWARD

JOYCE KENNEDY HOWARD - September 15, 2020 at 02:52 PM