



The Obituary

Willie Lee McMath was born on April 20, 1930 in Little Rock, Arkansas to Ed McMath and Olie McMath (Robinson). He was the youngest of three children born to this union.

Willie was a member of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Little Rock. He attended and graduated from Dunbar High School. Willie developed a love of flying model airplanes at the early age of 13 and he also pursued his Pilot's license before he moved to Detroit, Michigan in September 1948.

Willie was one of the four original founders of the Radio Control Club of Detroit (RCCD) which was organized in 1951, charter established in 1952. The RCCD is one of the oldest flying model airplane clubs in the country and the 1st one to be completely radio controlled. It was incorporated in 1953 and sanctioned by AMA (the Academy of Model Aeronautics) that same year. Historically, the Wright Brothers flew their first flight 50 years prior. Over the years, many facets of model aviation have been included in RCCD (u-control, radio control, giant, and helicopters).

Willie was a member of the St. Paul AME Zion Church and a faithful member of the Zionite Usher Board for over 60 years. Willie met Bernice Fields when she joined the Usher Board.

Willie and Bernice married on March 14, 1964. They had 2 children, one daughter and one son.

Willie worked at Federal Incorporation for 28 years. He also worked at Budd Company for a short period of time.

Willie (affectionally known as Billy to his family) readily helped anyone that needed his assistance. He loved to take pictures of his family and friends. He liked to discuss politics. Willie always encouraged family members to invest. Willie also loved to travel with his family. He has been on many vacations ranging from RVing to cruising.

Willie had many friendships. Some were well over 60 years. Willie was a Ham Radio Operator. His handle was "K8GHZ". He was a simple man that did complicated things. Willie was a jack of all trades as he could just about fix anything! Willie believed in the phrase "there is no such thing as can't". He was a kind, thoughtful, honest man who believed that all things were possible. He has truly been a blessing to many over the years.

Willie was energetic and vibrant until the good Lord called him home on Monday, March 21, 2022.

Willie was preceded in death by his step-mother, Ruth McMath, his step-sister, Roxie L. Blanks, his brother, William McMath (affectionally known as "Brother"), his step-sister, Dorothy Simpson-Bain, and his sister, Viola Smart.

Willie leaves with cherished memories his wife of 58 years, Bernice McMath; his daughter, Verdetta Love (Anthony); his son, Roderick McMath (Carol); his grandsons, Aaron and Alex Love, his niece, Gloria Smart, a host of great nieces, great nephews, family and friends.

He is soaring with the angels and flying model airplanes forever!

Order of Service

Prelude	Musicians
Processional	Clergy and Family
Words of Assurance.....	Rev. Todd N. Jarrett
Hymn of Praise	"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"
Scripture Lesson	Rev. Brenda Underwood
Prayer of Comfort.....	Rev. Carolyn Corey
Selection	"When You Hear of My Homegoing"Ms. Carol Merriweather
Acknowledgments.....	Ms. Carol A. Carter
Expressions (Please limit to 2 minutes)	Family and Friends
Tribute from Zionite Usher Board	Mrs. Mary Gene Sturkey
Church Resolution	Mrs. Mary Gene Sturkey
Obituary.....	(Read Silently).....
Selection	"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"Mr. Donald Mims
Eulogy.....	Rev. Todd N. Jarrett
Recessional.....	Clergy & Family

Goodbye Daddy

It's never the right time
To say goodbye.
We will miss you, Daddy
And here is why.
You taught us so much:
To show no fear,
To always have fun,
And face the day with cheer.

You were always so able,
So fast and so strong.
In your children's eyes
You could do no wrong.
You would always listen,
And you never pried.
You were the arms around us
When we cried.

You never looked for praises,
And you were never one to boast.
You were always there
For those you loved the most.

You worked so hard,
And those strong working hands
Led us through life
And helped us understand
That life can be hard,
And tough, and sad,
But through it all
We had our Dad.



And because of you,
We understood
That life was actually
Pretty good.

We believe in you
And will follow your path,
And when things go wrong,
We'll look back and laugh.

We hope you can hear us
So we can let you know
That you were and will forever
Be our Superhero.

So yes, today
We are full of sorrow,
But we will smile a little more
With each tomorrow.

So please, Daddy, go
Be at rest
And know to us
You were always the best.

We love you so much and miss you every day!

originally by Leann Brady and adapted by Verdetta Love &
Roderick McMath



Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgment

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation
the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and many
other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced
at this time in thought and deed.

A more personal acknowledgement will be made at a later date..

Interment and Final Resting Place
HISTORIC ELMWOOD CEMETERY
1200 Elmwood | Detroit, Michigan



Final Arrangements Entrusted to
New McFall Brothers Funeral Home
9419 Dexter | Detroit, MI 48206
12530 East Seven Mile Road | Detroit, MI 48205
313.895.8900

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Willie Lee McMath

FIRST FLIGHT | APRIL 20, 1930

LAST FLIGHT | MARCH 21, 2022

Service to Be held
Thursday, March 31, 2022
10:30am Family Hour 11:00am Funeral

ST. PAUL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
11359 DEXTER AVE. | DETROIT, MICHIGAN
REV. TODD N. JARRETT, OFFICIATING