

Pall Bearers

Richard Earl Carter
James P. Darden
Andrew Johnson
Joe Mitchell
Bobbye Person
Wayne Venson

Honorary Pall Bearers

Phillis Wheatley Class of 1950
St. Paul United Methodist Men
Prairie View Alumni
St. Paul UMC Pacesetters

Acknowledgements

The family of Miles wishes to acknowledge with gratitude all of his doctors, health care personnel; and especially Dr. Brandon Harrell, who assured Miles that at age 86, "he could eat whatever he wanted"; Ms. Terry Carter, his barber, who made certain that even during his extended stay in the hospital in 2017, he was always clean shaven; St Paul UMC choir members and friends who made certain Miles's choir robe was on correctly, he was able to reach his seat in the choir stand; and, he and his walker were safely back in his car for his trip back home; everyone for all acts of kindness, love and comfort during this time of our bereavement; and, special (and best) friend, Bro. Alvin "Fox" Roberts whom he met in middle school, hung together with throughout high school, college, the army and as both returned back home to San Antonio. May God continue to bless each of you.

Interment

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery
1520 Harry Wurzbach Road - San Antonio, Texas 78209

The Professional Service & Arrangements Entrusted to

Lewis Funeral Home
811 South W.W. White Rd.
San Antonio, Texas 78220
Lewisfuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

for

Miles Sammie Carter, Sr.

October 31, 1931-January 10, 2019



Saturday, January 19, 2019

11:00am

St. Paul United Methodist Church
508 North Center Street - San Antonio, TX 78208

Rev. James P. Amerson, Sr. Pastor
Officiant

Rev. Stanley U. Sims, Emeritus
Eulogist

The Life & Legacy of Miles S. Carter, Sr.

On October 31, 1931, it was not a trick but a treat, when Earnest and Daisy Carter received their Halloween bundle of joy, Miles Sammie Carter. He was the youngest of five children.

He attended Columbus Elementary School; and, Dunbar Middle School and Wheatley High School in San Antonio, TX.

Following graduation from high school in May, 1950, Miles thought he was going to go to the Army; little did he know his mother had packed his bag and he was on his way to Prairie View A&M College, the Summer of 1950.

While in college, he participated in band, choir, The Barron's social club and ROTC. After graduating from PV with a Bachelor of Arts in Music, Miles joined the US Army as a commissioned officer. After serving two years, Lieutenant Miles Carter was honorably discharged.

Upon returning to Texas, Miles began his teaching career at Asberry High School in Yoakum, Texas as band director. During his four-year tenure at Asberry High, Miles met the love of his life, Yvonne.

After a brief courtship, Miles and Yvonne were married. Welcoming their first born Jandá, Miles and Yvonne continued teaching in Texas until a vacation trip to Michigan lured them to teaching positions in Flint. A few years after moving to Michigan, Miles and Yvonne welcomed their second child, Miles Jr. Miles received his Master's degree in music from Prairie View, Summer of 1967.

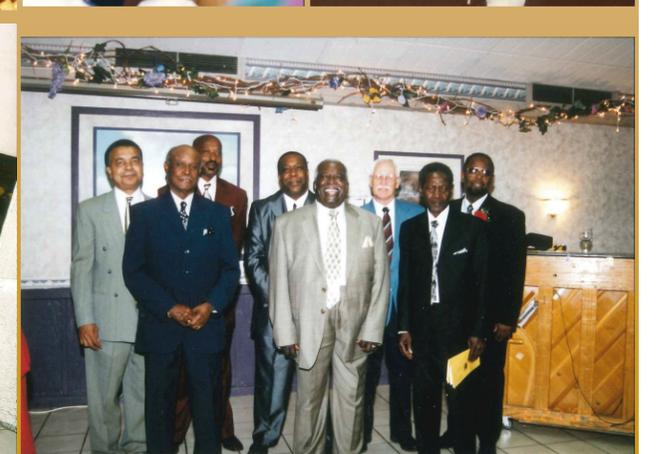
While in Flint, Miles premiered the first ever marching elementary school band. Adorned in white shirts, black shoes and pants, red vests, cummerbunds and bow ties, these students were invited to perform at churches, Town-Hall meetings, in concert auditoriums and, each year at the Michigan State Capitol. Each spring, the Flint Community Schools sponsored a county-wide Band-O-Rama featuring elementary, middle, and high school band students from surrounding school districts. Miles was given the distinct honor of being selected, yearly, to direct the 100+ elementary band, affectionately, known as the "Milers." Miles enjoyed a 40-year career touching thousands of lives in teaching instrumental music to students of all ages. In 2013, Miles and Yvonne relocated to Schertz, Texas.

Miles accepted Christ at an early age, and untied with St Paul Methodist Church, Columbus, Texas, and attended Sanford Chapel UMC in San Antonio, TX. He later united with Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Flint, MI. He was a devoted member of Quinn for 47 years where he served as a steward, in the gospel and men's choirs, and on the Men's Fellowship board. Miles began performing on his saxophone at a young age, playing in San Antonio; and, continued throughout the city of Flint performing for happy and sad occasions until his health denied his fingers the needed flexibility. For the past five years, he has been a beloved member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, San Antonio, serving as a member of the United Methodist Men, participating with the Pacesetters, and singing in the mass, men's and grandparent's choirs, often performing his special rendition of "Your Grace and Mercy".

He was a member of the Wheatley Class of 1950, the Prairie View Alumni Club, The Anthropos, Optimist, Masons, and in 1995 he attended the Million Man March in Washington D.C.

Miles was preceded in death by his father, Earnest Carter, Sr., mother, Daisy Sammie Carter, brothers: Earnest Carter, Jr., Richard W. Carter and Purvis M. Carter, PhD.

Miles leaves to cherish his precious memory: his loving and caring wife, Yvonne Marie Sanford Carter; children: Atty Jandá Monique, Peoria, IL; Miles "Butch" (Dr. Nikia), Nashville, TN; his adorable granddaughter, Lyric Symone; his loving sister, Nova C. Maddox, San Antonio, sister-in-law Gwendolyn Carter, Prairie View, his god-daughter, Lisa Bronson Carpenter, Duluth, GA; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and special friends including Alvin "Fox" Roberts, San Antonio and Mrs. Gwendolyn Bronson, Flint, MI.





Order of Service

Prelude....."May the Work I've Done Speak for Me"

Processional.....Clergy & Family

Words of Grace.....Rev. James P. Amerson

Hymn of Praise....."His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Prayer of Hope and Comfort.....Rev. Melvin Amerson

Instrumental Musical Selection

Sterling Newton, former Yoakum High student, Saxophone
"Amazing Grace"

Scripture Reading

Old Testament Reading
Pastor Miguel A. Padilla

New Testament Reading
Rev. Elton Hall

Musical Selection

Renee Alexander, St. Paul UMC
"Precious Lord"

Resolutions

Heritage Ensemble Choir, Peoria, IL
St. Paul United Methodist Church

Witness (Remarks)

Friends of the Family
Crystal Gothard, Esq, Dubai UAE
Alvin Roberts, San Antonio

Family
Gussie Mack, Ft. Worth,
Frederick E. Carter, Washington, DC
Kenneth Slater, Houston

Former Students
Eugene Lee, Houston
Tonya C. Evans, Racine, WI

Instrumental Musical Selection

Eric Majied, former Flint High student, vibraphone
"How Great Thou Art"

Message

Rev. Stanley U. Sims, Emeritus, Detroit, MI

St. Paul Salute

Recessional

"I'll Fly Away"

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MILES – My Friend, My Love, My Soulmate

March 1963 - you would stand outside of my classroom door while I was trying to relay mathematics facts to my students at Asberry High School, Yoakum, Texas, gesturing and crooning “Why Not Take All of Me”.

Although you were distracting, it was pleasant, and by June 1963, we were engaged; and, at 8am on Sunday, August 4, 1963- I became the luckiest girl in the world.

This was the beginning of our adventure...

During your band directing tenure, the theme of all your concerts was “CELEBRATION.”

Our 55 years, 5 months and 6 days was truly a celebration! We did it “Our Way”.

I’m going to miss you, thank you for your love.

With all my love, ***Yvonne***

The Knee

Everyone has a hero. But not everyone has a hero that is also their friend.

Yes, daddy you were definitely both.

You made me feel that I could do anything and the world was my oyster.

When I was 11 years old, there were two events on your schedule, mine and another.

I told you it was ok for you to go to the other event, you told me,

I would always be your first priority and you will definitely be there.

At age 28 I called you and poured out my troubles to your ever listening ear.

Your advice to me was to never forget to stay on your knees.

What does a hero teach you?

A hero sets the foundations for your morals, ethics, and in turn demonstrates what is right or wrong in the world.

A hero does not need accolades, awards or trophies. They do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.

A hero is always smiling because their heart is pure and there is no ill-will towards any other man.

You, Miles S. Carter, Sr., are my hero.

And with these four simple words you will always be my foundation.

STAY ON YOUR KNEES!!

Love you always, ***Butch***

Words of Reflection in Memory of My Poppoo

Poppoo was the name by which I referred to my dear grandpa, Miles Sammie Carter Sr. Poppoo has been a part of my life since day one. He always had the ability to make me and anyone else within earshot laugh. He was a true funnyman with a great sense of humor. He always showed me so much love and we shared a very special bond. We both shared a love for football and music. In fact, when I was younger, Poppoo bought me my very first musical instrument – a guitar that I still possess. I will remember Poppoo as a talented musician who loved to play the saxophone and could play it well!!!! Poppoo was so special to me and I will miss him dearly!

– ***Lyric Symone, Granddaughter***

In memory of a life so beautifully lived and a heart so deeply loved... it is no mistake that if you move one letter in Mr. Carter’s first name, you end up with the word SMILE! That’s what he always had for you – a big smile! I will never forget that smile because it was genuine, comforting and loving, just like Mr. Carter...or Pancake Man as I called him. Because, if you ever had the pleasure of staying with the Carter’s you know that mornings started with a smile, a “heeeeyyy” and a stack of the best pancakes ever made!! You will be missed Pancake Man!! – ***Samra Williams, Esq.***

Thank you so very much for being the true example of a God Father. You are such a huge part of my life and I am so grateful and thankful that my mother chose you and Yvonne Carter to be my God Parents. Thank you, GG Paw, for teaching me how to play the clarinet and for demanding that I be good at it. Thank you for the strict old school discipline, and not taking any excuses from me. Thank you for being the “example.” I have so much to say, but my heart is full.

– ***Lisa Mechele Branson Carpenter, God Daughter***

Gone Too Soon

Dear Miles Sammie (Stoney),

We weren’t prepared for you to go – You were too full of life to be,
Taken away from us so soon – It is still hard to believe.

How much we’ll miss your smile – And your laughter in our ears;
Your absence leaves a hole in us – We are filling with our tears.

You taught us how to be our best – To in the moment live;
To never hold a grudge for long – And loyal friendship give.

Your presence was a light and joy – We never realized would someday end.
Just like the brilliant falling star – That curved round Heaven’s bend.

And though we cannot understand – The reason God took you now,
We’ll do our best to accept this loss – To carry on somehow...

Miles (Stoney), we can’t bear to say goodbye – But you wouldn’t want us mourning in distress;
So we’ll smile through these fallen tears – Counting our time with you quite blessed.

We will remember you forever – For you, our hearts will always have room;
We loved you more than you ever know – You left us way too soon! ***All my love, Sis (Nava)***

Letter to My Daddy

Dad, I wish they knew how much you loved our late-night TV binges of Law and Order & Criminal Minds;
I wish they knew what a laser-sharp memory you had, there was LITERALLY nothing you could not find!

Dad, I wish they knew that you loved all types of music and that you especially loved to boogaloo ...
Even after the sickness last year, you were known to shake a leg – sometimes right out of your shoe!

Dad, I wish they knew that you loved to cook, and that you were SUPER great at it, because I was a fan.
I wish they knew that practically every meal I ate growing up - was prepared by your very capable hands!

Dad, I wish they knew how much you loved to have me give you my signature, soothing manicure -
(I am not going to tell them that I “charged you” 50 cents a nail – a price you always paid, that’s for sure!)

Dad, I wish they knew that no matter what, even when you were mad and about to have a natural fit,
You were NOT going to say a cuss word – at most, we might hear “cotton pickah” or “dag-na-bit!”

Dad, I wish they knew that you loved life and celebrated it oh-so-well,
Not sure if that was because you were born on Halloween – it was really hard to tell!

Dad, I wish they knew how much I loved when you asked me if we were going to have our “dessert” after supper;
They’d never guess you were not talking about cake, but rather an ice-cold Diet Dr. Depper!

Dad, I wish they knew how you loved giving folk nicknames, and that you had many of your own;
Some of the names were given to you as a child, but many others came after you were fully grown.

Dad, I wish they knew you had cool nicknames like the “Deacon”, “Sporty”, Smokey and Stone,
Also, Stoney Legs, Bruhnlaw, Aqua Velva and especially the Sax Man, cause on that horn you were bad to the bone!

Dad, I wish they knew that you are the primary reason I have such joy in my heart, and avoid stress and strife;
You taught me, by the life you lived, to take things to the Lord in prayer, smile, and maintain that ***zest*** for life!

I Love You Daddy-Daddy! ***J-Ma***

Miles you have been the perfect example of what a husband, father brother, uncle or friend should be. I will truly miss the times we have spent together on holidays, traveling, having dinner, attending conventions, or just watching television. It is still hard to believe you are no longer here; but you are in a better place – at home with the Lord. Thank you for being my friend and my brother. Rest in peace knowing that I will be here for my dear friend and sister Yvonne. – ***Gwendolyn Bronson***