



Richard L. Cleveland Sr.

July 7, 1937 - December 9, 2017

Richard L. Cleveland, Sr. went to be with the Lord on December 9, 2017, while at his home. Richard was born on July 7, 1937, to the late Ardell Council. in Portsmouth, Virginia. After her passing, he went to live with his uncle Norman Council and his wife, Mattie Council; whom he affectionately called "Momma" and "Daddy". They loved and cared for him as if he were their own son.

Richard was a proud graduate of I. C. Norcom High School in Portsmouth, Virginia. While at Norcom, he played several sports. He remained a loyal fan of the Norcom teams and would often chant "Go Greyhounds!"

After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy, where he proudly served his country for twenty-two years. One of his many duty stations while in the Navy was at the Pentagon in Washington, DC. After retiring, he served in the Fleet Reserve. He also worked for the Virginia Employment Commission for several years before accepting a civil service position with the Armed Forces Staff College, where he remained for twenty-five years before retiring.

Richard was a faithful member of Third Baptist Church. He truly loved singing praises to the Lord. This was made evident by his dedication as a member of the Men's Choir and the Sanctuary Choir. He was also a member of the Andrews Brothers/Men's Ministry. Richard served his community as the President of the Prentiss Place Civic League for many years.

Richard was truly a loving and caring man. His love and devotion to his family

was heartfelt. He always greeted you with kind words and" a warm smile. If there was ever anything he could. do to assist anyone, he did' it from his heart. He didn't mind going that extra mile to make a difference in the life of someone else. He will truly be missed" by all who loved and knew him. He leaves to cherish his memory and celebrate his legacy; his loving wife of fifty-one years, Yvonne Cleveland; one son, Richard Cleveland. Jr., and his daughter-in-law, Deborah Cleveland; three sisters: Deloris Crosse (Arthur) of Brooklyn, New York Linda McCants (Fred) of Chesapeake, Virginia, Vivian L. Hawkins of (Brooklyn, New York; one brother, Frederick; L Council, Sr., of Portsmouth, Virginia; sisters-in-law: Mary Davis and Alice Anderson; five nieces: Norma Rogers (Lewis), Arnita Jordan (Ray), Rene Hayles (Mike), Linda M. Davis, and Karen Hollowel (Antonio); three nephews: Michael Davis (Sherea), Frederick, L. Council, Jr., Kenneth McCants, and many other great nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Albert G Horton Jr. Veterans Memorial Cemetery

5310 Milner's Road
Suffolk, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 17. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy
Chesapeake, VA

Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Third Baptist Church
461 Godwin St
Portsmouth, VA 23704
(757) 393-9312

Tribute Wall

SB

“ My condolences to Mrs. Yvonne, Richard Jr, Debora and rest of the Family. I just want to let each one of you know he's at peace because we saw that yesterday when we view him. We have lost him physically but mentally he will continue to be with us. Just remember that beautiful smile and his good sense of humor. We going to Miss you! Rest Peacefully in Paradise.



Shona Boyd - December 16, 2017 at 10:38 PM

LD

“ I remember feeling like I could touch the sky... When my brother and I were very small, Aunt Tolum lived with us. When we knew that Uncle Rick was coming to visit we would run around the house with our cartoon pajamas on looking for a place to hide so that we could surprise him when he came through the door. He would pick us up and give us the best airplane ride and it really felt like we were in the sky. We probably though he was a giant. In fact he was a giant of an Uncle and I will truly miss him.

linda Davis - December 16, 2017 at 10:33 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Richard L. Cleveland Sr..



December 16, 2017 at 09:45 AM

SK

“ Sherea , Mike & Kids purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Richard L. Cleveland Sr..



Sherea , Mike & Kids - December 16, 2017 at 07:39 AM

AA

“ Rest In Peace dear brother- in-law.
Love,
Alice Anderson



Alice Anderson - December 15, 2017 at 03:45 PM

DK

“ Mr. Richard Cleveland will always be remembered as a Christian gentleman of class and distinction. He displayed a phenomenal character of wisdom and devotion to God, family, and an unfaltering tower of Faith to our Music Ministry at the Third Baptist Church. He was looking forward again and rehearsed diligently preparing for our annual Handel's Messiah Christmas Concert to be rendered this approaching Sunday. He was faithful until the end. We will always cherish Mr.Cleveland in our eternal memories.



Dr. J. Leon Knight, Minister of Music Third Baptist Church

Dr. J. Leon Knight - December 15, 2017 at 12:51 AM

RH

“ Renay Hayles sent a virtual gift in memory of Richard L. Cleveland Sr.



Renay Hayles - December 14, 2017 at 05:05 PM

RH

“ When I was a child, my Uncle Rick and I used to pretend that we were putting on concerts. It was so much fun singing with him! In addition, he always had a listening ear and a positive word. I will carry him in my heart always.



Renay Hayles - December 14, 2017 at 05:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard L. Cleveland Sr..



December 14, 2017 at 01:51 PM

ET

“ Earth has no Sorrow; that, HEAVEN cannot Heal... "My Deepest Sympathy." At this time.
.....E.Loretta Miller
TBC

ethel - December 14, 2017 at 01:15 PM



“ *What a very kind & gentle person. Always kept a smile & shared encouraging conversations. My Prayers go out to the Cleveland family.*

Bro. Carlton Gatling Male Chorus Member-TBC

Carlton Gatling - December 12, 2017 at 02:18 PM