



William Burnette Clark

February 12, 1927 - March 31, 2024

On February 12, 1927, on a chilly winter day, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, William Burnette Clark was born to Ivory and Mayor Clark.

As a child William liked creating things out of mud and clay. Whatever supplies he was able to gather, he found a way to keep himself busy and entertained. He especially enjoyed making his own toys such as cars and wagons.

When William became a teenager, he still enjoyed working with his hands. So much so, he held various jobs throughout his teens, delivering groceries on his bicycle, dishwasher in restaurants, working in clothing stores, caddying at golf courses and shining shoes at a pool parlor.

William was known for always being stylishly dressed. Even as a teen, he wore Lincoln Big Boy Hats and tailored suits from New York. When he was much older, he always wore a pair of Stacey Adams or a nice, stylish pair of Florsheim Shoes and really "sharp" suits.

William attended Booker T. Washington High School. There he played on their basketball team as a guard. And that is also where he met his sweetheart, Rebecca Smith.

By the time William reached his late teens, he was trained as a plasterer. He

continued plastering for over forty years. He was jokingly nicknamed "Squirrel" because he was the only one who could go up in a high ceiling to fireproof it before it was plastered. William helped plaster the Scope, Norfolk Airport and canopies at 7-Elevens. He always arrived at work at least one hour before anyone else.

He married Rebecca Smith in the 1950's. From the union they had three daughters, Carolyn Clark Lawton, Brenda Clark Bond and Gwendolyn Clark. He had two grandchildren, Candace Lawton and Keith Bond, Jr.

After retirement, William spent most of his free time working in the yard, doing arts and crafts and feeding stray cats. He also loved listening to Gospel and Soul music. He was especially close to his youngest daughter, Gwen. In fact, they were inseparable. You did not see one without the other.

William Burnette Clark loved going to Joseph E. Parker Recreation Center and Master Hill's Red Dragon Martial Arts and Supply, Inc. to watch Gwen and others line dance and exercise. When he heard songs that he liked, William would "do his dance".

He loved sitting on the porch talking to the neighbors and the three children who lived next door.

A faithful member of New Bethel Baptist Church, he loved worshipping and praising the Lord.

With fond memories of him, William leaves three daughters, two grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 13. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

New Bethel Baptist Church
4212 Greenwood Drive
Portsmouth, VA

Service

APR 13. 10:00 AM (ET)

New Bethel Baptist Church
4212 Greenwood Drive
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall



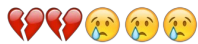
“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of William Burnette Clark



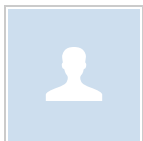
J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - April 12, 2024 at 03:00 PM

LB

“ My friend, going to miss you. You touched my heart and so many ways you allowed me to be a part of your family. You showed me how to stay busy doing yard work at a young age. Sitting on your porch drinking an orange soda or grape listening to gospel music watching you dance just enjoying yourself, we had a bond that no one could break.



Larry Banks - April 12, 2024 at 11:07 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Burnette Clark.



April 11, 2024 at 08:42 PM

LS

“ May Gwen and Her Family continue to hold on to the memories that they have. Their love one is resting in that mansion that God has prepared for Him many years ago.



Leigh M. Burton, Sr. - April 09, 2024 at 05:09 PM



“ 26 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - April 09, 2024 at 03:37 PM

WG

“ Wayne Miles and Terry Graham purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of William Burnette Clark.



Wayne Miles and Terry Graham - April 09, 2024 at 01:39 PM

WG

“ Wayne Miles and Terry Graham planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Burnette Clark.

Wayne Miles and Terry Graham - April 09, 2024 at 01:39 PM

EH

“ My deepest sympathy Carolyn in the passing of your father. I pray that God will watch over you, your sisters and the rest of the family. Look to the Lord for all your strength and he will see you through.

Ethelyn Whitehead Holley
I.C. Norcom High School
Class Of 1969



Ethelyn Whitehead Holley - April 09, 2024 at 11:28 AM

RO

“ Sending condolences to the Clark Family, Mr. Clark was a nice gentleman, reminded me of my father- sharp as a tack

Renee Oliver - April 08, 2024 at 07:09 PM

CH

“ Calvin Smith and Doris Hall purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of William Burnette Clark.



Calvin Smith and Doris Hall - April 08, 2024 at 10:15 AM

CH

“ Calvin Smith and Doris Hall planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Burnette Clark.

Calvin Smith and Doris Hall - April 08, 2024 at 10:15 AM

LB

“ Larry Banks lit a candle in memory of William Clark



Larry Banks - April 04, 2024 at 02:22 PM