



## Mr. Gary Ray Wright

January 10, 1967 - February 3, 2025

Gary Ray Wright, a beloved son, brother, uncle, mentor, and friend, passed away on February 3, 2025, at the age of 58. Born and raised in Kansas City, he dedicated his life to education, music, and community service, leaving behind a lasting legacy.

proud Lincoln High School alumnus, Gary pursued higher education, earning multiple degrees, including a bachelor's in computer science from Friends University. He applied his expertise as a computer technician for Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) and served as a paraprofessional at King Middle School, Northeast Middle School, and Westport Middle and High School, where he devoted himself to shaping young minds and supporting students in need.

A dedicated Mason in John Turner Lodge #106 F.A.& M, he was currently a member of Coles-Finch Lodge #186 F.A.& M. and was a lifelong Denver Broncos fan, Gary found joy in traveling, especially to Jamaica and Las Vegas. He also loved fishing, barbecuing, and caring for animals, having owned several dogs who were his loyal companions. Music was the heartbeat of his life. Known as "Gary Ray the DJ," he was also a drum legend in Kansas City, deeply involved with the Marching Cobras and St. Stephen's Drill Team. He taught percussion at local schools, including Schlagle High School Marching Band and Northeast High School Band, and played in bands like Tut

and the Soul Sensations, leaving a lasting impact on the city's music scene.

Gary's impact extended far beyond music and education. He organized an annual block party to bring his community together and co-led a publishing company focused on children's literacy. His efforts provided books to young readers in Kansas City and even reached students in Lagos, Nigeria.

Gary shared a close bond with his brothers, Bennie Wayne Wright, Jr., Gregory "Greg" Wright (Stephanie), and Lamar "Lynn" Wright (Brenda). He was preceded in death by his parents, Bennie Sr. and Laura Wright, and was cherished by a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins, including Wayne Bell, LeAndrea Mack, and Aubree Herron.

His legacy lives on through the music he played, the students he mentored, and the love he shared. Gary's rhythm, wisdom, and kindness will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday February 15, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at The Mount Christian Worship Center 1800 East 79th Street KCMO 64132. Interment: Mount Moriah Cemetery. Visitation: 10-11:00 a.m. at the Church. Arrangements entrusted to Lawrence A. Jones & Sons Funeral Chapels. Condolences may be shared on our website [lawrenceajones.com](http://lawrenceajones.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Moriah Cemetery

10507 Holmes Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

The Mount Christian Worship Center  
1800 East 79th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64131

## Funeral Service

FEB **15**. 11:00 AM (CT)

The Mount Christian Worship Center  
1800 East 79th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64131

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ *The Heavenly Father needed him to come home.* ❤️✝️

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**Cynthia R Callier** - February 17, 2025 at 05:43 PM

CC

“ *Mr Gary Ray Wright, Wonderful person, we grew up in the same neighborhood. He also was a teacher to my sons. Always had a wonderful smile, always had a good word of encouragement. And we would share our like for jazz music. My heart aches but, The Heavenly needed him to come home. You will be truly missed Gary.*



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**Cynthia R Callier** - February 17, 2025 at 05:40 PM

TG

“ *His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.*

*Luke 1:50*

*To the family, I'm sorry for your loss and you have my deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with you now and the days ahead.* 🙏🙏🙏

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Tony Griddine*

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**Tony Griddine** - February 15, 2025 at 08:57 AM

MF

“ Marcellus & Chandra Pelton & family purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Mr. Gary Ray Wright.



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**Marcellus & Chandra Pelton & family** - February 14, 2025 at 12:04 AM

E6

“ Executive Board of AFT Local 691 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Gary Ray Wright.

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**Executive Board of AFT Local 691** - February 12, 2025 at 08:11 PM

E6

“ Executive Board of AFT Local 691 purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of Mr. Gary Ray Wright.



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**Executive Board of AFT Local 691** - February 12, 2025 at 08:11 PM

CW

“ Candy Wells lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Ray Wright



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**candy wells** - February 12, 2025 at 02:05 AM

JC

*Janice clark*

**Janice clark** - February 12, 2025 at 12:16 PM

CW

“ *Sending my condolence to the family. Mr. Wright My teacher my friend oh how I will so miss you. We spent a lot of times together a lot of conversation that I will cherish. In school you taught me a life lesson that I will never forget. Rest well my friend fly high I know you were in a better place now. As you always call me Ms.Wells*

**candy wells** - February 12, 2025 at 02:02 AM

NL

“ *Condolences to his family I remember Gary from St. Stephen Baptist Church when the drill team . The Lovelady Family*



**Nicole Lovelady** - February 10, 2025 at 04:20 PM

PM

“ *My Brother, True and Loyal Friend, I'm so sadden seeing that you've passed. Your friendship of 30 years plus has been a true treasure. There will never be another G - Money. My Prayers and Condolences are with your family.*



**P.M. Moore** - February 07, 2025 at 07:52 PM

ES

“ *Ella Strong lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gary Ray Wright*



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**Ella Strong** - February 06, 2025 at 12:01 PM