



Dr. Willie A Giles, Jr.

March 8, 1941 - August 5, 2022

Obituary

Dr. Willie A. Giles Jr., 81, passed away peacefully on August 5, 2022, at The Village in Mission nursing facility after a lengthy illness.

He was born in 1941 in Conway, Arkansas to the late Elizabeth Dukes. He was raised by his Uncle John Henry and Aunt Gladys, who preceded him in death. Five siblings preceded him in death.

After graduating from Meniffee High School in Meniffee, Arkansas, he went on to graduate from the University of Arkansas in Pine Bluff, Arkansas with a B. S. Degree in Education. He earned a M.S. Degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Michigan, an Educational Specialist Degree in Administration (Ed.S.) from the University of Missouri- Kansas City and a Doctorate Degree in Education (Ed.D) from the University of Kansas.

Dr. Giles began his career as an educator in the Detroit Public School System. He later moved to Kansas City, Missouri School District where he served in various capacities including Secondary School Principal, Director of Schools, Director of the Desegregation Monitoring Office, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and Deputy Superintendent of Schools. He ended his long productive and influential career with the Indianapolis Public School District as Deputy Superintendent and Chief Operations Officer in 2012.

He accepted Christ in his life at an early age at Bethel Baptist Church in Conway, Arkansas. He was a faithful member of Paseo Baptist Church in Kansas City, Missouri where he taught Sunday school and was an active member of the Board of Trustees and other committees that served and assisted others.

As a lifelong learner himself, with a passion for encouraging growth in faith and knowledge, he was instrumental in the founding and planning of the Erma L. Williams Learning Center where his compassion for developmental learning and education was evident. His desire in totality, no matter the situation or circumstance, was to forever serve God and assist others. He was a member of Kansas City's Midtown Kiwanis Club and enjoyed reaching out and supporting the children in the schools, their parents, and other related community causes.

He leaves behind his devoted and loving wife of 25 years Ernestine Clark-Giles. He also leaves behind to mourn his passing two sons from a previous marriage, Dwayne (Jeanene), Keenon (Janna Birdwell) and one daughter, Dana, all of Grandview, Missouri; and Ernestine's son, Kevin Clark. Dr. Giles leaves behind seven brothers and sisters, ten grandchildren, twenty-five great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

Dr. Giles will be missed for his ready smile, quick wit, supportive nature, strength, and intelligence. He will be missed by many and always remembered.

Services will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2022, at Paseo Baptist Church, 2501 Paseo Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108 with the viewing from 10:00 am until 11:00 am and the service starting at 11:00 am. Interment will follow immediately after at Mt. Moriah Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Lawrence

A. Jones & Sons Funeral Home, 1800 E. Linwood Blvd. Condolences may be shared on our website.

The family is asking that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Dr. Willie A. Giles, Jr.'s name to the Erma L. Williams Learning Center, Paseo Baptist Church, 2501 Paseo Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64108 or the Alzheimer's Association.

To send flowers
to the family or plant a tree
in memory of Dr. Willie A Giles, Jr., please visit our floral store.

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Tribute Wall

ES

“ *Structured design in red and white was purchased for the family of Dr. Willie A Giles, Jr.. Send Flowers*

Expression of Sympathy - May 25, 2023 at 11:37 AM

GJ

“ *I remember him as one of the gentleman of my youth. Direction is a word that I took from him. Education is how I saw that my Direction would be led. He was right.*

Gary Jones - December 30, 2022 at 05:37 PM

EM

“ *I am grateful to Willie for the positive impact he had on the Kansas City community and the lives of its children. I will always remember his sense of humor even when dealing with difficult situations. Willie never forgot his "Arkansas roots," and teased me about being almost "alright" since my grandmother was born in Pine Bluff. I am confident that God will sustain his family, and that memories of Willie will comfort them during the coming days.*

Earline McKelvy - August 13, 2022 at 10:21 AM

LL

“ *Thank you Willie for all of your dedication and services that you provided to the KCMO school district. As a teacher, principal and executive director, during your tenure, we had tremendous positive growth. Your efforts will always be cherished. Rest in heavenly peace, Willie! Linda Nevels Lollis; Educational Specialist .*

Linda Nevels Lollis - August 08, 2022 at 03:03 PM

AJ

“ To the Giles Family: We take this time to express our personal condolences to the family of Willie Giles. Our deepest thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family during this hour of great sadness. May these brief remarks serve as words of comfort for the entire family. These comforting remarks comes from God Himself. God is reminding all grieving hearts that there is a future hope for those who have fallen sleep in death. The comforting words comes in the form of a promise that is recorded at John 5:28-29. As the text states, that God would cause a calling to go forth to those in the grave to stand up in life again. Yes, what a truly loving promise this is from God. From the above text, God is giving us His personal guarantee that the restoring of life would surely take place. Just imagine, that in the future days ahead, we will witness with our very eyes our departed loved ones standing up in life again. Indeed, the future will be bright not only for us, but also for those who await their personal resurrection from God. This arrangement will be possible because God is the source of life for all things. (Psalm 36:9) Until this arrangement takes place, God has preserved nine accounts in the Bible that speaks about the resurrection blessing from God. Here is just one such example that is recorded at John 11:32-44. I hope that all will get a chance to see how these verses apply to willie, and a great host of others who await their awakening from the deep sleep of death. So, in closing we encourage all to please keep this promise of God near your hearts at all times. Remember that when God makes a promise, it becomes reality. For it is impossible for God to lie. (Titus 1:2)

Albert Caldwell Jr - August 08, 2022 at 10:22 AM

HS

“ *Willie is my next to oldest brother. He taught us so much. He loved his family very much. He taught me to reach for the sky, not to settle for just anything. After mom passed I kind of separated myself from the family due to emotional issues. He and my other siblings never gave up on me. He taught me to trust God and not blame him for taking our mom. He understood me when I didn't understand myself. Thank you Bubba for understanding. To my nieces, and nephew's. We will always be here for you. We love you guys. Fly High Bubba. Forever in our hearts.*

Houston & Carolyn McCray Sr - August 08, 2022 at 08:49 AM