



Acknowledgements

Today, we celebrate the memories of our beloved Cardoza Wells. The family would like to thank God for the ninety and a half years that He allowed him to explore his creation. We thank God for everyone that lovingly touched his life. Thank you for the prayers, encouraging words, phone calls, text, cards, and the many acts of kindness shown during our time of bereavement. We want you to know that the goodness of our Lord Jesus Christ and your caring actions will help to gently ease our pain and bring us special comfort. May God richly bless each of you for your thoughtfulness.

The family also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for the love of family members, friends and those who aided in providing Cardoza with great care, comfort, and joy. A special acknowledgment and appreciation to the amazing staff and caregiving friends of Clinton Community Christian Corporation, the University of Mississippi Medical Center and the incredible kindness of Dr. J. Henegan, Dr. K. Tarver, and Dr. C. Killman, AccentCare, and Amber Aylesworth, his niece, Mary Wells and Monica Buggs of Willis and Sons Funeral Home for their incredible kindness, care and support.

Honorary Pallbearers

Deacons of Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Brothers of Masonic Lodge

Charles Archer ~~Deacon~~
DeAndre Johnson
Dwight Wells

~~Deacon~~
DeAntae Johnson
Kerrington Wells

Honorary Flower Bearers

Mothers of Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Heroines of Jericho

Active Flower Bearers

Nieces and Friends

Interment

Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery

No Repast

Professional Services and Arrangements Entrusted To:

Willis and Sons Funeral Home, Inc.

5235 Robinson Road Ext. · Jackson, Mississippi 39204 · (601) 372-0346
Arthur N. Willis, Owner · "Quality Service at Affordable Prices"

Celebration of Life for **Mr. Cardoza Wells**

November 9, 1934 – May 25, 2025



"For I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."
2 Timothy 4:6-7

Saturday, May 31, 2025 · 9:00 a.m.

Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church
10651 Highway 49 North
Jackson, Mississippi 39209
Reverend Fields, Pastor

Reverend Dr. Cordell Fields, Officiant
Reverend Tony Winters, Program Guide

Reflections of the Life of
Mr. Cardoza Wells

Cardoza Wells, affectionately known as “Jack” to his grand and great-grandchildren; ninety and a half years old, a resident of Clinton, Mississippi, peacefully passed away on Sunday, May 25, 2025, about 11:00 p.m., at his home surrounded by his family after a short battle with cancer.

Cardoza Wells was born Friday, November 9, 1934, the fifth child to the Late Eugene and the Late Mary Lee Scott Wells in Pochahontas, Mississippi. He attended Whitefield Elementary School and Sumner Hill High School. Cardoza joined the Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church at an early age, where he served faithfully until his death. Cardoza has worked all his life and loved what he did. His first paid job was driving the school bus at Sumner Hill, as a student. He worked for Mississippi Products Incorporated (MPI), the name changed to Stork Line and later became Desoto Corporation . When the company closed, he applied for a Custodial job at with the Jackson Public Schools District.

Cardoza has been highly active in extra activities. In January 1961 he became a member of St. Paul Masonic Lodge 343; he has been a member for 64 years, served as secretary for 62 years. He served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, and became a deacon. On January 2, 2022, he became Deacon Emeritus due to a decline in his health. He was an active member of the Pleasant Green Willing Workers Society where he served as Second Vice President, First Vice President and then President. Other memberships include Secretary of the Pine Grove Male Choir, Secretary of the United Male Choir, and a member of Sarah Dickey Neighborhood Watch Association. He loved spending time with his wife, children and family, woodworking, singing, attending Church in the Sanctuary, working in the yard and fishing. He received numerous awards and accolades.

The two met in high school and a relationship developed. He married Lottie Mae Daniels on Saturday February 11,

1956. They were married for 69 years. To this union four children were born and two were adopted. The Late Joe William Wells, Annette Freeman (John L. Freeman, Jr.) of Robstown, Texas, Antoinette Archer (John S. Archer) of Midlothian, Virginia, Cleophus Wells (Joanne E. Wells) of Jackson, Mississippi, Rhonda D. Johnson (Brian Johnson) of Johns Creek, Georgia, and Malcolm K. Johnson of Clinton, Mississippi. He had twelve grandchildren; Tina L. Garner, Cleophus Wells, Jr. (Latressia Wells), John Lane Freeman, III, Tammie L. Wells, Deborah L. Archer, Kerrington Wells, Charles Q. Archer (Meghan Archer), Taylor D. Williams, Austin Johnson, and Malcolm Ayden Johnson; and eleven great grandchildren; Keeyonna James, Ayona Pickens, London Pickens, DeAntae Johnson, DeAndre Johnson, Cherri Garner, Candy Garner, Corey Garner, Chantee Garner, Avery Archer, and Journee Clemons; and three great-great grandchildren; Lailah King, Aeryn King, and Kaori Lewis; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and special friends.

He is preceded in death by: his parents, Eugene and Mary Wells; his in laws, Curtis and Annie Daniels; his siblings, Gene Veal (Ester), Porter Wells (Georgia), Eugene Wells, Jr. (Hattie), Eveara Manuel (Eddie), Bernice Manuel (David), Dessie Garner (Howard) and Polly Hodge.

Left to cherish his memory is: his wife, their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; his brothers in law, John Hodge, Curtis Daniels, Jr., Johnny Daniels and Kehinde Ashcroft; his sisters in law, Ruthie Daniels, Childa Kincaid, Peggy Stanton, Bonette Ashcroft and Shernnie Daniels.

Cardoza was a man of few words, but when he spoke, we listened. He did not send his family to Church, he took them. It was usually an all-day affair starting with Sunday School and Worship Service followed by visiting other Churches where he would be singing. If the children missed Church, it was not going anywhere and there was no company that day. If you said you were sick and missed school, you had to stay on the top bunk bed and could not go out to play.

Order of Service



Reverend Tony Winters, Program Guide

Prelude ~~~~~ Minister Korrey Kimes

Processional ~~~~~ Ministers and Family
Soft Music

Hymn ~~~~~ Choir

Scripture Readings and Prayer:
Old Testament ~ Psalm 100 ~~~~~ Reverend Leroy Manuel
New Testament ~ John 14:1-7 ~ Pastor Willie Mae Hankins
Prayer ~~~~~ Pastor Danny R. Hollins

Solo ~~~~~ Deacon John Hodge

Resolution ~~~~~ St. Paul Masonic Lodge 343

Reflections:
Mother Ada Jenkins
Deacon David Lee

Solo ~~~~~ Reverend Secquoyah Wells

Acknowledgements ~~~~~ Sister Maggie Bass

Musical Selection ~~~~~ Choir

Eulogy ~~~~~ Reverend Dr. Cordell Fields

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*“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.”  
Matthew 5:4*

