

LIFE REFLECTIONS

With heavy hearts, we celebrate the life and legacy of **Harrison (Paul) Syms**, affectionately known as **Paul**, who departed this world on **February 19, 2025**, leaving behind a legacy of love, strength, and unwavering devotion to his family.

Born on **December 29, 1945**, in **Buena Vista, Mississippi**, Paul was the third of nine children born to **Aanna and Richard Syms**. Raised in a household filled with love, faith, and resilience, he grew up understanding the values of hard work and perseverance. The family later moved to **St. Louis, Missouri**, where he was educated in the **Saint Louis Public School System**.

A dedicated and hardworking man, Paul devoted years of service to **Wagner Electric** and **Jewish Hospital**, where he built a strong work ethic until his well-earned retirement.

A Life Rooted in Family and Love

Family was the foundation of Paul's life. He and his former surviving spouse, **Carolyn Clark**, were blessed with three children: **Rita Wallace (David)**, **Denise Young**, and the late **Terrence Syms Sr.** Later, he and **Shirley Franklin** were blessed with a daughter, **LaTasha Millner (Dominick)**. Paul was a devoted father and provider, ensuring his loved ones were always cared for and supported.

A Man of Personality, Passion, and Style

Paul had a **larger-than-life personality**—outgoing, charismatic, and full of wisdom. He was an **avid sports fan**, with an unshakable passion for **baseball and football**, never missing an opportunity to cheer on his favorite teams. Some of his greatest joys were found in **the simple pleasures of life**, including his love for **White Castle burgers, Church's Fried Chicken, and an ice-cold Orange Crush soda**—staples that always brought him comfort.

A man of **impeccable style**, Paul took great pride in his appearance. Whether dressed for a special occasion or a casual outing, he always carried himself with **confidence and class**. He enjoyed the finer things in life but remained humble and grounded in what truly mattered—his **family and loved ones**.

A Legacy of Faith and Community

Paul's faith was a guiding light in his life, and he was a dedicated member of **Murchison Church Tabernacle - CME**, where he found **spiritual fulfillment and community**.

Cherished and Remembered Always

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, **Aanna and Richard Syms**, his **brothers Kenneth Syms and William Syms**, his **son, Terrence Syms Sr.**, and his **wife, Melba Johnson-Syms**.

He leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish his memory:

- **His beloved siblings:** Beulah (Darnell), Tezzie (Jerry), Leon (Theresa), Steven (Sylvia), **Gloria**, and Derrick (Nikki)
- **His cherished grandchildren:** Terrence, Ian, David, Vivian, Zahara, Darryl, and Max
- **His adored great-grandchildren:** Delilah, Messiah, **Jessiah**, Elijah, Navi, and Tiegan
- **A host of nieces, nephews, extended family, and lifelong friends**

A Lasting Legacy

Paul's presence **brought warmth, laughter, and wisdom** to all who knew him. His **unwavering love for his family**, his **passion for life**, and his **unforgettable spirit** will continue to **inspire and uplift** those who had the privilege of knowing him. Though he is no longer physically with us, **his legacy of love, strength, and style** will live on **forever** in the hearts of those he touched.

Rest in peace, Paul. You were deeply loved, and your memory will forever be a blessing.