

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

William Thomas



OCT 28, 1947 - OCT 22, 2025

GRADY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025

WAKE: 12:30 PM - FUNERAL: 1:00 PM

WATSON'S FUNERAL HOME

10913 SUPERIOR AVE - CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106

Order of Service

Musical Prelude.....

Processional..... Minister & Family

Family Visitation..... 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM

Moment of viewing.....

Invocation..... Reverend James Crews

Scripture Readings Elder Karen Crews
OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Prayer of Comfort Reverend Dolores Brown

Musical Selection Blair Austin

Special Remarks..... Yolanda Grady-Watkins

Remarks PLEASE LIMIT TO 2 MINUTES

Obituary Reading..... Monete Morris

Musical Selection Blair Austin

Eulogy..... Reverend Dolores Brown

Closing Prayer Reverend James Crews

Recessional..... Reverend James Crews

INTERMENT

PRIVATE



Celebrating the Life of William Thomas Grady

William Thomas Grady, lovingly known as "Coodie" and affectionately called "Tommie" by his dear mother, was born on October 28, 1947, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Gertha Mae Edwards and Elmo Grady Sr.

A devoted son, husband, father, grandfather ("Papa"), uncle, and loyal friend, William passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by the love of his family. He took his final rest with his beloved wife by his side, holding his hand—a quiet and tender farewell.

William was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Jimmie Grady (Jacqueline) and Elmo Grady Jr. (Patricia); his sister, Carol Jean Morris; and his great-nephews Eric and Anthony Grady, and great-niece Erica Grady.

He attended Rawlings and East Technical High School before beginning a 22-year career with Ford Motor Company starting in the late 1970s. William met the love of his life, Shirley Crews, on a blind date over 50 years ago, and they shared 45 years of marriage.

William was known for his impeccable style—never seen without a sharp brimmed hat or a pair of shades. He was a true family man, fiercely protective and never afraid to demonstrate his devotion for his loved ones. His bond with his brothers was unbreakable, and he and Elmo were rarely seen apart. William made it a point to attend every family gathering, even if only briefly, always showing up with a smile and a story.

William found comfort in the familiar-especially his favorite westerns, which he watched repeatedly, reciting lines with ease. Music was another passion, and Marvin Gaye's "Gotta Give It Up" never failed to get him dancing with his signature move- left, right, middle. He cherished his monthly brunch club meetups with his friends and enjoyed spending time in the neighborhoods and places that held meaning for him. William's charisma, warmth, and genuine love for people made him unforgettable to all who knew him. He lived life with heart, humor, and a deep appreciation for the simple joys of family and friendship.

William leaves to cherish his devoted wife, Shirley; daughter, Africa Sullivan (Dale); grandchildren Timothy Crews Hill, Amaris Hill, Trivone Hill; great-grandchildren Myla Redd, Kalani Crews-Hill, Treasure Crews-Hill, Zane Crews-Hill; Nephews Antione Morris, Aarron Ray Marcus Nesby, Donald Gordon(Marcia) James Nesby Jr., RonSon Nesby (deceased), William Crews, Rahshaud Corlew, Jairus McQuater, and Robert McWain Jr ; Nieces, Yolanda Grady-Watkins (Jerold), Delores Brown (Anthony); Elmarie Grady, Nicole Grady, Remona Calhoun (Lance), Monete Morris, Carla Morris, Marquacia Morris, Fatima Bolden(Will), Erika Nesby, Ebony Lee, Aasiya Lee, Tiara McQuater, Brittani Miller, and Candice Crews; fourteen great-nephews; 13 great-nieces; a host of great-great nephews and great-great nieces as well as his best friend Walter Sumpter (Winifred).

*Lovingly Submitted,
The Family*





In loving memory of 
William T. Grady
 October 28, 1947 – October 22, 2025



Viewing Hours:
 Friday, November 7, 2025
 9am - 5pm

Memorial Service:
 Saturday, November 8, 2025
 Wake: 12:30pm
 Service: 1:00pm

Watson Funeral Home
 10913 Superior Ave.
 Cleveland, 44106

Repat
 2:30pm - 6:00pm
 Nseya' Event Venue
 22021 Euclid Ave., 44147




Poem On A Father's Love & Legacy

*In the garden of my heart, you planted all the good,
A giant pine, a landmark, misunderstood
By those who did not see your gentle, shaded grace,
You stood so strong and unafraid, and left your sacred space.
You taught me how to dream, to turn toward the sun,
To stand up strong and tough, when all was said and done.
You showed me right from wrong, a marker for my way, And though your voice is silent
now, I hear it every day.
Your love is not a thing that death can tear apart,
It lives within the memories held deep within my heart.
And though the loss is deep, and leaves a hollow space,
The work of your great life still stands, and time cannot erase.
And so you live, for your legacy will not be bound,
A testament to love, on hallowed ground.
GOOD NIGHT, DADDY. LOVE YOU ALWAYS! IRENE*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The family of William "Coodie" wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude for your presence, prayers, and support during this time of remembrance

SERVICES OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO
Watson's Funeral Home
www.WatsonsFuneralHome.com
10913 SUPERIOR AVE. – CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106
TELEPHONE (216) 721-0066

