Sunrise: June 28, 1949 Sunset: November 5, 2025

Celebration of Life



Jimmy L. Avant

November 22, 2025 12:00 P.M.

Toombs by Crystal Funeral Services
4257 Kalamazoo Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Rev. Orea H. Peterson, Jr., Eulogist

The Obituary



Jimmy Lee Avant was born on June 28, 1949 in Como, Mississippi to Adelaide Simmons and Melvin Avant. He gave his life to Christ at an early age. He was the second of eight siblings. He was preceded in death by his parents, his stepfather, Joseph Lee Simmons, stepsiblings Robert Simmons, John Simmons, and Bonnie (Simmons) Hall.

Jimmy is a proud graduate of South High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he was an active member of the ROTC program. His commitment to service began early, and after graduation, he was drafted into the United States Army, answering the call of duty with honor and courage.



Following his military service, Jimmy embarked on a distinguished career at Pitney Bowes, where he worked faithfully for 35 years. His dedication, professionalism, and integrity left a lasting impact on colleagues and the company alike.

He married Judith Clark Avant. He has one daughter, Mona Clark, two grandchildren, and one great grandson.



Jimmy was known for his sharp intellect and remarkable ability to connect with people from all walks of life. He had a natural gift for communication, always listening with intention and speaking with kindness. A lifelong learner and avid reader. He got along with everyone, radiating warmth and respect in every interaction. He could fix just about anything! Technology driven.

He found joy in the quiet pleasures of life: reading, listening to his favorite music, and sharing laughter and camaraderie on the golf course with his beloved brothers and brothers-in-love.

He leaves his daughter, Mona Clark, two grandchildren Shania (Nee-Nee) Clark, Jason Mitchell Jr., one great grandchild Howard Anderson Jr., seven siblings, Melvin (Wonnie) Avant, Jr. of Milwaukee, WI, Betty Couch of Grand Rapids, MI, Margie Edmonds of Grand Rapids, MI, Orlando J. (Tiffany) Avant of Grand Rapids, MI, Patricia (Orea, Jr.) Peterson of Detroit, MI, Joe L. (Blanche) Avant of Grand Rapids, MI, RuthAnn Best of Grand Rapids, MI, two stepsiblings, Samuel Simmons of Wayland, MI, Hattie (Simmons) Black of Grand Rapids, MI, a host of aunts, nieces, nephews, and cousins.



Dad,
you have been there for me since day one. You taught me how to play pool, shoot 3 pointers in basketball and fix things around the house. Dad I am forever grateful for your love, support and guidance that has helped shape me into the woman I am today.
Love you always and forever, Kid



The Obituary

Music Prelude

Scripture
Old Testament: Psalm 90:8-12
New Testament: John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort

Selection	"Blessed Assurance"	Rev. Dr. Johngerlyn "Jonse" Young
Resolutions/Acknowledgments		Saudia Peterson
Obituary		Shalanda Couch
Remarks	**2 minutes**	
Selection	"I'm Free"	Rev. Dr. Johngerlyn "Jonse" Young
Eulogy		Rev. Orea H. Peterson, Jr. Pastor of Lomax Temple A.M.E. Zion Church

Benediction

Recessional











Pallbearers

Orlando Avant
Joe L. Avant
Trey Best
Brinkley Black
Eddie Couch Jr.
Jason Mitchell Jr.

Final Arrangements Entrusted to

Toombs by Crystal Funeral Services
4257 Kalamazoo Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Interment

Fort Custer National Cemetery
15501 Dickman Rd.
Augusta, MI 49012

Acknowledgements of Appreciation

The family of the late Jimmy Lee Avant wishes to acknowledge all the acts of kindness received during this time. We are thankful for the prayers, phone calls, emails, texts, cards, floral arrangements, and many other expressions of kindness.