



James Raymond Evans

March 5, 2026

Dear Family & Friends,

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be directed to the James Raymond Evans (JRE) Children's Fund, via Venmo.

Link:

https://venmo.com/code?user_id=4550824386627505723&created=1773269447

James Raymond Evans

Hey there, Hey there,

This is the life of James Raymond Evans.

James was the youngest of six children and the only one born in Detroit, Michigan. His parents, who preceded him in death, were Eliga Evans Sr. (a sharecropper) and Jennie Mae Evans (a plantation bookkeeper) from Boyle, Mississippi. He had two siblings, who also preceded him in death, May Ola Madkins and Dixie Lee Jones.

James was a proud graduate of Cass Technical High School class of 1978 (CT'78). After graduation from Cass, he attended Grambling State University in Louisiana. He played football for both Cass (#47, running back and defensive back) and Grambling (#5, defensive back). James was a proud Detroiter and avid supporter of the Detroit Lions, Pistons, and Red Wings. He followed and loved all Cass Tech teams (Go CT) and University of Michigan

teams (Go Blue).

James' passion was in service, both professionally and personally. He was an entrepreneur. He worked in the following areas: as an independent cable installer for Comcast, often providing repairs and services for others on his own time. He was instrumental in the installation of the infrastructure work on the Davison freeway and downtown Jefferson Avenue street projects. James had no fear of heights, no job was too big, and no customer was too small or unimportant. His greatest achievement, as an entrepreneur, was in the medical transportation industry. He owned, managed and operated JRE (James Raymond Evans) Medical Transportation Services. His customers and service to others were his passions. Customers often requested him specifically, because of his demeanor, style and respectfulness.

James grew up as an active member of The Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church. He was later baptized and affiliated with Greater Grace Temple Church. James loved and enjoyed being with the Greater Grace Saints. His belief in God was unwavering!

James Raymond was such a wonderful person. God must have touched him because he was a really special young man. The type of 'Special' that says, if you didn't know or haven't met him, it was your LOSS. To know him was to admire, love, and respect him. James had a love of family and friends that was indescribable; he demonstrated it daily, in his own unselfish and giving manner.

James leaves to cherish his memories and love; two children: Asia Nicole Jennae Evans and Briauna Marie Willis; one grandson: Sedric Lavert Phillips Jr.; three siblings: Annie L Wells, Elija Evans, Jr., Virginia E Phillips (Kenya Nicole (John Joseph McCue IV)); (Kyle and Miranda (Kevin James, Mikiya Breanne)) ; A devoted Fiancée: Nadine Womack (Renita and Richard Coe, (Jamahr)), Davmon Womack, (Jayden, Jorey)); Nieces and Nephews: Joyce Jones (Quinese (Eric, Quavia, Emanuel)); (Jo'Dere (Jor'Dan, Jo'Haun, Ella Marie)); (Josh (Jerah)); (Quala (Brieann, Brayden)); (Justin), (Jon'Paul); Debora Gray (Carla and Bruce (Bruce Jr., Bryan, Braylon, Carlia)); (Donahvan

(Akira, Rose, Jhayce, D'Emoni)), Christopher Bernard Jackson.

Special people in his life: Njia Kai (Yao); Donald Laster (Kitt) and the Laster family; Marvin King; Latoya Hollis, Cornell Hollis, Woodrow Hollis, Drequan York; Trina Swihart (John), Percy Wells II (Evita), James Wells Sr. (Tonga), Raynard Wells (Charmaine); Dacia Crum, and a host of other family & friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **23**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services
24585 Evergreen Rd
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 702-5367
info@kempfh.com
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

Family Hour

MAR **24**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Greater Grace Temple
23500 W Seven Mile Rd
Detroit, MI 48219

Funeral Service

MAR **24**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Greater Grace Temple
23500 W Seven Mile Rd
Detroit, MI 48219

Tribute Wall

DG

“ James Evan’s and my family go way back in the early 70’s, we called him Cube. James and my brother Dwayne Glenn were friends to the end. James was a beautiful person, so kind and respectful. Everyone throughout our families knew James, Cube never missed a family gathering or holiday, if Cube wasn’t around everyone would ask “where is Cube”. Cube was family, we are so proud of him, he never changed from the time we met him. Cube rest, WE LOVE YOU, miss you, You are in our hearts, no forgetting you. Denise & Tony Williams. Dwayne Glenn and Family.

Denise Glennwilliams - April 08 at 07:56 PM

PW

“ Always CT... Never forgotten. Rest in peace my friend! -Pam (Finn) Wilbert

Pam (Finn) Wilbert - March 23 at 10:41 PM



REST IN PEACE JAMES, my condolences to the family

Vince Turner - March 24 at 08:08 AM

JA

“ Judge A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Raymond Evans.

Judge A. - March 23 at 04:26 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Raymond Evans.



March 23 at 01:24 PM



“ "J Bo" Evans was one heck of a running back at Cass Tech. He always looked good in our home green jerseys with the white pants, and white football cleats. It was a pleasure being his teammate at CT. .

R.I.P. Walt Wilbert

walt wilbert jr. - March 19 at 07:35 PM



“ J-nice, J-nice so nice you have to say it twice . At Grambling state University James and I was roommates. He played football, He was Nice. He made the Honor roll almost every semester.that was nice . So smart he taught me how to make the Honor roll through mental tricks
That was really nice. When you saw him coming, you know he was going to say something nice. He always had a nice smile on his face and God in his heart ❤️. Being 2000 miles away from home we choose to be around Godly people. Malcom Davis, Tony Bursie, Jeff Talley ,Edmund Pamphlet and myself Don Laster. Life is short 😭
Love is long. James I'm coming to find you brother when my time comes. You will be the angel in the transport vehicle taking other angels to the fly shop.NICE

Don Laster - March 15 at 09:30 PM

CL

James, I will always love you. When Don told us he was bringing home his best friend, we was so happy to meet you. In no time you went from friend to brother. I will miss you my brother greatly. God's plan is the best plan. Rest until I see you again.

Love Celeste Laster

Celeste Laster - March 24 at 02:55 AM

RM

“*I met the Handsome Raymond when I was around 4 years old." Handsome Raymond attended Sweet Home Baptist Church with his beautiful Mother and Family." "Handsome Raymond's Mother was the Church Secretary at Sweet Home Baptist Church. My mother was her Best friend." "I really admired Raymond because he was such a good young man." Raymond and I are the same age."Raymond was very smart." I always thought that Raymond would be the last one standing in his family.I pray that God grant Sister Annie, Sister Virginia and Brother Elijah 100 years of healthy life."Raymond went to College while I went to Germany in the US Army and then I came back to Detroit in 2006." Handsome Raymond and I tried dating , but it seemed as if we were better off as friends. " I bought Raymond a sharp blue suit, and he looked so good in it."Raymond took me to where his Mother and Father are laid to rest, and I took these pictures that I posted on this page."I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with the family. Retired US Army Veteran Sergeant Linda Annetta McKEE. 03/14/26*



RETIRED US ARMY SERGEANT LINDA McKEE - March 14 at 11:21 AM

EL

“ I think I met James in 1980 when he came to Cleveland with my brother Don Laster. James became my brother then. I love you James.

Edward T Laster - March 13 at 04:53 AM

ET

“ Edward T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Raymond Evans.

Edward T. - March 13 at 04:46 AM

JM

“ Condolences to the family of James Raymond Evans a friend and brother. From the first time Smoothness came to Cleveland he was a forever member of the Laster family. Rest peacefully 😊💔. From your favorite Ohio Judge. ~ Judge Anita Laster Mays

Judge Anita Laster Mays - March 12 at 10:01 PM

MD

“ Malcolm Davis purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Raymond Evans.



Malcolm Davis - March 12 at 09:56 PM

MD

“ Malcolm Davis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Raymond Evans.

Malcolm Davis - March 12 at 09:56 PM

MD

“ One of my best friends in college and after college. We stay and shared memories of all things we did in Grambling State University and after College. I just recently came to Detroit to his Birthday party and love every minute of it!! Breaks my heart to know the three of us Don laster, James Evans and Malcolm Davis is separating one by one threw Death. But, I know we will see each other again in heaven. Rest in peace our brother we going to find you up there soon!! We love you smooth James Evans. Rest until God bring us back together again!!!!

Malcolm Davis - March 12 at 09:44 PM

DW

“ So sorry about the loss of Raymond. We pray that the fond memories of love shared will comfort you now and in the days ahead.
God bless, Don & Barbara Williams

Don Williams - March 12 at 11:45 AM

WM

“ A good man is no longer among us. Evans (J. Evans) was a great teammate, classmate, and friend.

Willis Morris

Willis Morris - March 12 at 07:27 AM

C1

“ Sending heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and loved ones on behalf of his Cass Technical High School graduating Class of 1978! James Evans is our forever “Cool Breeze”, ‘J Nice’ and varsity football star #47! James will eternally be our beloved CT78 brother! R.I.P. brother!

Cass Tech Class of 1978 - March 12 at 04:02 AM

RH

“ *Last memory shared by teammate and good friend, Reggie Bobo Hinton.*

Reggie Bobo Hinton - March 11 at 06:33 PM

LB

“ *Lynnette Bowens lit a candle in memory of James Raymond Evans*



lynnette bowens - March 11 at 05:21 PM

DT

“ *An Ode To Raymond
You were so wise and caring, even as a tender young lad
A precious gift from God to your siblings and Mom and Dad
Rest on James Raymond, in that place of peace,
Love and care
Today, we sadly miss you, but tomorrow we'll meet you there!
Your Cousin Dora & all Evans cousins*

Dora Tate - March 11 at 12:42 PM