



## Willie West Payne

May 19, 1955 - October 3, 2019

Mr. Payne transitioned from this life Thursday, October 3, 2019.

At this time final arrangements prior to those planned in Louisiana are pending.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers please make donations to [Pontiacques.org](http://Pontiacques.org) in the name of Willie Payne.

Mayor Waterman of Pontiac will offer words of encouragement at 6:45pm followed with a ceremony by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc at 7:00pm.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 11. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services

24585 Evergreen Rd

Southfield, MI 48075

(248) 702-5367

[info@kempfh.com](mailto:info@kempfh.com)

<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Willie West Payne*

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September 27, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Willie West Payne*

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September 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ *Willie’s vision, steadfast approach and unique sense of humor gave us energy and encouragement to promote “a greater Grambling” through the work of our alumni chapter, students and friends. We commend our brother and fellow alumnus for his dedication, loyalty and generous support to our alumni chapter for his more than twenty- five (25) years of service over the years as a Life Member and staunch scholarship supporter.*

*Metropolitan Detroit Chapter – Grambling University National Alumni Association*

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**Metropolitan Detroit Chapter – GUNAA** - October 15, 2019 at 01:44 PM

DG

“ Remembering you and your family in heartfelt thoughts of sympathy, and hoping it helps to know that others care and share your loss;

*Debra A. Gilbert  
Oak Park, MI*

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**Debra A Gilbert** - October 15, 2019 at 01:34 PM

MS

“ Sending love, prayers , and condolences to Brenda and the family.” Weeping might endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning”.  
*Robert & Renee Smoot*



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**Michele R Smoot** - October 13, 2019 at 02:06 PM



“ I ALWAYS CHERISH THE MEN IN OUR FAMILY AND I HOPE RANDALL GAINED KNOWLEDGE FROM BEING IN YOUR PRESENCE. DID YOU EVER KNOW IN OUR EYES THAT YOU ARE OUR HERO? REST IN POWER AND PARADISE UNCLE WILLIE. SEE YOU IN THE MORNING

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**Brenda Nimocks** - October 11, 2019 at 04:18 PM

LB

“ LaShonda Braggs lit a candle in memory of Willie West Payne



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**LaShonda Braggs** - October 11, 2019 at 01:31 PM

LB

“ It's been a blessing to know Mr. Payne. I'm not sure that any words can describe the great loss his family has suffered - all we can do is keep those wonderful memories of him close. This is what will help us smile through this rain. Thank you, Cara and B'Darren, for sharing your father with us. Mrs. Payne, I love you guys!!!!

*Love & Prayers from Farmerville, La . . .*

**LaShonda Braggs** - October 11, 2019 at 01:30 PM

MS

“ We send our sincere condolences and prayers to his wife and children. Praying for strength during this difficulty time.

*Elick and Shorter Shorter*



**Mr & Mrs Shorter** - October 11, 2019 at 10:26 AM

RS

“ Renee Shorter sent a virtual gift in memory of Willie West Payne



**Renee Shorter** - October 11, 2019 at 07:58 AM

ST

“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences. Praying for the family.



**Shantay Triplett** - October 10, 2019 at 10:26 PM

RN

“ Back when Mr. Payne was Mayor of Pontiac, I was reading the newspaper on a Sunday morning when the phone rang. I saw the caller I.D. said Payne but i didn't really pay attention. The caller asked , Is this Trinity Baptist Church? At that moment I realized I had just gotten a call from the Mayor. I replied, No, is this the Mayor? He was silent for just a second then said, yes it is. I told him my name and said I couldnt wait to tell the guys at work that the Mayor called me at home. We both laughed and he said to make sure I told them to vote for him.

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**Randy Newton** - October 10, 2019 at 09:57 AM

DT

“ Our neighbor, our friend. We shared many wonderful years together in Pontiac. What a loss.

*Denny and Debbie Teasdle and Family*

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**Deborah Teasdle** - October 10, 2019 at 08:56 AM

SA

“ Sandy Arnold lit a candle in memory of Willie West Payne



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**Sandy Arnold** - October 09, 2019 at 10:02 PM

BB

“ *Bettie, Jason and VeAndrea Brown. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Willie West Payne.*



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**Bettie, Jason and VeAndrea Brown.** - October 09, 2019 at 05:10 PM

VB

“ *Sincere condolences to Mrs. Payne and family. Willie was a true Gramblinite and humanitarian who left lasting positive memories. He will be missed sorely. Praying for your strength during these difficult days.*  
*Vivian Brown, Detroit Chapter Grambling University National Alumni Assn.*

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**Vivian Brown** - October 09, 2019 at 02:47 PM



“ *Brenda, Cara and B'Darren, I am very saddened by the passing of my fellow co-worker and friend. Glad to have spent time with him at the Keeper, of the Dream, event at OU and brief meetings in the community before he was unable to get around*  
*Our love and prayers.*  
*Terri Covington*

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**Terri Covington** - October 09, 2019 at 12:11 PM

JM

“ To Brenda and the family,  
Willie made an imprint on my life from the time when we were  
charter members of MALD. I remember fondly the articulate,  
creative and generous person he was. May God bless and keep you  
all during this difficult time.

*Jimmy McDonald*

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**Jimmy McDonald** - October 08, 2019 at 09:39 PM

RB

“ To Brenda, B'Darren, and Carra..and entire  
Payne Family.  
I am saddened to hear about Willie's passing.  
He was very nice to me while we worked on  
his 1st campaign and while he was Mayor. He  
did try. He did some good things. God watch over everyone and be  
blessed. My prayers and condolences to the whole family. (I hoped I  
spelled his children names correct)



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**Renee Beckley** - October 07, 2019 at 04:00 PM

OM

*My Condolences to the Payne Family.*

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**Odessa Moore** - October 07, 2019 at 09:44 PM



CI

“ I am very saddened to hear that my friend Mayor Willie Payne has passed away. I send my sincere condolences and prayers to his wife and children as they try to cope with their loss. He was a genuine human being; a journalist & author, a trusted police officer and a public servant. R.I.P.



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**Charlene is** - October 06, 2019 at 09:56 PM