



Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison

October 3, 1952 - January 21, 2021

Gene C. Morrison, 68, passed away on Thursday, January 21, 2021, in his hometown of Fayetteville, NC. He was a retired Master Sergeant (with honors) in the United States Army. He was a devoted father, brother, uncle and friend. Gene was the second-oldest son of Gladys Irene Morrison and June Morrison. As a child, Gene was fun-loving, always willing to help others, and loved to play jokes on his siblings and daughter. He always joked that he had a big head because he had a big brain.

Gene graduated from E.E. Smith Senior High School in 1970 and was encouraged by his mentors and neighbors to join the military in order to provide a secure future for his family. In 1971 he drove himself three hours to basic training in Fort Sumpter playing the one 8-track he owned, James Brown's "Say it loud, I'm Black and I'm proud." The light of his life, his daughter Latasha, was born in 1973.

The military offered Gene opportunities to have a career and travel. During the 24 years he spent as a soldier, he was stationed in Germany, Fort Bragg, and Korea. He served as an ROTC instructor at John Hopkins University in Maryland as well as Lackland Airforce Base in San Antonio, TX. He loved the challenge and discipline that military life offered him and he was a proud member of the 82nd Airborne Division. He retired from the US Army in 1995. Throughout his adult years, he continued to be active with the E.E. Smith alumni association, serving on the board for his class and helping to raise money for scholarships. After the military, Gene worked at First Citizens Bank

from which he retired in 2017.

If you knew Gene, you were probably the target of one of his practical jokes. Always a prankster, Gene loved to laugh and delighted in the company of his family and close friends.

But he didn't just crack jokes. Gene could be counted on to provide wisdom and a shoulder to lean on. He was also a father figure to so many, especially, Deana Danzy and her daughter Malia Danzy, whom he loved dearly. He would advise all the young people to "do what you need to do now, so you can do what you want to do later." His advice would often come with unforgettable sayings. He didn't just say, "I don't know" he would say, "I'll tell you a lie, if you want me to!" He didn't just say, "Goodnight," it was "I'll tell you like the farmer told the potato, Imma plant you now and dig you later."

Gene gave of himself to those he loved. You didn't even have to say there was a need, he would just be there. Countless people can think of a time that Gene worked on their car, checked their tires, or fixed something in their home. He was the go-to person.

Even in Costco, you would find this extrovert making friends with the other people in line. Nearly every morning, you would find Gene taking his 5-mile walk, saying "hi" and shooting the breeze with his neighbors. He didn't have any enemies.

Gene was a committed NASCAR fan. He loved racing cars and going to NASCAR races. Gene loved all-things car related. He even had a beloved Toyota Tundra that he refurbished and kept in great shape. Anything and everything he had was in pristine condition, especially his cars. Everyone knew that if you didn't have your car in good shape, Unc Gene was gonna clown you. You knew not to show up with a dirty car.

Gene never missed a family reunion or holiday gathering. You'd find him on the dance floor, swing dancing. "Me and Betty (sister-in-law) danced all night!" he would say the next day.

It was important for him to stay connected to his extended family. It was why, in his retirement, he moved from Charlotte back to Fayetteville.

His love for the military and family was only surpassed by his complete adoration of his only daughter, Latasha. These were two peas in a pod. Gene never stopped being her biggest cheerleader. He lived life with her. There was never a significant moment in her life that he wasn't a part of.

He was full of joy to see her live out her purpose. If you talked to Gene, you were going to hear him brag about Tasha's many accomplishments, including making the Ebony 100 List in 2017. He traveled to Los Angeles to celebrate that moment with her. Thousands got to know and love Gene through Tasha's book, *Be the Bridge*, which reached the New York Times Best Sellers list in 2020. He was a fierce supporter of the non-profit organization she founded, *Be the Bridge*, and a monthly donor.

Gene Morrison is survived by his daughter, Latasha Morrison from Atlanta, GA, and bonus daughter Deana Danzy and granddaughter Malia Danzy; sisters, Sharon Brown (Warren Brown), Corliss Ketterer, and Beverly Williams and his Uncle Billy Ray, and host of nephews, nieces, extended family, and friends.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Raecene S. Morrison (2011), his parents, Gladys Irene Morrison (2016), June Morrison (1991) and his brother Gerald Morrison who passed in 2005.

Unc, Genie, Didy, Gene - whatever you called him - he left us an example of how to live our lives with dignity and honor, love and a joy for life. His presence will be greatly missed but his love, the memories and his sayings will live on in our hearts.)

Cemetery Details

Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery

400 Murchison Rd
Spring Lake, NC 28390

Previous Events

Viewing

FEB 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel
2010 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Funeral

FEB 2. 12:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel
2010 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Livestreaming

FEB 2. 12:00 PM.

Facebook: Colvin Funeral Home and Crematory-Fayetteville & Lumberton
<https://www.facebook.com/ColvinFuneralHomeCORP/>

Tribute Wall



“ Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - February 01, 2021 at 10:35 AM

JL

Beautiful Memories!

Janet Foster Lowe - February 01, 2021 at 04:09 PM

AC

God Bless you family! We are praying for our Heavenly Father to comfort and keep you during these times. Your Baltimore Family loves you and will continue to pray for you. Love always!

Annette Cook - February 02, 2021 at 01:26 PM

WM

Beautiful

Willie McLean - February 02, 2021 at 02:41 PM

KW

Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory Dear Saint of God. I thank-you deeply for your service to this country, and for being LaTasha's father. She's a world changer--that's part of your legacy dear brother.

Kathy Ward - February 02, 2021 at 07:39 PM

DB

Beautiful! Until you meet again on the other side!

Denise D Blanks - February 04, 2021 at 12:57 PM

LF

“ My heart ached when I heard the news of Gene’s passing. My family will always treasure those beautiful memories of Gene. When we were living in California and my mom was at the Charlotte airport, the weather was bad and Gene saw my mom and took her to his home. He and Raecene took good care of Ms. B. He was so kind and always had a smile. My sincere condolences to the family. Rest peacefully in Heaven my friend.

Linda (Melvin) Daniels



Linda (Melvin) Daniels & Family - March 01, 2021 at 11:02 PM

WE

“ Condolences to Tasha and the family. May the memories of your father bring you peace and comfort during this time.



Wendy (Brunson) Evans - February 02, 2021 at 10:34 AM

CN

“ My condolences to the Morrison Family. Among many gatherings, I'll always treasure my memory of attending a NASCAR event with Gene in Charlotte. Rest well my brother.

Cleve Daniels Charlotte NC - February 02, 2021 at 12:28 AM

JL

“ Janet Foster Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison



Janet Foster Lowe - February 01, 2021 at 04:18 PM

JL

“ Expressing my most sincere condolences to Linda Morrison and the entire Morrison family and friends! R.I.P. Gene Morrison! May God continue to bless you all!

Janet Foster Lowe - February 01, 2021 at 04:16 PM

JL

“ Janet Lucas-Simpson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison



Janet Lucas-Simpson - February 01, 2021 at 03:27 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.



February 01, 2021 at 03:24 PM

DA

“ We have lost another precious soul, Gene you will be missed!

*E. E. Smith Class of '70
Deborah Oliver Anderson*

Deborah Anderson - February 01, 2021 at 02:02 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.*



February 01, 2021 at 12:18 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.*



February 01, 2021 at 10:55 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.*



January 31, 2021 at 09:44 AM

EC

“ *Edith Cornish-Sherrod lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Edith Cornish-Sherrod - January 31, 2021 at 01:07 AM



“ *Heaven's Comfort was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.*



January 30, 2021 at 06:38 PM

B.

“ *As a classmate, Gene was always polite and willing to lend a helping hand. His infectious smile and gentle ways will always be two attributes I will cherish. Rest well, gentle giant.*
B. TRUITT CLASS OF 70

B.Truitt - January 30, 2021 at 03:24 PM

B.

“ *B. Truitt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



B.Truitt - January 30, 2021 at 03:14 PM

JE

“Joyce Brown Evans purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.



Joyce Brown Evans - January 30, 2021 at 11:16 AM

SW

“God's blessings on the family and friends. I know that God can and will handle anything we put in His capable hands. Praying your strength. 🙏🌈

sarah washington - January 29, 2021 at 11:13 PM

JR

“I worked with Gene at First Citizens. During his career there, every time we met, he was always smiling. It didn't matter what had happened that day. He was always in good spirits. This world was a better place with Gene in it.



Joy Rucker - January 29, 2021 at 10:02 PM

JB

“My condolences to the family. Past Savoy Heights neighbors.

Jackie Puryear Brewer.

Jackie Puryear Brewer - January 29, 2021 at 07:29 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.



January 29, 2021 at 02:06 PM



“ *Heartfelt Memories* was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.



January 29, 2021 at 11:33 AM



“ *G.K. Fimbel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



G.K. Fimbel - January 29, 2021 at 10:47 AM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison.



January 28, 2021 at 10:41 PM

WB

“ *Wendell And Brenda Baggett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Wendell and Brenda Baggett - January 28, 2021 at 05:17 PM

RM

“ *Ronald Monroe lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Ronald Monroe - January 28, 2021 at 02:41 PM

GM

“ *Gloria Moore-Carter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Gloria Moore-Carter - January 28, 2021 at 09:43 AM

RP

“ *Sending condolences to the Morrison family. I am a member of the Beatty family and we grew up with the Morrison family in the same neighborhood. So sorry to hear about Gene but proud of all of his accomplishments. We are praying for your family.*

Renae Beatty Peppers - January 27, 2021 at 10:17 PM

LS

“ *My deepest condolences to the Morrison Family. Praying God grants the families, friends and associates spiritual peace, understanding and strength during this time of bereavement.*

Levetta Gainey Smith - January 27, 2021 at 08:12 PM

LS

“ *Levetta Gainey Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Levetta Gainey Smith - January 27, 2021 at 08:10 PM

JH

“ *May God comfort Tasha and the family during this difficult time of lost...Gene was a nice guy and awesome neighbor back in the day.....it was a joy to have such a sweet family across the street...lots of great memories from the past*

James and Mazzie Hampton (formal neighbors)



james hampton - January 27, 2021 at 09:39 AM

CF

“ *We would like to share our sincere condolences to the Morrison and Ray families, Gene was a model son, brother and father.*



Charles and Mary Fennell-Williamson - January 27, 2021 at 08:52 AM

MM

“ *Mashawnda McNeill lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Mashawnda McNeill - January 27, 2021 at 08:29 AM

CJ

“ *Cynthia James lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Cynthia James - January 27, 2021 at 08:17 AM

BM

“ *Bookie Melvin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gene Clifton Morrison*



Bookie Melvin - January 26, 2021 at 03:56 PM

BF

Cousin Gene was such a warm, loving, kind, and generous soul. Always smiling, always positive, always willing to help. And how he loved his daughter Tasha! He will be missed; we have joy in knowing we will see him again.

Beverly "Cookie" Foster - February 02, 2021 at 11:03 AM