



Melvin J Graham Sr.

October 8, 1953 - December 19, 2024

Melvin J Graham, Sr., was born October 8, 1953 to Clifford H. Graham Sr. and Elizabeth Rodgers-Graham in Indianapolis, Indiana. Melvin was the fourth child born to this union.

As a youth, Melvin was an avid animal lover, especially cats. He also had a love and participated in Boy Scouts, baseball and basketball leagues in the Butler/Tarkington neighborhood.

Melvin attended grade schools #45 & #43, and graduated from Northwest High School, in 1971 where he continued his love for basketball playing in intramural leagues. As an adult, He continued his love for sports, by participating in basketball, bowling, and pool leagues and was an avid tennis player. During the summer, he could be found on the tennis courts either playing to win, or giving lessons.

Melvin had a love for music and participated in the Church choir at Messiah

Missionary Baptist Church, where he professed his hope in Christ. He later joined Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church. His soulful tenor voice led to him being part of a band for many years.

Melvin was employed by Union Carbide Corporation, right out of high school. Later he was employed by Arvin Industries and Diversified Systems, where he retired after 27 years of dedicated service.

Melvin loved his family and was a hands-on father, not only to his children but to many of their friends, and his co-workers. No matter what event was going on in their lives, he played a part.

Melvin was united in marriage to the love of his life, Phyllis Y. Buckner-Graham on January 18, 1976. To this union was born four wonderful children: Melvin J. Graham, Jr., Damon T. Graham, Derin L. Graham and Patrice Y. Graham-Adams.

Melvin departed this life on December 19, 2024. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clifford H. Graham Sr., Elizabeth Rodgers-Graham. Sisters: Gerald Gene Dupree, Mary Elizabeth Duncan, and his baby girl, Patrice Y. Graham-Adams.

He leaves to cherish his memory: Wife: Phyllis Y. Buckner-Graham; Sons: Melvin J. Graham, Jr. (Pearl); Damon T. Graham; Derin L. Graham; Grandkids: Melvin J. Graham, III (Jasmine); Sherrod Graham (Cori); Faith A. (Graham-Lewis); DaVon K. Graham; Celeste E. Graham; Michael A. Adams; Preslie E. Adams; Graham H. Adams; Gregory Q. Adams; Jett T. Adams: Brother: Clifford H. Graham Jr (Carol)., Sister: Anita C. Boyd; Six Great-Grandkids and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins & other close family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Crown Hill Cemetery

700 W. 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
4958 Ribble Road
Indianapolis
Indianapolis, IN 46218

Service

JAN 3. 12:00 PM (ET)

Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church
4958 Ribble Road
Indianapolis
Indianapolis, IN 46218

Tribute Wall

HR

“ Hello Graham Family,
May the Lord our God comfort you all during this time as you lean
on Him.
We are praying for you all.

Love your family in Christ,
Henry, Anna, Marie, Bryan Reed

Henry and Anna Reed - January 06, 2025 at 07:55 PM

JE

“ Melvin you always yreated me as a part of your family and for that
I'm forever grateful. I spent many a Thanksgiving & Christmas
around a Graham dining table. I will miss your kind and gentle spirit.
I embrace your family as my own; always did and always will. The
good news is this is not goodbye but its see ya later, my brotha.
Love you always, Jackie

Jackie Edmonds - January 02, 2025 at 08:51 PM

TF

“ The Davis Family purchased the Peaceful White
Lilies Basket for the family of Melvin J Graham
Sr..



The Davis Family - January 02, 2025 at 07:36 AM



“ A [Memorial
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Melvin J Graham Sr..

January 02, 2025 at 06:16 AM

DA

“ With heartfelt and deepest condolences may God comfort Phyllis and the family in this time of sorrow. Love the Adams family - Deborah, Michael Sr. and Michelle.

Deborah Adams-Petty - December 31, 2024 at 07:03 AM

TE

“ The Board of Youth Empowered purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Melvin J Graham Sr..



The Board of Youth Empowered - December 27, 2024 at 02:17 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Melvin J Graham Sr..



December 27, 2024 at 01:29 PM

JA

“ From: Judge Gregory A. Adams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melvin J Graham Sr..

Judge Gregory A. Adams - December 27, 2024 at 10:02 AM

JA

“ Judge Gregory A. Adams purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Melvin J Graham Sr..



Judge Gregory A. Adams - December 27, 2024 at 10:02 AM

BF

“ Melvin you will always be near our hearts and never will be forgotten for we were like family for many many many years and will always cherish those moments as family to us. From the white Family

Beatrice White and Family - December 27, 2024 at 05:08 AM