



## Willie A. Coates, Jr.

February 12, 1922 - May 16, 2008

Willie Albert Coates, Jr., age 86, of Bangor, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, May 16, 2008 at his home surrounded by his loved ones and friends. Bill was born February 12, 1922 in Hinning, Tennessee to Willie Albert Coates, Sr. and Simiel Mae Brundidge Sims. He served his country in the Army during WW II and owned his own auto body repair shop in Bangor for many years. Bill was a member of New Jerusalem M. B. Church in Bangor. He had a passion for singing in the church since the age of 12 and belonged to the Harmony Gospel Singers of South Haven since 1974. He will be remembered as being "39". Bill leaves behind his loving wife of 36 years, Dorothy Jean; daughters, Dori Word of Las Vegas, NV, Patricia Johnson (Rev. Roger Smith) of Bangor, LaToya (Terre) Haywood of Benton Harbor, LaTonya Coates (John Washington) of Austin, TX; sons, Michael (Linda) Coates of Grand Blanc, Patrick (Tai) Johnson of Springfield, MI, Dwayne Johnson of Bangor; sisters, Lillian Underwood and Irene Cheely of Fort Wayne, IN; in-laws, Joe (Dasie) Johnson of Bangor; special friend, Frank Porter of Bangor; 16 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, friends and church family. He was preceded in death by his first wife Agnes Coates, whom he married in 1942; his daughter, Rosemary Brunner; sisters, Gladys Coates, Penny Coates, Pearline Barnette, Gracie Ganaway, and Shirley White; brothers, James McKinley and Sylvester Lowery; and a granddaughter, Miki Bronson. The family will meet friends 1-2 PM Saturday, May 24, 2008 at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church where the funeral

service will be 2:00 PM with Pastor Maurice L. Jones officiating. Interment will follow in Arlington Hill Cemetery. Arrangements by the Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **24**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church  
22857 CR 681  
Bangor, MI

## Service

MAY **24**. 2:00 PM (ET)

New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church  
22857 CR 681  
Bangor, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *May God Bless and Keep You All Always.##imported-begin##Jessica Johnson##imported-end##*

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May 27, 2008 at 03:17 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family at this time.##imported-begin##Dave & Judy Rainey##imported-end##*

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May 25, 2008 at 09:52 PM



“ *Mike,*

*My most sincere prayers are with you and your family. Though I will not be able to attend the services, please know that you will be thought of. May God bless you and family.*

*Your coworker and friend,  
Tammie##imported-begin##Tammie Lowe Eggleston##imported-end##*

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May 22, 2008 at 12:58 PM