



Eugene J Seats

May 10, 1950 - December 23, 2023

Eugene J. Seats, 73, retired Captain of the Fire Department and Deputy Director of Public Safety of Benton Harbor, MI, passed away Saturday, December 23, 2023 at Corewell Health Lakeland Hospital - St. Joseph, MI.

Eugene was born on May 10, 1950 in Cedar Grove, TN to Deacon Floyd and Mother Bertha Seats. He was a passionate and dedicated member of the community, attended Benton Harbor Area Schools, graduated from Benton Harbor High School with the mighty class of 1968, and went on to attend Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, MI. In 1994, Eugene married his wife, Hattie Denise, and they enjoyed 29 years of marriage.

Eugene retired as Captain of the Benton Harbor Fire Department after 33 years of service, and then continued with the city as the Deputy Director of Public Safety for two years. He then joined the Security Department at Corewell Health Lakeland Hospital - St. Joseph, MI for 11 years.

Eugene was a member of the Abundant Life Church of God In Christ, serving as a Deacon under the leadership of his brother, Elder Duane Seats, Sr. (until his passing), and his nephew, Superintendent, Duane Seats, Jr. He was also a former Board Member of the local chapter of the American Red Cross. Eugene enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, traveling, playing chess, watching movies, and was an avid fan of the NBA and the Golden

State Warriors.

Eugene was a heroic man - not just in the community - but to his family, and will be remembered for being self-less, humble, kind, and committed to caring for everyone around him.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Hattie Denise; his daughters, Nikola Cross of Indianapolis, IN, Shontielle (Tobias) Pagel of Chicago, IL, and Geena (Miles) Seats-Pearson of Alexandria, VA; one sister, Barbara Seats-Hall of Grand Rapids, MI; one brother Dwight (Veronica) Seats of Benton Harbor, MI; five grandchildren, Trinerty, Ezekiel, Kindred, Axel, and Miles Jr; nieces and nephews Nicole (Lamont) Norman, Duane Jr (Lana) Seats, Ericka Williams, Detra Whatley, Danica Whatley-Spencer, Kem (Nikki) Whatley, Brandon Whitmore, Jasmine Ewell, K'Neesha Pullian, Gabrielle (LaToya) McGhee-Acker, Anthony McGhee Jr, Julie McGhee, and a host of great-nieces and nephews, cousins, and extended family. Eugene was preceded in death by his parents Deacon Floyd and Mother Bertha Seats and his brother, Elder Duane Seats, Sr.

The family will receive friends and relatives beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 30, at Refreshing Fountains Church of God In Christ, 175 S. Euclid in Benton Harbor, MI. Services in celebration of his life will follow at 10:30 a.m.

Interment immediately following the service will be at North Shore Memory Gardens, Coloma, MI.

Memorials may be made to the Benton Harbor High School Alumni Fund. Final arrangements have been entrusted to Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Township, MI. Condolences and words of encouragement can be shared at www.florin.net.

Cemetery Details

North Shore Memory Gardens

5027 M 63 N
Coloma, MI 49038

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 30. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Refreshing Fountain Church of God in Christ
175 S. Euclid
Benton Harbor, MI

Service Celebrating His Life

DEC 30. 10:30 AM (ET)

Refreshing Fountain Church of God in Christ
175 S. Euclid
Benton Harbor, MI

Burial

DEC 30. 1:00 PM (ET)

North Shore Memory Gardens
5027 M 63 N
Coloma, MI 49038

Tribute Wall

GJ

“ *Georgie Carolyn Jones lit a candle in memory of Eugene J Seats*



Georgie Carolyn Jones - December 31, 2023 at 01:54 AM

LF

“ *Love Steven & Alexandra Foster purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Eugene J Seats.*



Love Steven & Alexandra Foster - December 29, 2023 at 03:55 PM

LF

“ *Love Steven & Alexandra Foster planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eugene J Seats.*

Love Steven & Alexandra Foster - December 29, 2023 at 03:55 PM

LF

“ *My sincere prayers and condolences to Denise and the seats family*
🙏

Lamar, Connie Walls and family - December 29, 2023 at 11:59 AM

GM

“ *May the Lord be with the Seats Family during this time of Lost. Eugene and I were room mates at Eastern Michigan. My first friend on campus. I will always remember him. George Miller*

George Miller - December 29, 2023 at 09:52 AM

JV

“ *Jovan, Nada, Niki, Alex & Valera purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Eugene J Seats.*



Jovan, Nada, Niki, Alex & Valera - December 28, 2023 at 08:03 PM

CD

“ *Charlotte & Darlene purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Eugene J Seats.*



Charlotte & Darlene - December 28, 2023 at 06:08 PM

GM

“ *Georgia Ann Moss lit a candle in memory of Eugene J Seats*



Georgia Ann Moss - December 28, 2023 at 05:46 PM

CS

“ *My thoughts go out to the Seats family. I worked with Gene for over 27 Years and have many great memories on and off duty he will be missed.*

Curtis E. Shull - December 28, 2023 at 01:07 PM

BT

“ *Our prayers are with you and your family. Eugene was a great man of God ! 🙏*

Brenda Cummings Terrell - December 28, 2023 at 08:56 AM

TR

“ *My heart goes out to the Seats family as well as the entire community. It was my honor and privilege to have served the better part of my career with the BHFD under Captain Seats tutelage. He was one of the most kind and caring people that I have ever met. As a leader and friend he is without equal. I will be forever grateful for our time together and all that he taught me. Eugene will be greatly missed.*

TJ Robertson - December 28, 2023 at 08:20 AM

BH

“ *I praise God for the 72 years that Eugene, my oldest brother has shared my life. He has been a constant supporter of not only me but for each of those he loved or knew!!! I will miss him and the love that he freely gave. Rest well Eugene!!!*



Barbara Hall - December 28, 2023 at 06:26 AM

RD

Barbara, so sorry for your loss. Prayers being sent your way. Becky Doan

Rebecca Doan - January 09, 2025 at 05:30 PM

GW

“ I have many fond memories of Eugene when I was growing up working at my father’s Shell Station! Eugene was such a hard, very trusted worker and an honest man! It was a pleasure knowing Eugene!

Gregory Weir - December 28, 2023 at 12:47 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eugene J Seats.



December 27, 2023 at 11:53 AM

TT

“ The Apps Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eugene J Seats.

The Apps Team - December 27, 2023 at 11:53 AM