



Jeff Daniels Jr.

March 16, 1931 - October 10, 2021

Jeff Daniels, Jr., was born on March 16, 1931, to Mary Woods and Jeff Daniels, Sr. in Newark, New Jersey and left this life to his eternal home on October 10, 2021. Jeff graduated in 1951, from Barringer High School in Newark, New Jersey, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Delaware State College in 1969 and taught high school history. Jeff served faithfully in the United States Air Force for 23 years. During his years of service, he served in the Korean War, received the Good Conduct, Commendation, and other Medals earning full Military burial honors. He was a member of the Tuskegee Airman Club, and The Disabled American Veterans. He retired as Master Sargent Jeff Daniels, Jr. on August 1, 1975, to become Pop Pop to his first grandchild. In 1976, Jeff began his second career and retired as Dean of Students at Delaware State University in 1993, after 15 years of faithful service. Jeff then pursued his passion and gift of gardening and founded the JD's Lawn Service. He was a 'Master Gardener' indeed!

Jeff was a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity and pledged with the Magnificent Ten. The students called him "Mean Dean".

Jeff's hobbies included reading, playing golf, watching the Yankees on his iPad and talking to his grands and great-grands. He was a collector of African-American art, rare coins & stamps and enjoyed refurbishing antique cars. His latest antique: the yellow 1974 Volkswagen Beetle, "Daddy's Girl".

Jeff's journey of faith began in the Methodist Church and then he converted to the Catholic faith when he married his high school sweetheart, Audrey Trent, May 10, 1952, and remained faithful to Audrey for 69 years of marriage. He was baptized into the Catholic faith June 9, 1952, and confirmed August 19, 1961, according to the rites of the Catholic Church in RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk, England. He has been a member of Church of the Holy Cross in Dover, Delaware, with his beloved wife Audrey for over 40 years.

Jeff was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Woods and father, Jeff Daniels, Sr.; two brothers, James Daniels, Sr. and Jesse Daniels, Sr.; his eldest son, Bruce Darnell Daniels; sisters-in-law, Gloria, Patricia and Kathleen Johnson; and brothers-in-law, Theodore, Reginal, Curtis, and Robert Trent.

Jeff takes his rest from his labor and leaves his beloved wife, Audrey Daniels; two children, Cheryl Jefflyn Washington and husband James Washington; his trusted and faithful caregiver, his son, Michael Gene Daniels and wife Janet Daniels, known as his favorite daughter-in-law; nine grandchildren, Keisha (David) Michelle Allen, Amarhi (Tifonie) Jamal Washington, Avery Washington, Monique (Kevin) Nicole Davis, Michael Gene Daniels II, Mickia (Tobias) Janeen Loper, Miesha Janelle Daniels, Monet (Gerald) Janesse Dumervil, Maurice Bruce Darnell Daniels; sisters-in-law, Shirley Daniels and Sharon Johnson; 16 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **18**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - Dover
717 W Division St
Dover, DE 19904
(302) 678-8747
info@benniesmithfuneralhome.com
<https://www.benniesmithfuneralhome.com/>

Omega Service

OCT **18**. 6:30 PM (ET)

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Mass

OCT **19**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Church (Dover)
631 South State Street
Dover, DE 19901

Committal and Military Honors

OCT **19**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Cemetery
New and Clara Streets
Dover, DE 19901

Tribute Wall

AJ

“ Remembering one of my 1st College Dorm-Deans (Delaware State University - Evers Hall in 1981). What an awesome Man of God, Leader, and Mentor!!! Your presence was truly felt and the quiet lessons you taught were absorbed! Dean Daniels, your awesome example, ultimately lead me into the ministry where I get to serve thousands of others... just like you!!!

#RIH Dean Daniels,

Love - Apostle Frank Burton Jr.



Apostle Frank Burton Jr. - October 20, 2021 at 07:56 AM

ED

“ My condolences to Audrey and the family. Dean Daniels was an awesome inspiration in my life as I navigated through college at DelState. God Bless You and may he rest in peace! Pastor Eric Daniels

Eric Daniels - October 18, 2021 at 05:21 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..



October 18, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



October 18, 2021 at 12:57 PM



“ *I am missing my beloved father more than I can express. I proudly bear his name Cheryl Jefflyn Washington.*



Cheryl Washington - October 17, 2021 at 04:48 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



October 17, 2021 at 04:34 PM



“ *Geri Clarke lit a candle in memory of Jeff Daniels Jr.*



Geri Clarke - October 17, 2021 at 12:43 PM

CR

“ *Chester Smith Family Bunny Crystal Robby purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



Chester Smith Family Bunny Crystal Robby - October 16, 2021 at 02:39 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



October 15, 2021 at 12:39 PM

JJ

“ *As a child I remember my Uncle Jeff visiting his brother, my father, with his loving family. When my father pass away through unusual circumstances, my Uncle Jeff came to comfort my mother and her four children. Although that was a painful memory for me, it was the driving force to find him in my later years. What a sweet and gentle giant, my Uncle Jeff, known to others and especially his grandchildren as simply....Pop Pop.*

James Daniels Jr - October 15, 2021 at 12:12 AM

AS

“ *Annapolis Area Christian School purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



Annapolis Area Christian School - October 14, 2021 at 08:53 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



October 13, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Jeff Daniels Jr..*



October 12, 2021 at 09:57 PM

DI

“ *Diane lit a candle in memory of Jeff Daniels Jr.*



Diane - October 12, 2021 at 02:16 PM