



Sylmer C. Rainey Sr.

October 21, 1937 - November 29, 2021

Sylmer Clemon Rainey, Sr., son of the late Joseph Rainey and Mamie Ashby, was born on Thursday, October 21, 1937, in Pungateague, Virginia, Accomac County. Sylmer was the youngest of five children. He departed this life peacefully on Monday, November 29, 2021, at 3:00 A.M. at Atlantic Shores Rehabilitation and Health Center, in Millsboro, Delaware at the age of 84.

Sylmer received his education in the Delaware School Systems and enlisted in the United States Army Reserves in 1956. Sylmer was employed as a truck driver, which he enjoyed and loved for more than 40 years. He was employed at the Showell Poultry Plant in Showell, Maryland, Reed Trucking Company in Milton, Delaware, and retired from Townsends, Inc. now Mountaire Farms in Millsboro, Delaware.

He was known by his friends and family as “Tarzan”, “Jungle Boy”, or “Rainey”.

Sylmer was joined in holy matrimony to Barbara H. Bailey on October 8, 1983, and they were married for 38 years.

Sylmer accepted the Lord under the leadership of the late Reverend Ervin Williams at Dickerson Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Millsboro, Delaware. He was a dedicated Trustee and member of the Men’s Choir. One of his favorite hymns was “I am Redeemed.”

After his retirement, Sylmer enjoyed taking care of the church and doing lawn care for family and friends. His favorite time was shared with his family, attending family reunions, sports events, rabbit hunting, and watching westerns.

Sylmer was a very loving husband, father, grandfather and uncle.

Sylmer was preceded in death by one sister, Laura Bell Ward; three brothers, Joseph Rainey, Jr., Matthew Rainey, and Nathaniel Rainey; and one son, Keith Haynes.

Sylmer will be lovingly remembered by his devoted and loving wife, Barbara H. Rainey of Millsboro, DE; one daughter, Paula Pinkett (Marlowe) of Millsboro, DE; two sons, Sylmer Rainey, Jr. (Ida) of Lewes, DE and Lee Haynes, Sr. (Kathy) of Delmar, MD; 10 grandchildren, LaSonya Snead (Clay) of Millsboro, DE, Sunder Copes, Jr. of Millsboro, DE, Lashawnda Collick of Georgetown, DE, Sylmer Rainey, III of Princess Anne, MD, Anthony Tolliver of Georgetown, DE, Evony Rainey of Princess Anne, MD, Comesha Haynes of Bridgeville, DE, Lyndsey Haynes of Havelock, NC, Keith Wise (Maria) of Berlin, MD and Lee Haynes, Jr. (Leila) of LA; 24 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; one brother-in-law, Earl Haynes, Sr. (Betty) of Bedford Hills, NY; one special longtime friend, Bobby Leonard of Bishopville, MD; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 12. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John 2nd Baptist Church Cemetery
26602 Mt. Joy Road
Millsboro, DE 19966

Funeral Service

DEC 12. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John 2nd Baptist Church Cemetery
26602 Mt. Joy Road
Millsboro, DE 19966

Interment

DEC 12 (ET)

St. Paul's United Methodist Church (Berlin)
Berlin, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - December 09, 2021 at 06:10 PM

GD

“ *Deepest Sympathy to the Family of such a quiet, loving easy going person. May "Tarzan" Always Rest in Paradise🕊️, Saddened, Ms.Candi*



Gloria DeShields - December 10, 2021 at 12:38 PM

DB

“ *"Wow... I am so sorry to hear of the passing of my dear friend and mentor. "Tarzan" or "Jungle Boy" and at one time "LoWeezie from Italy" - these are all CB handles that my friend would often use while on the air. He and Coca-Cola would spend countless weekend nights at my parent's home laughing and chatting it up with everyone in the tri-state area. No matter what was going on, my friend always took time to entertain the children while helping to mold us into successful adults. Tarzan always interjected wisdom with his humor and those lessons will follow me throughout my days! I know that you are with God!*

Rest well my friend, until we meet again!

*Dr. Mark L. Bowen
Berlin, MD*

Dr. Mark L. Bowen - December 10, 2021 at 09:56 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear my dad's best friend has gone on to try eternity. Rainey and my dad drove together for Townsend's for many years. He used to call my mom Rebecca even though her name is Flora! That used to make me and my sister fall out laughing. We shared many jokes and laughs together. Whenever my dad was having a big bbq, Rainey was sure to come. We loved him like another of my dad's brothers. My mom, my sister, and my brother and myself will surely miss him! Whenever mom was in Millsboro she always stopped by the nursing home to see him, he was always smiling at her and joking with her. What an amazing man that your family shared with all of us. We shall never forget him. Townsend's drivers together forever in life and now in death. God bless you family!
From,
Flora, Denise, Myron and Terri Hope.

Muriel Hope - December 05, 2021 at 11:13 AM



“ He was one of my favorite uncles on moms side. He was her baby brother. Uncle Tarzan was so kind. I haven't see him since mom died., nor in his final years but have very fond memories. My son is named after him and uncle Nat. I pray for his immediate family and thankful for their care of him. Especially Vi cey. I love you, R.I.P
Uncle Tarzan 💕🙏

Midge Dickerson - December 02, 2021 at 07:11 AM