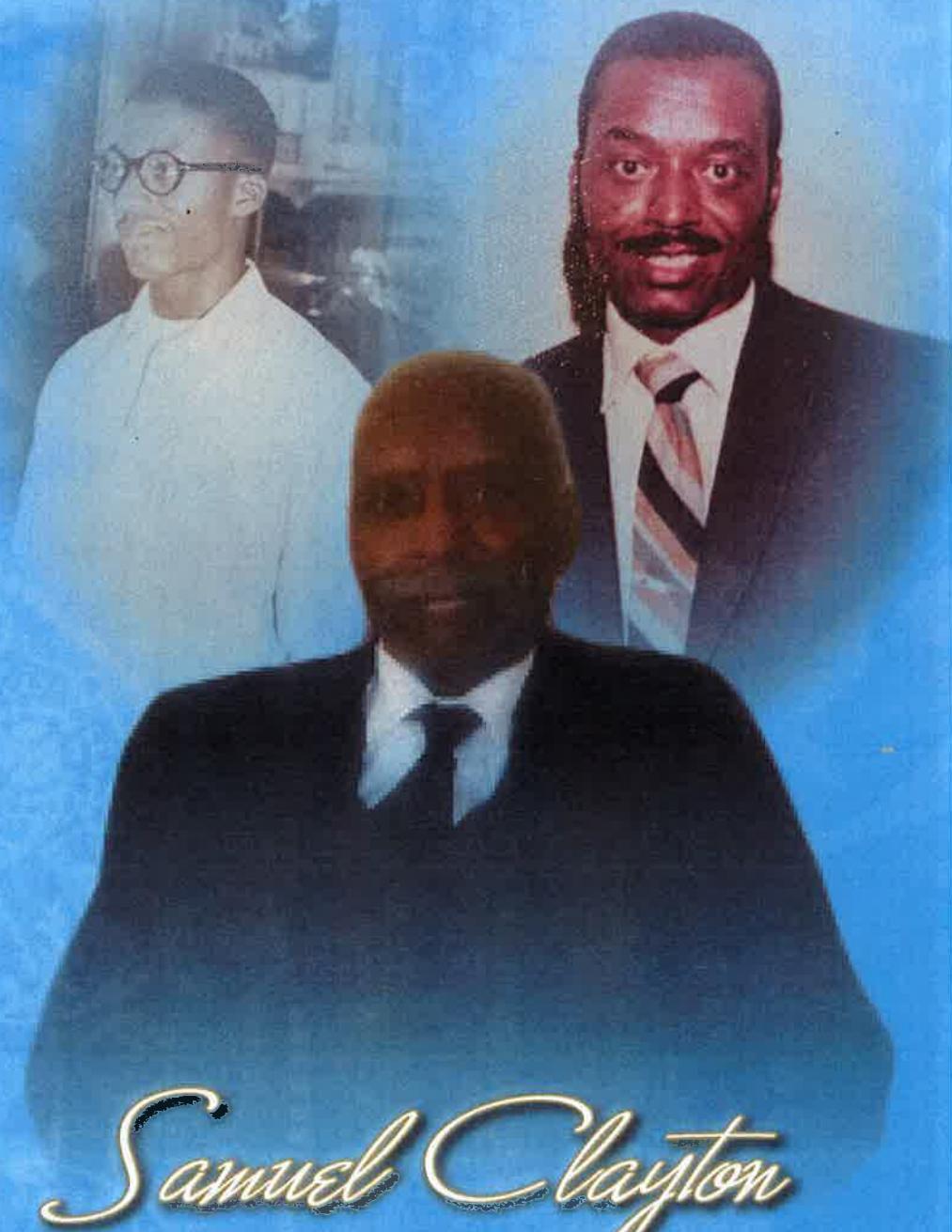


IN LOVING MEMORY OF



NOVEMBER 16, 1929 - APRIL 16, 2020

Service to be held  
**Saturday, April 25, 2020**  
 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. Memorial

**James H. Cole For Funerals, Inc.**  
 16100 Schaefer Hwy. • Detroit, Michigan 48235

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO  
**James H. Cole Home For Funerals, Inc.**  
 16100 Schaefer Hwy. • Detroit, Michigan  
 (313) 835-3997  
 www.jameshcole.com

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF  
 APPRECIATION

With sincere appreciation, we wish to thank our many family members and friends for their expressions of kindness during our bereavement for our loved one. May God bless each of you.

*-THE CLAYTON FAMILY*

*Loving Memories*



*You are near, even if  
I don't see you.  
You are with me,  
even if you are far away.  
You are in my heart, in my thoughts,  
in my life always.*

*Love you all.  
-Samuel*

## LOVING MEMORIES

**Samuel Clayton** was born in the area of Detroit, Michigan affectionately known as "Black Bottom" on November 16, 1929 to Elizabeth and Clarence Clayton. He was the 4th child of six children born out of this marriage: Nathaniel Clayton (deceased), Clarence Clayton (deceased), Elizabeth Clayton, Robert Clayton (deceased) and Gloria Strong.

**Samuel** loved to accompany his family every Sunday to The Greater Shiloh Baptist Church. He was always so excited to attend Sunday school which ignited in him a hunger to learn more about his Savior, Jesus Christ. This hunger led to knowledge and then understanding of the Awesome Gift of Salvation provided for him. Samuel received Jesus Christ as his Savior at the age of 18. He served faithfully in the church in many capacities.

**Samuel** graduated from Miller high school, then took on a military career. He served 20 years in the Air Force achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant and earning five medals. He met the "the love of his life," a cute little beautician, named Thelma Elizabeth Alston, while stationed in Washington D.C. in 1952. Since his initials were S.C., he introduced himself to her as "Santa Claus," instead of Samuel Clayton. Six weeks later, they were married on September 9, 1952. From this union they had four children. He continued his education while being a great provider for his family at the same time acquiring his Associates Degree of Science from Wayne Community College. They were married for 63 years. Thelma preceded Samuel in death on June 18, 2015.

**Samuel** was a man who loved to try new things. He loved music. He came from a family that not only loved music, but possessed musical talents, both vocal and instrumental. He not only loved listening to music, he also liked to make an effort to play instruments. He played piano, organ, guitar, trumpet and clarinet.

**Samuel Clayton** being an analytical person, never backing away from challenges, explained his love for chess. He would be up late at night on the computer playing chess. He would write out chess moves and strategies to win against the computer.

**Samuel** being a man of few words, expressed his great love for family by capturing his memories on steel reel photography and camera shots that would last forever. Staying healthy was also important to him. He exercised regularly and rode his stationary bike all the way into his 90's. This contributed tremendously to his longevity. Samuel lived his last years at Park House Southfield Senior Living, in Southfield, Michigan.

**Samuel** leaves to cherish his memory: two sisters, Elizabeth Clayton and Gloria Strong; four children, Gwendolyn Spratlen, Wayne Clayton, Barbara Williams and Lisa Clayton; 12 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, 5 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nephews, nieces and friends.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude .....	
Processional .....	"You Deserve It"
Scripture Reading.....	Barbara Williams
Prayer.....	Pastor M. Gray
Acknowledgements and Condolences .....	Lisa Clayton
Obituary Reading.....	Gwen Spratlen
Remarks .....	Family Members
Song .....	"Because He Lives".....Soloist
Eulogy.....	Pastor M. Gray
Recessional .....	"The Battle Hymn of Republic"

*I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.  
~St. John 11: 25-26*