

Tears of Joy

Cry tears of joy if you cry for me,
 For I am content now, at peace, pain free.
 Simple and honest I live my life,
 Fighting hardship, denying strife.
 A thousand good times we have shared,
 A thousand friends for whom I cared.
 Sweet memories I shall take with me,
 Now smile for me for I am home free.
 And I do remember I'll be here waiting,
 To embrace you again I'm anticipating.
 But just for now, keep me safe in your heart,
 Know the distance between us, but a sigh apart.
 Cry tears of joy for you know I rest,
 I lived life, I loved, I gave my best.
 I tried to stay longer but couldn't wait,
 Now I'm here in God's light and I celebrate!



Acknowledgments

The family would like to show an abundance of appreciation to our many friends and family for their expressions of kindness and prayers during this time.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations be sent to Spelman College in the name of William L. Clawson.

Spelman College
 350 Spelman Lane SW
 Atlanta, Georgia 30314

Arrangements Were Entrusted to:
 Gregory Funeral Service, Inc. | 601 North York Street
 Gastonia, North Carolina 28052 | 704-867-4364
www.gregoryfuneralservice.com

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of William Leo Clawson "Duke"



SUNRISE
 MAY 1, 1940

SUNSET
 JUNE 14, 2023

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2023
 11:00 AM

QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 503 NORTH MAIN STREET
 BELMONT, NORTH CAROLINA

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional

Hymn: On Eagles Wings

Old Testament Reading Wisdom 3: 1-9
Candice Clawson

Psalms 35: Shepherd Me O God

New Testament Reading: Romans 6:3-9
Will Clawson

Gospel John 14: 1-6

Homily: Rev Zeke Panzica

The Lord's Prayer - Antwan McNeill

Musical Selection: All is Well with my Soul
Antwan McNeill

Benediction

Recessional : When the Saints Go Marching In

PALL BEARERS

William Clawson III

Sandell Clawson

Thomas Davie

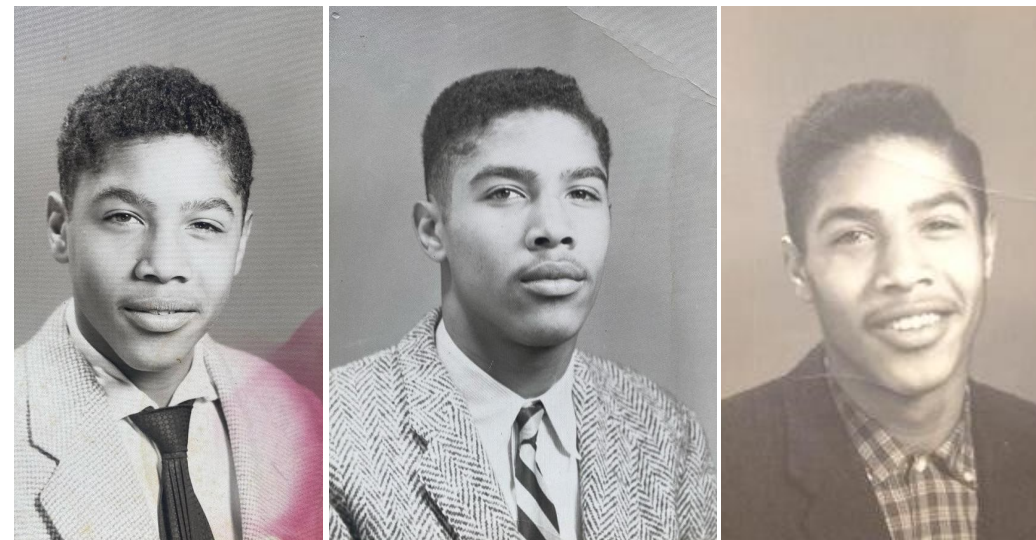
Reginald Davie

Andrew Randolph

Andrew Justin Randolph

Committal/Interment
Hillcrest Garden Cemetery
1508 Charles Raper Highway
Mount Holly, NC 28120

Repast: All family and friends are welcome
Queen of The Apostles Roman Catholic Church



Life Reflections

William Leo "Duke" Clawson, 83, affectionately known as Duke, was born on May 1, 1940, in Belmont, NC to the late Sandell Clawson and Gertrude Suggs Clawson. He entered eternal life on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at the CaroMont Medical Center in Gastonia, NC.

Duke always had a big personality and high hopes of a better life for his beloved family. He attended Reid High School in Belmont, NC and spent his summers working at the Shoreham Golf Club in Greenwich, CT. His summers showed him a life beyond the world he knew, and this exposure fueled his ambition, sharpened his work ethic, and inspired him to act. After graduation, with upward mobility in mind, he brought his young family to Bridgeport, CT in 1963 where he worked for General Electric for 24 years. During his time there, he became an expert in the commercial wire and cable business. This unique skill set led him to General Cable in Greenwich, CT where he traveled both nationally and internationally selling to major accounts.

He loved any sport ending in the word ball: football, baseball, and basketball. While in Connecticut, he played intramural softball for decades and later became an umpire. But his greatest love was fishing on the Long Island Sound with his friends and a cold Bud!

In 1997, Duke and Ruth returned home to North Carolina for their retirement years. He enjoyed his Tuesday night poker games with the guys and trips to the casino with his Reid High classmates-slot machines beware!

William is survived by his wife: Ruth Anthony Clawson, three children: Deirdré L. Clawson of Maryland, Lisa Clawson Randolph (Andrew) of New Jersey, and William L. Clawson II (Jennifer) of Ohio; four grandchildren: Dr. Candice L. Clawson, Andrew J. Randolph, William L. Clawson III, and Alexa L. Clawson, a great grandson, Charles E. Mitchell III, and two siblings, Lele Yvonne Dunlap of Charlotte, and Sandell F. Clawson (Crystal) of Lumberton, NC, cherished in-laws, Edith Mack, Charles Anthony (Elise), Marie Hand, Mae Ruth Anthony, and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

