



Mr. Gary Clay

May 30, 1957 - September 4, 2025

Gary Nelson Clay was born on May 30, 1957, in Lexington, Kentucky, to Josephine Hart Clay and the late Nelson Clay. On September 4, 2025, Gary peacefully transitioned from this life, surrounded by love.

Gary gave his life to Christ at a young age, and on March 22, 2015, he proudly accepted his calling as a Deacon at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Clark County — a role he embraced with humility and faith.

After graduating from Fayette County Public Schools, Gary enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving with honor from 1975 to 1980. When he returned home, he found his calling in public service, working as a 911 communications dispatcher. His calm voice and steady presence helped countless people through their most difficult moments. He went on to retire — twice — as a communications supervisor, a testament to his dedication and strong work ethic.

But above all, Gary's greatest joy in life was being granddad to his grandchildren. Nothing lit up his face like their laughter or a surprise visit. His love for his family was deep and unwavering — he was always there, always steady, and always loving.

He was preceded in death by his devoted wife, Harriett Clay, and his beloved son, Montavious Hughes — both of whom he missed dearly every day.

Gary is survived by his mother, Josephine Clay; his daughters, Latess Mays, Garresha Clay, and Deshaunda Smothers; and his brothers: Jeffrey (Joy), Gerald, Darryl, Robert, and Vincent (Richelle)

Clay. He also leaves behind a legacy of love through his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and many extended family members and friends who meant the world to him.

A special place in his heart was held for Sandra "Sissy" Morgan, his dear friend who stood by him with love and care.

Gary will be remembered for his quiet strength, warm smile, deep faith, and unwavering love for his family. He touched many lives — not through grand gestures, but through simple acts of kindness, loyalty, and presence.

He may be gone from our sight, but never from our hearts.

Cemetery Details

Camp Nelson National Cemetery

6980 Danville RD
Nicholasville, KY

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Growth Temple Ministeries formally Unity Worship Center
1975 Haggard Ct
Lexington, KY 40508

Funeral Service

SEP **15**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Growth Temple Ministeries formally Unity Worship Center
1975 Haggard Ct
Lexington, KY 40508

Tribute Wall



“ *Sending my condolences to the family.*
Trayce Long-Adams

Trayce Long- Adams - September 18, 2025 at 01:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Gary Clay.*



September 11, 2025 at 02:22 PM