



## Lawrence Richardson Jr.

June 18, 1945 - May 30, 2018

ADRIAN- A busy life came to an end on May 30, 2018, when Lawrence (Larry) Richardson, Jr. was called to his heavenly home. He was born June 18, 1945, in Elaine, Arkansas to Lawrence and Essie (Reed) Richardson. He married Zelma Allen on August 27, 1967, in Adrian, Michigan and they have one son, Bryan and a granddaughter, Alyssa Shae Richardson; family members, Roxie Thompson, Patricia Hall, and Bill Hall. He is also survived by two sisters; Maggie (Robert) Ensley of Dallas, TX, and Bertha Glasgow of Elaine, AR; two brothers, Oscar (Debra) Richardson of Wabash, AR and Andrew (Maxine) Richardson of Rose Hill, MS; a special aunt, Mary Sims of W. Helena, AR; as well as a host of nieces, nephews and other extended family members. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Lillie Dunlap, Verlee Young, Shirley Richardson, Bobbie Richardson and Mary Johnson.

Larry graduated from Lakeview High School in Lakeview, Arkansas. He attended and received associate's degrees from Jackson Community College and Siena Heights University in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Science Degree from Siena Heights University and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice Management from Madison University. He also did work on a Master's Degree at Eastern Michigan University and work on a Juris Doctorate Degree at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Having a true desire to serve and protect all people, Larry joined the Adrian Police Department in March 1969, becoming the first African American to serve the citizens of this community in

this capacity. Larry thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of this profession, therefore providing 32 years of service to the citizens of Adrian and the surrounding community. He often fondly recalled his duties as the Adrian Police Detective/School Liaison Officer from 1983-1999. This provided him with the opportunity to work with young people of this community, hopefully making a small positive difference in some lives.

Larry was also blessed with the ability to share some his knowledge and experience with students at Siena Heights University as an adjunct professor in the Criminal Justice program. Larry gave his time freely by serving on many non-profit boards. He was a former member of the Siena Heights University Alumni Board and the Siena Heights Board of Trustees. He was always eager to give back to the community that had been so good to him. He was a member of the Second Baptist Church, serving as the Chairman of the Trustee Board for many years. He taught youth Sunday School Class as well as a BTU Class.

In November 2000, the citizens of Lenawee County put a crowning tower on a great law enforcement career by electing him sheriff of the county. Their faith and trust was renewed in him in November 2004 by electing him a second four year term as sheriff.

Larry's major traits were; he had a strong rapport with all people; possessed strong listening skills; the ability to learn peoples' needs; ability and willingness to devote all the time necessary for the completion of a project; and non-judgmental values.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Herrick Chapel at Adrian College with Rev. Russell Henagan officiating. Burial will follow at Lenawee Hills Memorial Park in Adrian. Visitation will take place at Wagley Funeral Home in Adrian on Friday, June 8th from 12-8 p.m.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Lenawee Hills Memorial Park

1291 Wolf Creek Hwy.  
Adrian, MI 49221

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 8. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)  
1501 W. Maumee St.  
Adrian, MI 49221  
(517) 263-1400  
[info@wagleyfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@wagleyfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

## Funeral Service

JUN 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Herrick Chapel, Adrian College  
110 South Madison Street  
Adrian, MI 49221  
(517) 263-1400  
[barb.wagley@wagleyfuneralhome.com](mailto:barb.wagley@wagleyfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence Richardson Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *What a great man! He will be sorely missed by all.*

**Jeffrey Emerson** - June 18, 2021 at 12:38 PM



“ *The Evelyn Gregg Family lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



**The Evelyn Gregg Family** - June 08, 2018 at 03:41 PM



“ *24 files added to the album New Album Name*



**Tim & Shelley Judkins** - June 07, 2018 at 10:08 AM

LR

“ *Luther Rosebaro lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



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**Luther Rosebaro** - June 06, 2018 at 07:06 PM

LR

*Lawrence was a good dude, he helped me out many a times, was my baseball coach, was honest and caring. I will always remember you my friend, Rest easy in the Lords arms!*

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**Luther Rosebaro** - June 06, 2018 at 07:08 PM

CS

“ *The community lost a great man, our loss is heaven's gain. I do know of a more fair person on this earth as this man. He was always kind and fair to everyone no matter what your walk of life was. Thank you for all you did for all. My condolences to the family. Blessing to you. Candy (Rosansky) Strine.*



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**Candy Strine** - June 06, 2018 at 07:35 AM

LB

“ *Larry was a true person it helped me when I was young in so many ways I grew up without a dad figure in my life but he was there when I needed him to listen I won't be able to say goodbye to him I am having surgery that day but Lenawee county lost a great man Rip Larry and fly high until we meet again*

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**Lisa Barnett** - June 05, 2018 at 10:03 PM

KF

“ *Kenneth W Henagan Sr And Family lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



**Kenneth W Henagan Sr and family** - June 05, 2018 at 05:46 PM

MA

“ *I met Larry when we were both Board members of the Fair Housing Center of Southeast Michigan. He found the organization and we found him when, in his leadership role with the NAACP, he helped push forward a housing discrimination case. It was a pleasure to work with him and we benefitted from his commitment to equality and fair housing. My condolences to his family.*

*Michael Appel  
Ann Arbor*

**Michael Appel** - June 04, 2018 at 01:59 PM

CG

“ *Claudia Glasgow lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



**Claudia Glasgow** - June 04, 2018 at 09:36 AM

CG

*Condolences and prayers sent to the family and friends. Claudia, James III and Jonah- RIP Uncle Lawrence*

**Claudia Glasgow** - June 04, 2018 at 09:38 AM

KP

“ May Larry's family find comfort and peace. Gentle and caring compassion was among Larry's fine qualities. We will miss his infectious laugh and his larger-than-life presence in the community.



Kathryn Perez - June 04, 2018 at 07:08 AM

DQ

“ Dr.Asuncion Q.Luz lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.



Dr.Asuncion Q.Luz - June 03, 2018 at 07:43 PM

DL

“ I came to know Larry when we worked together at the SEXUAL ABUSE TASK FORCE at the Catholic Social Services in Adrian. I was very impressed with his compassion for the youth and his dedicated services to Lenawee county and Madison Township. I extend my condolences to his family. R.I.P. Larry!



Dr. Asuncion Q. Luz

Dr. Asuncion Q. Luz - June 03, 2018 at 07:01 PM

CD

“ It was an honor to know Larry. His good works will be felt by this community for a long time. Our condolences to his family. Keith and Connie Dersham

Connie Dersham - June 03, 2018 at 08:41 AM

MD

“ Thank you Larry. You always had a kind word. Never looked down on people no matter what that person did or done. And thank you for listening to myself when I was going through some tough times in my life. More than I can say to former members of my family. And you never held a grudge in people. Like former members of my family. Thank you again Larry.

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**Michael duncan** - June 03, 2018 at 07:59 AM

JH

“ My condolences to the family of Larry Richardson. Larry was a very kind and congenial person, and even though I did not know him personally he always had a smile and hello for me when I spoke to him anywhere I happen to be. Also, I am suffering from the effects of colon cancer such as Larry had.

Sincerely, James Hannah  
e-mail [jandr49221@yahoo.com](mailto:jandr49221@yahoo.com)

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**James Hannah** - June 02, 2018 at 11:41 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lawrence Richardson Jr..



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June 02, 2018 at 05:40 PM

RE

“ So sorry to here of Mr Richardson’s passing. I grew up in Adrian and played baseball as a teen; including Maple League which was for 13 and 14 year olds (1972-73 timeframe). Larry was my coach during Maple League for the Faternal Order of Police sponsored team at Island Park. He was a good coach. We had fun, he was inclusive of everyone and he was a great role model for us while being a terrific ambassador for the Police Dept.. One memory of that time was the day he surprised us all with new baseball uniforms. We were thrilled and he loved it! Good memories of a good man. RIP Coach Richardson, you left a positive impression on me and so many others! Rick Eberline, Gilbert Arizona.

Rick Eberline - June 02, 2018 at 10:05 AM

Amy Atkinson

“ Amy Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.



Amy Atkinson - June 02, 2018 at 07:49 AM

Amy Atkinson

Larry Richardson was a good man. Our deepest condolences to his family & friends. Eddie & Amy Atkinson

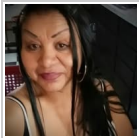
Amy Atkinson - June 02, 2018 at 07:51 AM

CS

“ A true man of GOD, who treated every person the same by showing them love. Larry is now in heaven the Lord has taken him home. He personally changed my life as he has changed so many others. May the hand of GOD be on his family now and forever. Cletus Smith  
<http://storage.lifetributes.com/Candles/new/candle-5.png>



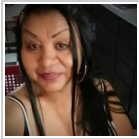
Cletus Smith - June 02, 2018 at 06:10 AM



“ You will truly be missed, you helped so many people in Adrian, and such a great heart you had God Bless you Our Friend. Condolence to the Family., love Gloria, Rosa Nieto and the Familia Nieto.



Gloria Nieto-Trevino - June 02, 2018 at 01:54 AM



“ Mr. Larry was a great friend of me and my family., Greatest Police Officer in Adrian, he has helped so many people with a true Heart. I will always have him in my prayers, God Gained a great Angel. Thank You my Friend for all the help and advice you gave me. Love, you always, Gloria Nieto-Trevino Bless the Family



Gloria Nieto-Trevino - June 02, 2018 at 01:49 AM

KD

“ *Kelly Dodge lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



**Kelly Dodge** - June 01, 2018 at 11:42 PM

BS

“ *Brittney Stover lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



**brittney stover** - June 01, 2018 at 09:35 PM

 Carla Miller

“ *Larry was a Kind Loving man who made Adrian a Great place to live for many years with all he did for this community he will never be forgotten I wanna Thank his Family for sharing him with us It has been a Pleasure to know Larry for the 30 years of my life RIH*

**Carla Miller** - June 01, 2018 at 09:21 PM

TY

“ *The Henagan family - we love you! purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Lawrence Richardson Jr..*



**The Henagan family - we love you!** - June 01, 2018 at 06:27 PM

HS

“ It was a pleasure to work with and get to know Larry during the many years he served as school liaison at Adrian High School. I have never met a kinder, more compassionate gentleman who I will always consider a true friend.

*Helen Smith*

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**Helen Smith** - June 01, 2018 at 03:45 PM

DW

“ Larry will always be Remmeber he was good to everyone he ever came contact with . Prayers for his Family.



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**Diane weiss** - June 01, 2018 at 03:11 PM

JB

“ Thank you for your service to our community! You have meant so much to a lot of people through the years and to me personally. I am a much better person for knowing you! You will never be forgotten!



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**Jerry Butler** - June 01, 2018 at 03:05 PM

BG

“ Brenda Guyton Gearhart lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.



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**Brenda Guyton Gearhart** - June 01, 2018 at 01:23 PM

BE

“ *Brenda Etter lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



**Brenda Etter** - June 01, 2018 at 10:16 AM

BE

*This fine man has left a legacy few can repeat.*

**Brenda Etter** - June 01, 2018 at 10:17 AM

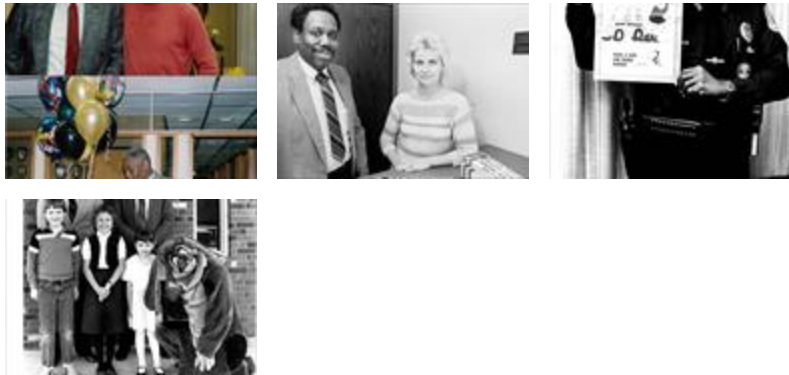
CG

*Yes he has! Rest in Peace Uncle Lawrence*

**Claudia Glasgow** - June 04, 2018 at 09:35 AM

VE

“ *4 files added to the album Detective Richardson, Adrian PD*



**Vincent Emrick** - June 01, 2018 at 09:02 AM



“ See



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**Lillie Hall-Cotton** - June 01, 2018 at 08:48 AM



“ *Kelly Keena Rincon lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



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**Kelly Keena Rincon** - June 01, 2018 at 08:08 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lawrence Richardson Jr..*



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June 01, 2018 at 07:50 AM



“ *Carla Yoder sent a virtual gift in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



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**Carla Yoder** - June 01, 2018 at 05:21 AM

JH

“ *Jan Henley lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



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**Jan Henley** - June 01, 2018 at 04:38 AM

AS

“ *Aaron Staup lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



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**Aaron Staup** - June 01, 2018 at 12:42 AM

MU

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a great man and helped our community a lot. He will be missed by all who knew him. RIP LARRY FLY HIGH WITH THE ANGELS GOD bless his family & friends .*



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**Millie Underhill** - May 31, 2018 at 11:52 PM

BB

“ *Bill Barss lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.*



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**Bill Barss** - May 31, 2018 at 11:20 PM

WM

“ Wendy Miller-Washington lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.



Wendy miller-Washington - May 31, 2018 at 11:05 PM

Andrea Chittender

“ Larry will always be remembered by everyone, he was the one guy anyone could go up to and say hi and he would engage in a conversation weather he remembered you or not, Larry gave my son some good advice about not getting in to trouble and staying on the right path , knowing who my sons dad was and knowing he passed when my son was 8 he knew just how to get threw to him . Great mentor you will be missed my friend rest peacefully

Andrea Chittenden - May 31, 2018 at 09:59 PM

JB

“ Heartbreaking to learn of Larry’s passing. He was a fine man, who exemplified a life of service to others. I was privileged to have him coach me on the Fraternal Order of Police baseball team 1978-80. His positive attitude and the constant declaration of ‘No harm done!’ when we made mistakes left a lasting impression on me into adulthood. He continued his impact on me as the Adrian High School Resource Officer...he was always a welcomed and friendly face in the crowd. He will be sadly missed and warmly remembered. Deepest sympathy to those who knew and loved him.

Jeff Van Buren - May 31, 2018 at 09:08 PM

JW

“ *What a Wonderful Man He was! Lenawee County will Miss Him Dearly. When I ran into him it was Such a Pleasure Talking to Mr. Larry Richardson. Prayers to the Family.* ”



Jackie Wackerle - May 31, 2018 at 07:26 PM

LH

“ *Leonard & Darlene Hooker sent a virtual gift in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.* ”



Leonard & Darlene Hooker - May 31, 2018 at 06:20 PM

KR

“ *So sorry to learn of Larry's passing. A finer person cannot be found. He always had a warm friendly greeting and a great smile on his face. He made such a positive impact on so many people. He was a treasure.* ”

Kathy Raines - May 31, 2018 at 05:17 PM

RT

“ *Rob Trevino lit a candle in memory of Lawrence Richardson Jr.* ”



Rob Trevino - May 31, 2018 at 04:25 PM