



# Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum

AUG 7, 1962 - JUL 2, 2023



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**J.B. RHODES**  
Funeral Home & Cremations Inc

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# Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum

AUG 7, 1962 - JUL 2, 2023

**A**ustralia - Mr. Cecil M. Exum, 60, passed on Sunday, July 2, 2023. The celebration of his life will be held on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 12:00pm with a viewing from 11:00am to 11:45am at the Goldsboro-Raleigh District Assembly (GRDA), 211 West Hooks River Road, Goldsboro, NC. He will be laid to rest at the Elmwood Cemetery, 900 W. Brick Street (Hwy 117 Bypass), Goldsboro, NC. The service will be live streamed on our J.B. Rhodes Funeral Home & Cremations Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/jb.r.home> or <https://www.youtube.com/live/bUVFfeIaOSM?feature=share>.

He was born on August 7, 1962 in Goldsboro, NC to Johnny Wayne Exum and Barbara Harvey Exum. Cecil will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by his family, Barbara, Aaron, Desiree, Jamaar, Danté and Tierra; as well as, by his close friends, colleagues, and all those whose lives he touched in the USA and abroad.

He was a beloved individual who touched the lives of many. Cecil grew up in Dudley, North Carolina where he discovered his love of basketball at a very early age. His formative years in sports took place at Southern Wayne High School. It was there his legacy started to unfold. During his high school career, Cecil was a star both on and off the court. He was committed to academics and improving the school's culture. His fighting spirit was impactful such that, in 1980, Cecil and his victorious Saints won the North Carolina 4-A State Championship. His star then began to shine brightly. He received the Most Valuable Player Award and had the extraordinary distinction of having his jersey retired by Southern Wayne High School – the first being done in the school's history.

Services of caring, compassionate and distinguished class entrusted to J.B. Rhodes Funeral Home & Cremations of Goldsboro.



# Events

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

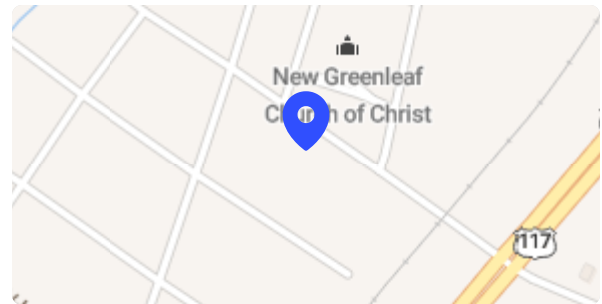
AUG 7, 1962 - JUL 2, 2023

## Church Viewing

**Thursday**, July 20, 2023

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM ET

**Goldsboro-Raleigh District Assembly (GRDA)**  
211 West Hooks River Road, Goldsboro NC 27530

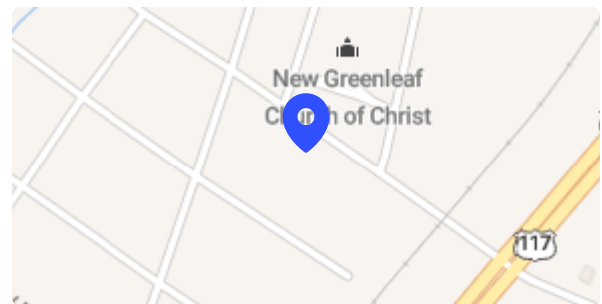


## Celebration of Life

**Thursday**, July 20, 2023

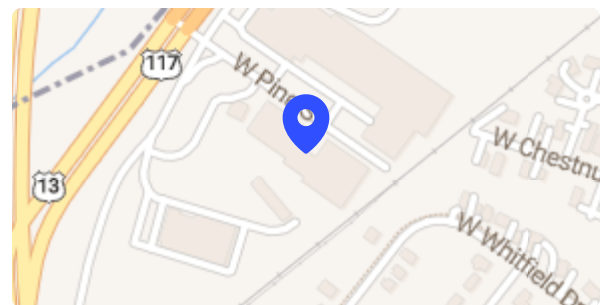
12:00 PM ET

**Goldsboro-Raleigh District Assembly (GRDA)**  
211 West Hooks River Road, Goldsboro NC 27530



## Cemetery Details

**Elmwood Cemetery**  
900 W. Brick Street (Hwy 117 Bypass), Goldsboro  
NC 27530





# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

AUG 7, 1962 - JUL 2, 2023



**Stephanie Darden** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



August 21 at 10:20 AM



**Pattie Mccusker** posted:

Rest in Peace Cecil. You were a lovely man who was so generous with his talents. My sons learned so much from you. Pattie

August 2 at 11:43 AM



**David Warry** posted:

Cecil Exum, you and Des came into our families life two weeks into your new basketball journey here in Melbourne Australia at the age of 21. From that time on you were part of our family for weekly dinners, Birthdays, Christmas's, 21st, engagement parties, bucks days, weddings etc We watched you become parents and you watched us three boys become Dads too.From one on one training sessions before school, to motivating you to do your pre season trainings by us agreeing to race you doing 10x100 mtr sprints at the local primary school, in preparation for another NBL season, we did it together.Our mates loved coming over in summer to witness the only man who could stand in the deepest part of the pool and still have his head and majestic flat top above the water. Hearing you beeping your car horn out the front of our place (albeit your standard two hours late) when you finally got your dream car- a Mazda RX7 and then hilariously watching your 6ft6 frame take 15 minutes to get in and out of it was just text book CecWe have had so many laughs over the years so many pictures, memories and great stories to look back on and share about our "big brother" You are going to leave a massive void in our family 💔💔Our thoughts are with all the Exum family both here in Australia and the USAI know Dad would of been waiting to greet you up in the sky please say hi to him for us 😭💔💔Rest in Peace big fella The Warry family

July 21 at 6:48 AM



**Dedra R Williams** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 20 at 8:38 PM



# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

AUG 7, 1962 - JUL 2, 2023



**Ron Bongetti** posted:

Cecil, it was a joy bringing you to the Giants and having you working in the office with Narelle and I. Your time running our Schools and Promotions programs was great fun. It was always funny how, despite having National players and other US imports, you always received the loudest cheer from the crowd - you made the most of giving away the free tickets to the kids! While it was sad catching up with you at Mark Leader's funeral it now makes me smile that we had the chance to do so. You were a terrific friend, a great contributor to our NBL Title in 1989, and a great husband & parent to Desiree and the kids. Condolences to Des and the kids and I can report that the basketball fraternity here in Australia has been hurt hard by your passing. You loved the US, you left as an Aussie and you were a great human being. You are sadly missed xxRon BongettiMelbourne, Australia

July 20 at 5:50 PM



**Narelle Lloyd** posted:

Cecil I cannot believe I won't see that infectious smile, receive the world best bear hug & reminisce about our working days and your playing days at The Giants. Miss you already xx Narelle Lloyd Melbourne Australia

July 20 at 8:09 AM



**Kevin Austin** posted:

My condolences and prayers to his immediate family and Prayers to the of family my first only I ever meet Cecil is when he played NC Tarheels with Micheal Jordan My Uncle Bill may God continue to rest his soul took to this cabin to see them my first and last seeing Cecil he is my Mother Carolyn Flowers cousin may Rest in peace Cecil love Kevin

July 20 at 6:55 AM

**AR** **Ajith Ratnayake** July 20 at 4:33 PM

I never forget the beautiful memories, we had in our workplace together. You are a true gentleman. Also, you were my daughters first basketball coach in Melbourne. My Condolences to your immediate family. Rest in peace brother until we meet again.

**KA** **Kevin Austin** July 20 at 7:07 AM

Excuse the errors in my memory of Cecil please thank



## Tribute Wall

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RO

**Rosland** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of the great Cecil Exum. Thank you for coming home to Goldsboro. May your love and light follow your family. Cecil RIP! From a Hometown girl and fellow Tarheel! Rosland Lane

July 20 at 6:10 AM



DT

**Donna Tomlinson** posted:

Sending sincere wishes to all the family and our loving thoughts are with you Cec. Regards Donna Tomlinson & family ❤️

July 20 at 4:11 AM

MI

**Mark Isley** posted:

I was a manager on the 83/84 UNC team when Cecil was a senior. Great guy. Always smiling. Will never forget he scored the first basket on Senior Day against Duke. Rest easy, my TarHeel brother.

July 20 at 3:25 AM

RY

**Ryan** posted:

It is with great sadness to hear of the passing of Cecil Exum. Sending my condolences and prayers to the entire Exum family. Rest in Peace.

July 20 at 3:19 AM

WS

**Wanda Barnes Smith** posted:

Thoughts and prayers to the family. Such a beautiful person with a personality that could light up a room. Thank you my dear friend. Never forget our summer playing in those hot Goldsboro gyms. You put Rollingwood on the map.

July 20 at 2:16 AM

TS

**Takhouhi Sakadjian** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 20 at 1:01 AM





# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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**Evelyn S.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Cecil.



July 19 at 10:19 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Exum family.



July 19 at 7:22 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Cecil.



July 19 at 7:22 PM



**Marycarmichael** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

Barbara so sorry for your loss. I never had the the opportunity to meet Cecil but I heard he was a great young man. May God grant you and the rest of the family peace and comfort during this difficult time. Mary Carmichael, Your classmate



July 19 at 7:21 PM



**Battle Family** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

It is with great sadness to hear of the passing of Cecil. Our sincere condolences and prayers goes out to the Exum family. How could we forget an awesome basketball player of the Southern Wayne Saints class of 1980. The Goldsboro Cougars and the Saints battle it out to get to the regional games. I know we played them three to four times that season. The Goldsboro Cougars had an awesome team too. Cecil won the 4A- state championship in 1980 along side with his teammates the starting five lead by point guard our other better half Lynwood Robinson and well coach by Marshall Hamilton . RIP Cecil



July 19 at 12:39 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Beverly, Jeff, Andatna, Ryan** sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Exum family.



July 19 at 10:34 AM



**Adam K Wolfe** posted:

To the Family of Cecil, I send condolences. Truly a legacy in our high school lives. Will miss you!- Dr. Adam K Wolfe, 80'

July 19 at 9:27 AM



**Melinda Fisher** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Over 30 years ago you came into our lives and changed it forever, you became part of our extended family and even adopted our beloved Bombers. When the kids came along your heart was full, you were so proud. You learnt to enjoy Barney and was even know on occasions to sing them while walking down the aisle of the supermarket. You would never arrive for a visit without a special treat from the cheese cake shop and would always take to time to check. We will miss you always and forever. Love Jean, Debbie, Melinda and Family



July 19 at 1:40 AM



**Shavaughn Melton** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

My prayers for and condolences to all of Cecil's family, and friends, and associates. Cecil, you were always such a good, solid, fun, kind, and unwavering friend, and one who helped make high school a more fun and kinder place. You did that everywhere, and will remain loved and dear in the hearts of many. I'll be among those listening out for your voice and looking for that sweet smile beyond The Pearly Gates. What a time it will be !!!! Love You Sweet Friend, Shavaughn Scales Melton



July 18 at 11:10 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Exum family.



July 18 at 12:36 PM



## Tribute Wall

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MF

**Matt Foster** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Thoughts and prayers to Jamaar and the Exum family. Cecil was such a caring and compassionate individual who touched the lives of so many aspiring basketballers. Always having a smile and a warm greeting for everyone. Cecil, you will be very much missed and remembered always. Matt, Dara, MJ and Daniel Foster

July 17 at 5:55 PM



RB

**Rosa Baker** posted:

Our hearts and prayers are with the family at this time. God bless and comfort you. Deacon Eddie Baker and Mother Rosa Bake

July 17 at 3:04 PM

PR

**Polly Roberts** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 17 at 1:24 PM



AH

**Audrey C Hill** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 17 at 10:08 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Heavenly Grace Spray to the Exum family.

July 17 at 9:23 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Cecil.

July 17 at 6:40 AM





# Tribute Wall

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**Shermise Brown Parker** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Cecil was my friend. He and Des shared many fun times over the years with me. I will cherish our times with each other he will be missed

July 17 at 5:04 AM



**Willie Mae Harvey'shehee** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

To The Exum and Harvey family, please accept our sincere condolences on the passing of Cecil. We celebrated his life and accomplishments while he shined here and abroad and will continue to celebrate his legacy. May love and comfort surround you now and forever. Submitted with compassion,Your Harvey cousins Bessie, Earl, Billy, Noah, Mary, Willie Mae, Ann, Gloria and Larry

July 17 at 4:12 AM



**Lisa Langdon** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

A kind gentle man with a brilliant smile. A beautiful family man to Des & his 3 children. Remembered with great fondness will be sadly missed.

July 17 at 1:45 AM



**Ruzica Tomat** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Cecil we will always remember you for your support and friendship of our boys through their time spent playing basketball. You happy smile and your kindness will be sadly missed. Sending love to the Exum family!

July 16 at 10:47 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the Exum family.

July 16 at 9:51 PM





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**Anonymous** sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Exum family.



July 16 at 8:52 PM



**Ross Moll** posted:

Always lit up a room with his big smile and picked up a chat when you would cross paths no matter how long it had been. Deepest sympathies to the Exum family .Ross Moll and family .

July 16 at 6:14 PM



**Cathi & Harri, Jordan Jessi Keisha Lampi** posted:

Rest easy now Cecil, the memories you have left in many Australian children in the basketball life will never be forgotten.. on a personal note we will always be grateful to have shared family time with you. lots of Christmas dinners and poker nights so much fun. our love and thoughts goes out to all the family. Rest now! love the Lampi family xox

July 16 at 5:52 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Exum family.



July 16 at 3:44 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Cecil.



July 16 at 3:44 PM



# Tribute Wall

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EP

**Edi De Pellegrin** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Cecil enhanced the lives of so many kids in the basketball community in Australia. Thank you Cecil for your dedication to the kids and the community. You will be forever in our hearts, My heartfelt condolences to the family. Edi, Joffa, Nadia, and Olivia De Pellegrin.

July 16 at 2:45 PM



MS

**Mark Sainsbery** posted:

Much love to the Exum family, thinking of you all at this time. Mark Sainsbery

July 16 at 2:37 PM

EF

**Edwina Moore Freeman** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 16 at 2:02 PM



DS

**Derrick's Sanders** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

One of the happiest and most memorable moment I had with Cecil, was celebrating his son Dante becoming a NBA draft lottery pick. RIP my Brother!

July 16 at 1:54 PM



TV

**Terry Vick** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Cecil truly was a good friend to everyone he came into contact with, very caring and considerate person I'am going to miss him, R.I.P. my friend gone but never forgotten., I will always have the great memories we had, I am reminded in the bible were it reads 2 Timothy 4:7-8 I have fought a good fight,I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day and not me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

July 14 at 8:20 PM





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**Ann Tyner** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Barbara you and your son had a bond that can never be broken. The wonderful memories you shared will live on in your heart forever. May the peace of God abound with you and your son in the times ahead. Always here for you.

July 14 at 5:10 AM



**Donna Blackmon Clements** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 13 at 5:35 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Exum family.

July 13 at 1:39 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Cecil.

July 13 at 1:39 PM



**Sharon Bryant Council** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 13 at 12:19 PM



**Martha Howard** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

July 13 at 11:05 AM





## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Exum family.

July 13 at 7:49 AM



**Clintona L Lee** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Sending Prayers and Condolences to all of Cecil's family and friends. Cecil's illuminating smile and personality will be missed!

July 13 at 6:10 AM



**Joey And Helen Wright** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

A wonderful human being and a beautiful kind friend. We will miss your visits, your humour and friendship. Rest in eternal peace Condolences to the Exum family x

July 13 at 3:36 AM



**Apostle Dr. Deniece Cole** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 12 at 8:11 PM



**Tracey Shine Higgs** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 12 at 10:15 AM



**Linda Mcclarin** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 12 at 7:33 AM





# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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EA

**Eugenia Aldridge And Sheila Aldridge** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 12 at 3:06 AM

ML

**Monik Lee** posted:

Prayer and condolences to the Exum and Harvey family Monik Cox and Family

July 11 at 9:30 PM

JT

**Joseph L. Teachey** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 11 at 2:21 PM

ZC

**Zelbra Williams-Countryman** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 11 at 2:13 PM

RH

**Ron Holman** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

I was the accountant for Cecil and Desiree for many years and enjoyed my time with them. I could never believe how tall Cecil was and how he had to duck to go through doors. However he was a gentle giant who was so supportive of his family. This is a great loss, and I send my condolences to Desiree and the family. Ron Holman



July 11 at 2:08 PM

SB

**Sadena Body** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 11 at 7:18 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Elijah & Wanda Altman** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 11 at 6:17 AM



**Laura R. Buddin** posted:

I remember that beautiful smile, his kind spirit and his passion for basketball. He was the star of our class, SW Class '80, and we all loved him. My prayers are with the family! Cecil will be fondly remembered.

July 10 at 5:33 PM



**Craig Faison** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 10 at 4:27 PM



**Angela Reid** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

Prayers to the family. Tarheels



July 10 at 12:27 PM



**Judith Ezzell Davis** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Sending my prayers to Cecil, his adult children and his NC family as well. I had the pleasure of speaking to Cecil recently & we talked about our lives. For 3 years I sat in front of Cecil as he pushed & pulled my little chair because he was so much taller than me. He joked, had this big smile & pulled my hair while he talked basketball & shared his dreams. I felt honored to listen to him share his big star dreams & seeing him get there. Your big smile will be missed but, thank you for your kindness, & God Bless you as you transition to becoming our newest Guarded Angel. Thanks for our friendship. God Bless, Judith Ezzell Davis.



July 10 at 10:34 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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HH

**Helen Coley Harris** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

July 10 at 5:26 AM



CJ

**Cynthia Broadhurst Jones** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

July 10 at 5:06 AM



LM

**Linda Whitfield Mathis** sent a virtual gift in honor of Cecil.

July 10 at 4:06 AM



SJ

**Shiril Jackson** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 10 at 3:06 AM



RH

**Rena Henry** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 5:45 PM



FM

**Fess Mccoy** posted:

Proud to have known him prayers of comfort for his family

July 9 at 4:46 PM



# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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**Valerie Todd Jones** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Memories Omgudness where do I begin??? We've had sooo many fun times together. We were more like Sisters and Brothers in Rollingwood Estates. I don't even know where to begin. But what makes me laugh is when Cecil brought Michael Jordan by one Saturday afternoon. They both wanted to play basketball on Seymour Johnson AFB. I had an ID of course and Cecil was like Val let me take your ID and I was like dude you have Michael with you. They're gonna let y'all in there.😂😂😂 N of course they did. I will love you Always and Forever my brother😭



July 9 at 3:51 PM



**Angela Flowers** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 3:33 PM



**Charlene Holmes** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 3:11 PM



**Annie Waters** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 12:32 PM



**Christine Tanner Spears** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 11:16 AM





# Tribute Wall

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TA

**Teri Gainey Armstrong** posted:

Cecil sat beside me in home room at Southern Wayne. He was so kind, a great friend to all and had the most beautiful smile. I still remember that famous smile when Cecil shared his offer to play basketball at UNC. Cecil you were a bright light and will be missed by all whose lives you touched. Rest well my friend. Teri Gainey Armstrong

July 9 at 10:12 AM

PM

**Patricia Miller** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 9:21 AM



PA

**Pamela Ruffin-Artis** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

My condolences to Mr. Exum from your WCROD family and freinds

July 9 at 8:45 AM



DB

**Dr. Wesley L. Boykin** shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Friends forever. 🙏🙏🙏

July 7 at 3:02 PM



AB

**Adrienne Bouie-Best** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 9 at 7:00 AM



MR

**Maxine Reid** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

My Condolences To The Family 🙏

July 9 at 6:34 AM





# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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**Judy Dominguez** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 8 at 11:51 AM



**Martin C Bass** posted:

A Southern Wayne GreatPrayers to his family 🙏

July 8 at 9:05 AM



**Judy Dominguez** July 8 at 12:04 PM  
P



**Emory Lofton** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 8 at 8:44 AM



**Emory Lofton** July 8 at 8:44 AM  
Praying For The Family



**Jerry Broadhurst** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

My condolences to the Harvey and Exum Family.



July 8 at 6:15 AM



**Felicia Bryant-Atkins** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 8 at 4:42 AM



# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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**Felicia Cobb-Best** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 8 at 2:31 AM



**Walter & Kesha Sanders** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 7 at 8:51 PM



**Larry Bell** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 7 at 7:54 PM



**LB** **Larry Bell** July 7 at 7:56 PM  
My prayers and condolences to the Exum and connected families. 🙏🙏🙏



**Classic Monument Co.Llc Terry Wynn** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 7 at 7:52 PM



**Elnora, Keith And Joyce Dewitt** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 7 at 3:56 PM



**Delores Green Knight** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

July 7 at 3:54 PM





# Tribute Wall

**Mr. Cecil Maurice Exum**

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**Delores Green Knight** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.



July 7 at 3:54 PM



**Larry And Chris Johnson** lit a candle in honor of Cecil.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Exum family. Cecil and his family lived behind us on Herman St...lots of fond memories.



July 7 at 3:02 PM



**Kenneth Alexandser** November 27 at 8:43 AM

RIP CECIL #TARHEEL4EVER KENKENKENNETH BROOKS ALEXANDERUNC'84



**Cynthia Hinnant** July 20 at 2:55 AM

To the Exum and Harvey families, much love and deepest sympathies. Cecil will be well-remembered and highly missed.



**Dewayne Worrell** July 10 at 6:26 AM

Cecil my homie we started playing basketball 🏀 in Dudley NC. Rolling wood at Park behind my house we both played basketball 🏀 at Southern Wayne Senior High School he was in front of me he graduated I picked up his jersey #50 at home and # 51 away from home. He called my sister Sudie Bryant when she was fighting cancer in 2021 I missed the phone call thay where all on the phone together. Cecil will be well miss I am praying for the family. Dewayne Worrell 🏀



Melinda Fisher shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

July 19 at 1:40 AM





Dr. Wesley L. Boykin shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

July 9 at 7:54 AM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Cecil by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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