



## Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.

July 25, 1940 - April 29, 2026

Staff Sergeant Morris Matthews Sr., USAF (Retired)

SSgt Morris Lee Matthews Sr., United States Air Force (Retired), a beloved friend, father, and grandfather made his heavenly transition surrounded by family on April 29, 2026, at the Minneapolis VA Hospital. He was born on July 25, 1940, in Chicago, IL to the union of the late William Sr. and Ruth "Frances" Matthews. Morris matriculated through the Chicago Public School system and graduated from Marshall High School in Chicago, IL. During high school he played on the basketball team for all four years.

He lived a life defined by dedication, service, and deep love for family and community. He proudly served in the United States Air Force which took him all over the world, including an adventure from Scott Air Force Base to Centralia, IL where he would meet Helena Currie, whom he married on February 14, 1964. After 20 years of honorable service, he retired after earning

numerous awards and commendations throughout his career in recognition of his commitment, leadership, and sacrifice.

Following his military career, he attended the University of North Dakota and continued his commitment to service through a 25-year career with the United States Postal Service, where he was known for his reliability, strong work ethic, and friendly presence. A proud Master Mason, Morris was also a member of Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and the American Legion. Through these organizations, he remained deeply connected to his fellow veterans, offering camaraderie, support, and continued service to his community.

Affectionately known as "Pops" by many near and far, Morris found joy in life's simple pleasures. He loved family get togethers, playing bingo, watching movies and sports, bowling, visiting the casino, and spending peaceful days fishing. Above all, he cherished time with his family and friends, who meant everything to him.

He is survived by a brother Harold Matthews of Chicago, IL; two sister-in laws Karen Mathews Indianapolis, IN., and Yvonne Matthews Oak Park, IL ; six children, Morris "Weasle" Matthews Jr. (Sharon) of Eagan, MN., Tyrone Matthews (Audrey) of Eagan, MN., Tonya Lawson (Rodney)

of Sumter, SC., Rosalind Lynn Matthews of Stockbridge, GA., Valencia "Kay" Matthews of St.

Paul, MN., and Tiesha "Squirt" Matthews of Centralia, IL.

Along with 16 grandchildren, Dr. Jamie Matthews (Aaron), Jasmine Milons (Jeremie), Jerrel

Matthews (Danielle), Devon Matthews, Morris Matthews III, Tiara Thomas (Jaron), Asia Smith

(Christopher), Traveon Matthews, Jaelen Matthews, Rayshon Mack, Raven Mack, Caleb Willis

(MaKenna), Bendrea Willis, Hannah Willis, Ty'Jhawn Matthews and Ty'Reese Matthews and a

host of great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helena Matthews; his parents, William Sr. and Ruth

"Frances" Matthews; his brothers, William Matthews Jr. and Earl Mathews; one sister-in law Lois

Matthews, and his granddaughters, Taressa Renae Smith and Taniya Matthews.

Morris will be remembered for his strength, humor, and wisdom. He often left loved ones with his favorite sayings, "Take Care," "Be Cool," and "Be Easy," words that reflected his spirit and the way he lived his life. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **21**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Nokomis Park Chapel  
1838 E. Minnehaha Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(612) 721-1651  
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

## Chapel Service

MAY **21**. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Nokomis Park Chapel  
1838 E. Minnehaha Parkway  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(612) 721-1651  
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

## Graveside Service

MAY **21**. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Fort Snelling National Cemetery  
7601 34th Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55450

# Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Memorial Service for Morris Lee Mathews Sr. in memory of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.



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Washburn-McReavy - May 13 at 09:54 AM

TE

“ Temetrius purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..



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Temetrius - May 21 at 01:03 AM

TE

“ Temetrius planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..

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Temetrius - May 21 at 01:03 AM

MT

“ Msp VA Executive Nursing Leadership team purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..



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**Msp VA Executive Nursing Leadership team** - May 21 at 12:16 AM

MI

“ Min Cynthia Grant & Family ; Danville II purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..



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**Min Cynthia Grant & Family ; Danville II** - May 20 at 05:03 PM

MI

“ Min Cynthia Grant & Family ; Danville II planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..

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**Min Cynthia Grant & Family ; Danville II** - May 20 at 05:03 PM

CW

“ We love you uncle Matt Tina Dadrien Xavier

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**Christine Washington** - May 20 at 04:52 PM

WG

“ With love, Holly Kurth and the girls purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of *Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.*



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**With love, Holly Kurth and the girls** - May 20 at 04:12 PM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.*



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May 20 at 02:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.*

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May 20 at 02:42 PM



“ *Pure Heart* was purchased for the family of *Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.*



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May 20 at 11:00 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Morris Lee Matthews, Sr.*

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May 20 at 11:00 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..*



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May 19 at 09:13 PM



“ *Morris, Thank you for your many years of military years for our country. Very honorable of you God Bless this US Veteran Morris and his family! Prayers from Iowa!*



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**Myra Snyder** - May 19 at 03:29 PM

AK


“ Sending our heart felt condolences to the Matthews family and friends, May you find comfort in the love he gave and the life he lived. Bless you all.

*Uncle Matthews was a beautiful man from day one. He made sure he was part of our lives, i remember driving all the way to Grand Forks, North Dakota with Auntie so we could spend every weekends with him. He always made everything fun, and there were never any visits without huge hugs, kisses, and “I love yous.”*

*When he came to Winnipeg, Manitoba for birthdays, his hands were always full — boxes of American candy, a birthday cake, and a card. But more than the treats, it was his presence that mattered.*

*To me, he wasn't just an uncle. He was a Dad to me, the only man who stepped up, never left, and loved with his whole heart. His beautiful smile, his hugs, his kisses, and most of all, his genuine love, are memories I'll hold forever. And I'll always hear him saying, \_“Be cool and see you soon.”\_ He never said goodbye.*

*I feel deeply honored to have had him in my life. The memories we made with him are treasures. He was the kind of man who leaves a mark on everyone he meets.*

*Uncle Matthews was a beautiful man who showed up, loved big, and left a mark that won't fade *

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**Angel Martinson Kovacsfi** - May 19 at 02:38 PM

NM

“ Sending our heartfelt condolences to the Matthews family. Matt will always have a special place in my heart. He was such a good man and taught me a lot about the important most important things in life - family, friends, and togetherness. 'Uncle Matt' was like a dad to me when I was growing up. Everytime we would talk he would say "stay cool". I loved that saying and still say that today.



His love and spirit will remain with us forever. He will be dearly missed and always loved. ❤️ ✨

~ Nicole Martinson and family ♡

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**Nicole Martinson** - May 19 at 11:50 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..



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May 19 at 11:31 AM

BG

“ My condolences and prayers for the family. Matt will always be remember for his quietness and gentle voice. I remember when those Air Force guys started coming to Centralia from Scott Air Force Base and took the Centralia girls and married them. 🙏  
But he was always a gentleman and He was always kind. To his children and family, I know his legacy will live on through you. Rest in Peace Matt. 🕊️🕊️🕊️

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**Bunny Garrett** - May 10 at 11:12 PM

FF

“ *From Casey and Darla Sullivan and Family purchased the In Heaven's Arms Bouquet for the family of Morris Lee Matthews, Sr..*



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**From Casey and Darla Sullivan and Family - May 10 at 07:37 PM**