



## Eugene Relerford

January 25, 1952 - August 7, 2019

Eugene (E.U., Brother D) Relerford, of Beloit Wisconsin, departed this life, Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at U.W. Madison Hospital Surrounded by his family.

He was born on January 25, 1952, in Hot Spring, Arkansas to proud parents, James and Ruthie (Frazier) Relerford. He graduated from Beloit Catholic High School.

Eugene married Linda Givhan on April 25, 1971; to this union, one daughter was born Sondra. Some years later beyond their separation. Eugene met his long life partner Patricia Hodges. Through their uniting they raised five children: Shauna, Sheric, Shelton, Shaloon, and Meaghan.

Eugene a lifelong Beloit resident was an entrepreneur that loved his family and community. His mission in life was to bring about knowledge and change while providing entertainment to all. He opened the Starship night club one of the first African American owned in Beloit, Wisconsin in the 1980's. His vision did not stop there.

Eugene was the first African American to found and publish a weekly newspaper. Eugene was the founder, owner, and publisher of The Chronicle weekly newspaper. A publication serving Beloit, and Janesville, WI and Rockford, IL. He started the Stateline area's only "Blue Chip" community newspaper in 1981; with the motto "Journalistic Excellence, Service, Integrity and Objectivity Always." The Chronicle offers articles on general items and political developments of interest in Wisconsin minorities, and places

emphasis on African American families in the community. He loved photography, being a part of community events and giving back. Eugene was always present at events in the community making sure events received exposure and leaders were acknowledged for their contributions. Eugene was a historian, role model, and all around “good’ guy. If he wasn’t at a community event Eugene loved spending time with his grandkids. He was truly loved by all.

Eugene leaves to cherish many memories; his son, Shelton Hodges of Beloit, WI; three daughters, Sondra Dionne (Michael) Verser of Orlando, Florida; Shauna M.(Daryl) Hodges, of Kenosha, WI; Shaloo L. (Willie) Hamilton of Antioch, IL; and nine grandchildren. One brother Earnie Relerford of Baltimore, MD; and five sisters, Doris Pleasant and Barbara Cross of Beloit, WI; Jackie Butts and Alice Mosely of Milwaukee, WI; and Bernita (Roy) Botton of Arlington, TX and a host of nieces, newphews and close friends. To know Eugene was to love him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, James and Ruthie Relerford, two uncles, Willie James Frazier sr. and Billy Joe Frazier, one Aunt, Fay Sylvia Frazier, and brother, James Eduard Relerford.

Memorial Service will be held on Monday, August 19, 2019, at Beloit Life Church, 2170 Murphy Woods Drive in Beloit, Wisconsin. Visitation will take place from 9am-11am, followed by funeral service at 11am. Pastor Sherrick Anderson will be officiating. Committal in East lawn Cemetery in Beloit will follow the service. Repast at The Rotary Center, 1160 S. Riverside Drive in Beloit.

# Cemetery Details

## Eastlawn Cemetery

2200 Milwaukee Road  
Beloit, WI 53511

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 19. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Beloit Life Center  
2170 Murphy Woods Road  
Beloit, WI 53511

## Funeral Service

AUG 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Beloit Life Center  
2170 Murphy Woods Road  
Beloit, WI 53511

# Tribute Wall

AJ

“ Eugene, I am sorry to hear that you've left us. Your legacy and work will last forever. Thank you for your service to the Beloit community. Sending love, prayers, and condolences to your family. - Andra (Rivers-Jones) Johnson & Family, Roanoke, IN



Andra D. Johnson - May 14, 2020 at 10:18 PM

RR

“ Eugene was an institution in Beloit and made many valuable contributions. Putting out the Chronicle for so many years was a great accomplishment. Eugene was a real friend to so many people; it was always fun to talk to him because he saw the funny and positive side of life. We shall miss him greatly. Ranjan and Gretchen Roy

Ranjan and Gretchen Roy - August 24, 2019 at 12:29 PM



“ Prayers for the family. So sorry for your loss. Ronnie and Lynda Anderson  
Kansas City, Missouri

Lynda Anderson - August 20, 2019 at 04:50 PM

MB

“ Mr. And Mrs Frank Black lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford



Mr. and Mrs Frank Black - August 18, 2019 at 10:38 PM

BM

“ *Brenda (Perry) Murray and the Perry family send condolences to all family members of Eugene. So very sorry for your loss.*



**Brenda Murray** - August 18, 2019 at 02:27 PM

KS

“ *Karen Shackelford-Evans lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford*



**Karen Shackelford-Evans** - August 17, 2019 at 02:12 PM

SC

“ *Shvon C. Clayton lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford*



**Shvon C. Clayton** - August 16, 2019 at 08:21 PM

RM

“ *Our heart goes out to the Relerford family, Eugene touch our lives in many ways. I hold him responsible my beautiful family whom I probably would not have, if I hadn't encountered him. Rest in peace. A part of your good spirit lives within me...Rick Melvin*

**Richard Melvin** - August 16, 2019 at 05:19 PM

RB

“ Regina Gill Thompson-Bowden & Royce Bowden. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Eugene Relerford.



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**Regina Gill Thompson-Bowden & Royce Bowden.** - August 16, 2019 at 02:45 PM

CT

“ Charles Tubbs lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford



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**Charles Tubbs** - August 16, 2019 at 01:30 PM

CP

“ Carrie Harrell-Payton And Lexi Payton lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford



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**Carrie Harrell-Payton and Lexi Payton** - August 16, 2019 at 11:16 AM



“ Eugene,  
You were truly a great man. Some of my kids first photos were taken by you. (Thanks for the memories ❤️) Thank you for always treating me like family. You will surely be missed.  
Andrea Turner & Family



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**Andrea Sockwell-Turner** - August 16, 2019 at 10:42 AM

CB

“ Eugene will forever be remembered in the DAVIDSON family. He always kept it real while. Very kind to my father, late, Leon Davidson and my grandmother, late MM Lucy Davidson. Praying for the family to get through this difficult time.  
Sincerely, Cherie Brownlee & family.



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**Cherie Brownlee** - August 15, 2019 at 04:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Eugene Relerford.



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August 15, 2019 at 02:15 PM

SW

“ Sabrina Knight Williams lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford



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**Sabrina Knight Williams** - August 15, 2019 at 01:59 AM

TJ

“ To know him is to love him. Eugene you will be missed but never forgotten. Praying for the family.

Trea Johnson  
Van Nuys, CA

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**Trea Johnson** - August 14, 2019 at 05:34 PM

MM

“ *Mr & Mrs Paul Morrow lit a candle in memory of Eugene Relerford*



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**Mr & Mrs Paul Morrow** - August 14, 2019 at 10:42 AM

JF

“ *Great Guy with an Infectious Smile..... Prayers for Family and Friends*

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**Jeff Fluck** - August 13, 2019 at 08:00 PM

AB

“ *I've Known Eugene since High School. I'll always remember him as a fun loving, down to earth, razor sharp personality. Always ready for a deep often insightful discussion, but at the same time he could feed you just enough baloney to show the humorous side of life. He maintained a network of contacts across all of Southern Wisconsin that kept him aware of important and relevant topics featured in his marvelous creation the Beloit Chronicle. We both Shared Arkansas roots as his Dad James and his uncle Aaron both came from my parents homestate. He was a real asset to his huge Community. My heart goes out to his family. If I can be of any assistance at all please feel free to contact me.*

*Alex Beard.*

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**Alex Beard** - August 13, 2019 at 01:16 PM