



Danny Robinson Clark

July 14, 1937 - February 21, 2022

Danny Robinson Clark, Sr. was born on July 14, 1937 in Jonestown, Mississippi to the union of Rev. Samuel, Sr. and Daisy L. Clark, who both preceded him in death. Danny graduated as the valedictorian from J.J. Knox High School in Winona, MS; he completed two years of coursework at the University of Minnesota.

After uniting in holy matrimony with Mattie Mae Anthony on November 5, 1957, Danny and Mattie briefly moved to Philadelphia, PA before relocating to Minneapolis. Danny worked at the United States Post Office for thirteen years prior to retirement.

Danny started playing the guitar for church services while a teenager in Mississippi, and continued to play for the former Graham Temple C.O.G.I.C. (now known as First Church). He also played the piano a little bit, but after the passing of his wife Mattie in 2010, he bought a new piano in her honor (because she loved hearing him play so much), and started taking lessons. Danny participated in annual piano recitals at Schmitt Music Center until the pandemic.

Danny acted in more than 50 plays at theaters across the country including the Guthrie in Minneapolis, Goodman in Chicago and ultimately on Broadway (playing the role of Wining Boy in August Wilson's award-winning play *The Piano Lesson*). He appeared in 16 educational TV specials, 65 radio specials, commercials and industrial films and made over 200 appearances at educational institutions.

Danny recently published his memoir *Freedom: Am I Missing Something* with the assistance of his daughter Gwendolyn Clark and nephew Stephen Clark. It's been submitted for Pulitzer Prize consideration.

Danny loved his family. He leaves to cherish his loving memory two daughters, Gwendolyn Clark and Cynthia (Clifton) Satterfield; two sons, Danny Clark, Jr. and Stevan Clark; seven grandchildren, Angela Kates, Theresa (Micheal) Moore, Americus Kates, Jr. Terrell Kates, Tashika (Keith) Simpson, Quiana Austell and Serena Satterfield; twelve great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild; one brother, Sammy (Cornelia) Blackmon; two sisters, Alice Price and Lynn Wade; eleven sisters-in-law, Bertha Griffin, Florence Anthony, Martha Causey, Gloria Bean, Mary Goodwin, Brenda Shepherd, Tanya Anthony, Floreane Anthony, Annette Anthony, Patricia Anthony, Leniece Johnson; ten brothers-in-law, Walter Fairchild, Charles (Barbara) Fairchild, Willie (Dorothy) Fairchild), Handy (Gwendolyn) Peoples, Andrew Peoples, Perry Peoples, Michael Peoples, James (Carolyn) Anthony, J.C. Anthony, Clifton (Adriana) Anthony. Plus a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Lakewood Cemetery

3600 Hennepin Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 5. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

First Church of God in Christ
810 Elwood Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Funeral Service

MAR 5. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

First Church of God in Christ
810 Elwood Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Tribute Wall

DR

“ *Deacon, I'll miss our conversations...
Go with God and Be Blessed.*

Brother David E. Riley December 2022

David E Riley - December 27, 2022 at 04:09 AM

JW

“ *My heartfelt grievances to the Clark Family. My name is James Williams and I met Danny in the early days of Penumbra Theatre in 1976. He was a wonderful actor, mentor and role model. He was an even better person. We reconnected last year, he gave me a copy of his book and we shared stories of the old days and how both of our journeys had taken us to Broadway. I am originally from Missouri and with Danny being from Mississippi, (both my parents are from there) we shared a southern work ethic and view of the world. He was a pleasure to work with taught me to always respect our craft because God blessed us with the talent and opportunity. I've never forgotten that. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

*Respectfully,
James A. Williams*

James Williams - August 14, 2022 at 10:17 PM

HJ

“ When I was about 14 years old my father Harvey Johnson Sr., Danny Clark, and I (Harvey Johnson Jr.) took a road trip to Washington D. C. and Philadelphia. Harvey Johnson Sr. went to D. C. as the vice president of the Minneapolis Postal Union. He went there to fight for the rights of the postal workers. While in D. C. we stayed at the Shoreham Hotel where I was able to meet or run into Joe Tex, Aretha Franklin, and The Beatles (who were the top band out of England at that time) as they all stayed in the hotel we stayed in. My father, Harvey Sr. moved to Las Vegas in 1986 and every time he would come back to Minnesota for a visit we would have some sort of family get-together where Danny would always show up to see his long-time friend Harvey Sr. Danny became a very good family friend to us. Danny was always welcomed as a close family friend at any family event (or otherwise). It is so hard to believe that he passed away. I guess none of us can escape time. I just want to express my sincerest condolences to you and your family. I attended the funeral and sat on the front left side. If someone could send me some sort of contact information we would like to send you some pictures we have of him at some of our family gatherings with us and our father. It could probably be sent in an email. Otherwise, I may try to go through the church to get you alls contact information if I don't hear from you.

Harvey Johnson - March 07, 2022 at 03:17 PM

GC

gwendolynclark41@yahoo.com

Gwendolyn Clark - January 11, 2023 at 11:48 PM

LF

“ REST UNCLE DANNY LOVE LORETTA FAIRCHILD

Loretta Fairchild - March 05, 2022 at 03:19 PM

AJ

“ Antonina Johnson lit a candle in memory of
Danny Robinson Clark



Antonina Johnson - March 05, 2022 at 11:38 AM

AJ

“ Our deepest condolences to all the families. I was very blessed to have met Danny through my father, Harvey Johnson. Evidently they had a lot in common through the years by the way they laughed and carried on, and so much sunshine through the rain. They were there for each other. Now, they can spend a lifetime with each and others that have gone before us. Our love and prayers are with you. God Bless!

Antonina Johnson - March 05, 2022 at 11:36 AM

RR

“ To Sista Gwen, her beautiful daughters and the entire family-our thoughts and prayers are with you as you grieve the loss of your loved one. Death is never easy, but God eases the pain. Cast your cares upon Him. Know that this too shall pass and God will wipe the tears from your eyes. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy will come in the morning light. God is able to see you through this difficult time. I'm grateful He allowed you to be present, Sista Gwen. Allow your precious memories to now sustain you, just as we do our Lord and Savior at communion. Know we love you all. God's richest blessings, traveling grace and mercy-may they all be unto you!



Rev. Denita E. Robinson - February 27, 2022 at 07:54 AM