



## Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr.

September 18, 1969 - August 20, 2020

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Virgil Lynn Thomas, Sr. was born on September 18, 1969 in Vallejo, California to Willie and Ethel Mae Thomas. Virgil attended Vallejo High School in Vallejo, California where he participated in sports and band, before later attending Grambling State University in Grambling, Louisiana where he was a member of their famed Tiger Marching Band.

Following a long courtship, Virgil married the love of his life, Karene Nina Williams on June 13, 2015. Virgil was a loving husband, proud father, dedicated son, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, and devoted man of God.

One of his most cherished pleasures were long talks with his father, where he was imparted with invaluable wisdom of father and manhood. He adored his mother and his sisters, and was a joyful and playful brother that made them smile and laugh until their sides hurt. Virgil beamed with pride when talking about his four children and sharing their ongoing accomplishments.

Virgil was also a coach, car enthusiast, and avid member of Raider Nation. He held an appreciation for all music, enjoyed barbequing with family, cruising with the Boulevard Kings car club, and treasured his longtime comradeship

with his Richmond Police family.

Virgil served more than 24 years with the Richmond Police Department, where he was a staple in the Richmond community. His assignments included the Neighborhood Services Team, Training Officer Program, and School Resources Unit at Kennedy High School, where he guided many young people. He also served as former president of the Richmond Police Officers Association, as well as president of the Guardians of Justice, a community organization working for fair treatment of African-American officers, and led neighborhood events to enrich the lives of Richmond community members. Prior to joining the Richmond Police Department, Virgil began his law enforcement career with the Albany and Novato police departments.

As an active member of the St. Stephen CME Church, Virgil served as a director of the Christian Youth Fellowship alongside his wife Karene, co-led the Ministry to Men, was awarded Lay Ministry Man of the Year 2019, and was well known for his festive socks at weekly service.

A mentor and leader throughout his local church and Richmond community, Virgil touched the lives of all that he encountered. He lived an extraordinary life and was an amazing gift to those that knew him – cultivating relationships that made all feel valued and uplifted.

Virgil was preceded in death by his mother, Ethel Mae Thomas and his sister, Jackie Thomas.

Virgil's legacy will be carried on by his wife, Karene; sons, Virgil Jr. and Anthony; daughters, Kiara and Allegra (Faith); father, Willie; sisters, Felicia and Aisha; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 28. 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM (PT)

St. Stephen CME Church  
2301 Union Avenue  
Fairfield, CA 94533

## Interment Service

AUG 28. 2:00 PM (PT)

Rockville Cemetery  
4219 Suisun Valley Road  
Fairfield, CA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Virgil and my sister Linda were very close friends after we moved here from Mississippi. He was often in our home and it was then that I got a chance to know him and over the years I watched him grow into one of the most gentle, sweet and strong men that I know. He will be missed. My deepest condolences are with his family. Please know that my prayers are with you.*

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**Andrea Mace** - August 28, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ *Virgil and I have been friends since elementary school, and I always thought of him as my big brother (even though I'm 4 days older). He was a loving, caring protector and I am sad that he's not with us anymore. I am sending as much love as I possibly can to help you through this difficult time.*

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**Elizabeth Harms** - August 28, 2020 at 09:45 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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August 28, 2020 at 04:00 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..



August 27, 2020 at 10:54 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..



August 27, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..



August 27, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..



August 27, 2020 at 12:12 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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August 26, 2020 at 09:39 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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August 26, 2020 at 08:47 PM



“ *To the family. My condolences are with you during your time of sorrow. My prayers are with you. I have known Virgil since high school. He is a great man and a great friend. He will be truly missed.*

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**Dandrea Russell** - August 26, 2020 at 06:22 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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August 26, 2020 at 04:44 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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August 26, 2020 at 04:33 PM



“ *My dearest Thomas Family, I send my deepest condolences to you at this time. Virgil was like the big brother that I never had as I grew up with his little sister. He was a respectful and strong valued man, and above all he truly loved his family! Rest easy Big Bro!*

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**DeVondia Thomas** - August 25, 2020 at 10:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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August 25, 2020 at 05:58 PM



“ *Angel and Cece Dandridge purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..*



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**Angel and Cece Dandridge** - August 25, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Virgil Lynn Thomas Sr..



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August 25, 2020 at 12:45 PM



“ Karene, God bless you and your family. “Socks” will he missed.

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**Geneva Fair** - August 24, 2020 at 10:03 PM



“ We are sending our deepest sympathies to the family, friends and co-workers of Virgil. He was as we all know a remarkable man and the Lord blessed us all when we were given the opportunity to be a part of his life. Much like the profession he chose, he now guards the gates of heaven. Proverbs 28:1 – “The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.”

*For time being, we will be heartbroken, but we will remain vigilant and confident, as we are honored that you touched our lives. Thank you to the entire Thomas family for sharing his life with us.*

*May God Bless All,  
THE GARRICKS*

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**The Garricks** - August 24, 2020 at 08:46 PM